Individual Decision

Title of Report:	30mph Speed Limit – Rooksnest Lane, Great Common, Inkpen			
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Sall	y Hannon	on:	31 January 2005
Forward Plan Ref:	ID0863			
Purpose of Report:		To inform the Portfolio Member for Highways and Transportation of the comment received during the statutory consultation on a proposed 30mph speed limit on Rooksnest Lane at Great Common, Inkpen and to seek approval of officer recommendations.		
Recommended Action:		That the Portfolio Member resolves to approve the recommendations as set out in section 4 of this report.		
Reason for decision to be taken:		Annual speed limit review.		
List of other options considered:		Not to implement the proposed 30mph speed limit.		
Key background documentation:		 Criteria for speed limits. ID0794 report - speed limit review 2004. Comment received during statutory consultation. Plan No SLR/04/03/001. 		

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1 Background

- 1.1 Rooksnest Lane is a reasonably long straight country road with common land to the east and residential frontages to the west. Most properties have off road parking facilities and there are small laybys opposite the properties.
- 1.2 The results of a traffic survey undertaken for a duration of 24 hours during March 2004 showed that the 85th percentile speed of northbound and southbound traffic was 29.5mph and 30mph respectively. A two way volume total of 419 vehicles was recorded.
- 1.3 The speed limit on Rooksnest Lane, Inkpen was considered by a task group as part of the speed limit review for 2004. The recommendations of the task group were considered on 29th July 2004 when it was approved to proceed with the statutory consultation.

2 Results of statutory consultation

- 2.1 At the close of the statutory consultation process, on 16 December 2004 only one response was received, which was from Inkpen Parish Council.
- 2.2 The Parish Council is concerned about the signing of the 30mph speed limit and its impact on Inkpen Common, which is a typical open heath land and S.S.S.I. managed nature reserve. The Parish Council also considers that Heads Lane should not be included within the order due to its alignment and restricted road width.

3 Response to the comments received

3.1 The proposed speed limit has been designed to include all frontage developments and to give drivers sufficient warning when approaching the speed limit and to make this speed limit consistent with other villages in the nearby surrounding area. The signing can be designed to be sympathetic to the Parish Councils concerns, however the signing of the speed limit will need to comply with current regulations to ensure that the it can be legally enforced.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the proposed 30mph speed limit be introduced as advertised and that the design of the signing requirements take into account the Parish Councils concerns.
- 4.2 That the Parish Council is informed accordingly.

Appendices

N/A

Implications

Policy:	None arising from this report.
Financial:	The recommendations will be funded from the Council's Capital Programme.
Personnel:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	The speed limit traffic regulation order will require sealing by Legal and Electoral Services.
Environmental:	The proposed changes to the speed limits will improve road safety and therefore provide environmental benefits to local residents.
Equalities:	None arising from this report.
Partnering:	None arising from this report.
Consultation Responses	
Members:	
Leader of Council:	Councillor Royce Longton supports the proposal provided that it has the
	support of the portfolio Holder and Ward Members
Select Committee Chairmen:	
	support of the portfolio Holder and Ward Members Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation if the Ward
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Select Committee Chairmen: P&L Committee Chairman (where appropriate): Ward Members: Opposition Spokesperson: Advisory Members: Local Stakeholders:	support of the portfolio Holder and Ward Members Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation if the Ward Members support the proposals. N/A Councillor's Anthony Stansfeld and Andrew Rowles fully support the recommendation. Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation if the Ward Members support the proposals. N/A Have been consulted as part of the statutory consultation process.