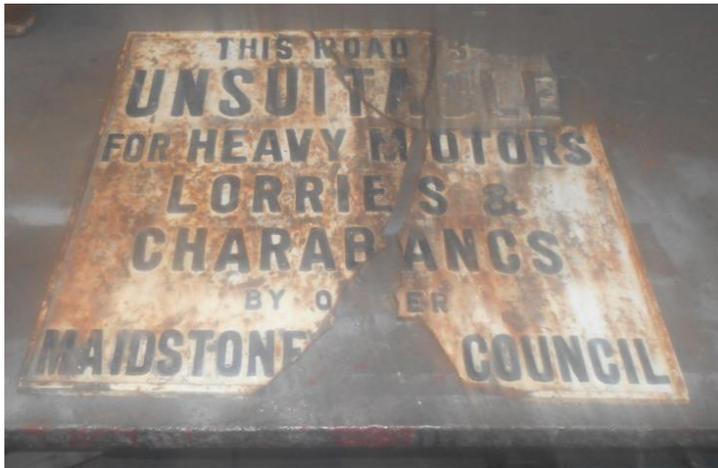


# Historic Road Sign Back in Loose



A historic, heritage 1930s cast iron traffic sign has been reinstated in the Loose Parish, after almost two years of investigation and painstaking work.

The fragmented Charabanc sign was discovered by a local dog walker in November 2016, who contacted the Loose Parish Council, to see if they would be interested in restoring it.

Given that the sign was originally on the edge of an Article 4 Conservation area, the parish council was extremely interested in doing this.

The first challenge was to find out who actually owned the sign. Deputy Clerk, Liz McLaren contacted Maidstone Borough Council, Kent County Council and Kent Highways. Although no other bodies had an interest in restoring the sign, Maidstone Borough Council, (having recognized the inherent historical value of the sign) did offer to pay the restoration fees. Kent Highways also offered to install the sign in its rightful position, free of charge, once restoration had been completed.

Loose Parish Council were put in contact with Rob Edwards, of Avery Engineering, (now a division of H Goodsell & Sons) who agreed to take on the restoration project and succeeded beyond all expectation.

The fully restored sign was erected on 26 Sep 2018, 22 months after it was originally found.

Residents of Loose have been delighted to see the sign once more sitting proudly at the junction of Busbridge Road and Stockett Lane. Loose Parish Council is also very pleased to have been able to instigate this.

However, it could not have been achieved without the help and support of various bodies. Loose Parish Council is very grateful to both Maidstone Borough Council and Kent Highways, for their financial support with this historic project.

They would particularly like to express their thanks to Rob Edwards, for all his dedication and hard work, in restoring this historic landmark to its former glory.

