

Summary of Speed Limit Review 10th September 2021

Present	Councillor Graham Pask (GP) Councillor Alan Macro (AM) Chris Hulme TVP (CH) Gareth Dowding WBC (GD) Cheryl Evans WBC (CE) Graham Markham WBC (GMa) Councillor Andy Moore (AM) Councillor Geoff Mayes (GM)
Apologies	Councillor Graham Bridgman (comment sent over) Councillor Martha Vickers Newbury Town Council

Introduction (meeting started at 13:00)	
All the task group members introduced themselves to those attending the review. GP gave an overview of process for the speed limit review and roles of the Task Group. There was a recap of the last meetings minutes and a brief update on the items discussed at the previous meeting.	
Speed Limit Requests	
Kirtons Farm Road 30 mph request	
Attendees	Councillor Geoff Mayes
Discussion	<p>GD introduced the site and explained the back ground behind this application which was associated with the construction of the New Green Park Railway Station and the need for an emergency only passenger escape route from the train platform to the existing Kirtons Farm Road bridge for the safe evacuation of passengers in case of fire at the station.</p> <p>Due to existing barrier design and available verge widths it would be necessary to reduce the current national speed limit over the bridge to 30 mph to provide appropriate safety zones between vehicles and passengers if they needed to use this emergency only escape route.</p> <p>Video footage of the bridge in both directions was shown and a plan showing the proposed start/finish points of the proposed speed reduction also presented.</p> <p>The site is at the junction of where Reading Borough Council and Wokingham Borough Council tie in with West Berks so although the majority of the work is actually within Reading we are taking the lead as the bridge is within West Berks.</p> <p>Cllr Graham Bridgman confirm prior to the meeting that he had no comments to make about this proposal.</p>
Recommendation	30 mph speed reduction recommended Action – Recommend adding to the Minor Works programme forward plan for 2022/2023 for implementation subject to ID approval.

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2. Argyle Road, Hampton Road Derby Road and Rectory Close 20 mph limit request	
Attendees	Cllr Andy Moore
Discussion	<p>GD presented the request and explained that it had come from the residents of Argyle Road, Hampton Road, Derby Road and Rectory Close via Andy Moore their local Councillor.</p> <p>A brief summary of the local area was given and the results of a speed survey for Argyle Road was presented.</p> <p>Video footage of the roads in question (including Rectory Close) was presented.</p> <p>AM presented his comments to the group and ask for them to consider reducing the speed limit to 20 mph on all 4 roads as it would help provide a quieter and safer environment for those wishing to cycle and walk along and between these roads especially as not only is there now a play park off Hampton Road but a recently installed cycle route from Derby Road along Argyle Road to help avoid the busy Pound Street junction.</p> <p>Discussions were had over it would be appropriate to include the Pound Street junction with Newtown Road and Bartholomew Street as well but this was dismissed following a brief discussion involving Chris Hulme and GD.</p> <p>It was confirmed that merit could be seen for reducing the speed along these roads apart from Rectory Close which didn't have any speed evidence to support a for or against.</p>
Recommendation	<p>Argyle Road, Hampton Road and Derby Road to be recommended for a speed reduction to 20 mph. Rectory Close to be surveyed and the results of that speed survey to be discussed at a later date to determine a recommendation.</p> <p>Action: Argyle Road, Hampton Road and Derby Road to be added to the Minor Works future Programme for 2022/23 for implementation of speed limit reduction to 20 mph subject to ID approval.</p> <p>Rectory Road to be speed surveyed and results presented at later date for discussion.</p> <p>Post meeting note Rectory Close surveyed and a further meeting will be held.</p>
3. Meadow Way and Crown Lane (including Blossom Lane) reduction to 20 mph	
Attendees	Councillor Alan Macro
Discussion	<p>As the ward member is part of the SLR Task Group it was not considered necessary to go through the description of the roads being brought forward.</p> <p>Meadow Way was the first to be considered and the video of the road was presented.</p> <p>Speed survey data was then given together with a brief outline of any issues such as recorded accidents in that area.</p> <p>It was carefully considered as to whether the road was self-enforcing which is one of the main criteria of TVP and something Chris Hulme</p>

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	<p>was very vocal on as without being self-enforcing there would be every chance speeds would be in excess of the proposed 20 mph and would be unlikely to get Police enforcement.</p> <p>The speed data survey confirmed the speed recorded along Meadow Way were within the criteria for a 20 mph speed limit without additional enforcement features and was therefore self-enforcing.</p> <p>Crown Lane was then considered and video footage shown of along its entire length all the way to the end of Blossom Lane.</p> <p>Again the question of self-enforcing was considered and again evidence via the speed survey data proved it was.</p> <p>Questions were asked about the need to impose a 20 at the far end as it would involve repeater signage along a narrow section of lane with very little available verge for this signage but agreed it was likely some space could be found.</p>
Recommendation	<p>Reduction to 20 mph recommended for both roads along their entire lengths.</p> <p>Action Both roads to be added to the Minor Works future Programme for 2022/23 subject to ID approval..</p>
<p>4. The Green Theale extension of existing 30mph through to the A4/A340 roundabout junction</p>	
Attendees	Councillor Alan Macro
Discussion	<p>GD presented the proposal outlining that approval for future housing on both sides of The Green at this location had prompted this request. There would be circa 100 new properties on the North side of The Green between Deadman's Lane and the A4/A340 junction and circa 330 properties on the South side as part of the Lake side development. When all these properties are completed it will alter the street scene of this length of carriageway and justification could be seen for extending the 30 to the A4/A340 junction but at present no justification could be seen.</p> <p>Speed survey data confirmed traffic was travelling at appropriate speeds for this length of existing 40mph and there were no accident issues either associated with this road.</p> <p>CH mentioned that else where in Oxfordshire 40 mphis used a lot where new housing estates are constructed straight off national speed limit roads and that The Green would therefore be no different.</p> <p>It was then discussed that perhaps the compromise was a 30/40 mph limit change near to the entrance to The Lake side development and although it would mean a short length of 40 mph from the A4/A340 roundabout junction and then a 30 mph this would at least reduce traffic speeds pass the housing developments whilst still allowing a 40 mph along The Green straight off a national speed limit and would hopefully be observed appropriately.</p>
Recommendation	<p>It was recommended that the existing 30 mph limit would be extend out to the junction of The Lakeside development and the existing 40 mph would be reduced accordingly.</p>

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	Action. The proposal would be added to the Minor Works future programme for 2022/23 for implementation subject to ID approval.
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AOB	none
Next Meeting (To be confirmed)	
Meeting closes at 15:00	

Note: This is a summary of the Speed Limit Review meeting