

## **VIEWPOINT - information on issues of concern**

### **Is a motorised scooter a road vehicle?**

In *Director of Public Prosecutions v Saddington QBD Times 1-Nov-2000*, a motorised scooter of the type known as a 'Go-Ped' was found to be a motor vehicle within the Road Traffic Act 1988 Section 185 (1). Accordingly a driving licence and third party insurance were both required for it to be used on a public highway. The scooter required the passenger to stand on a small platform, and was powered by a 22.5cc engine. It had a top speed of only 20mph, but the braking and steering systems were still quite inadequate, and the scooter had none of the other services such as lights and controls normally required to control a motor vehicle. The test was whether a reasonable person would see the rider as a road user. If he would, then what he was driving or riding, whatever it was, was a motor vehicle. It was expected to be used on roads, and it therefore was intended to be so used despite any disclaimers from the manufacturers. In reality, the only suitable areas normally available for riding such a vehicle would be the roads.

Source <http://www.swarb.co.uk/lawb/crmScooters.shtm>

### **Can I ride a go-ped or buzzboard on the road?**

When ridden on a public road, these vehicles are regarded as a 'motor vehicle' for the purposes of Road Traffic Act 1988 Section 185 (1)

The legal age to drive this type of vehicle is the same as for a moped, with the rider required to have a provisional licence and have taken a Compulsory Basic Training test. Riders must also be wearing an approved crash helmet, have the vehicle taxed, with a valid MOT certificate, valid insurance, proper number plates, brake lights and indicator signals.

**Remember**, the term 'road' includes not only a carriageway but also pavements and verges and also any highway, which encompasses footpaths, bridleways and byways. It can also include privately owned roads to which the public have access and has in some cases included car parks.

Source <http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk/fags-category>

**Statements made in VIEWPOINT do not in any way represent the opinion of any Councillor or an approved policy of the Parish Council.**