

Briefing Note for Pewsey CATG

Area Board Issue 5919 – The Warren, Savernake Road (C192) – Speeding Concerns

Background

An issue has been raised by a group of stakeholders about speeding at The Warren, which has been supported by the Parish Council for further investigation.

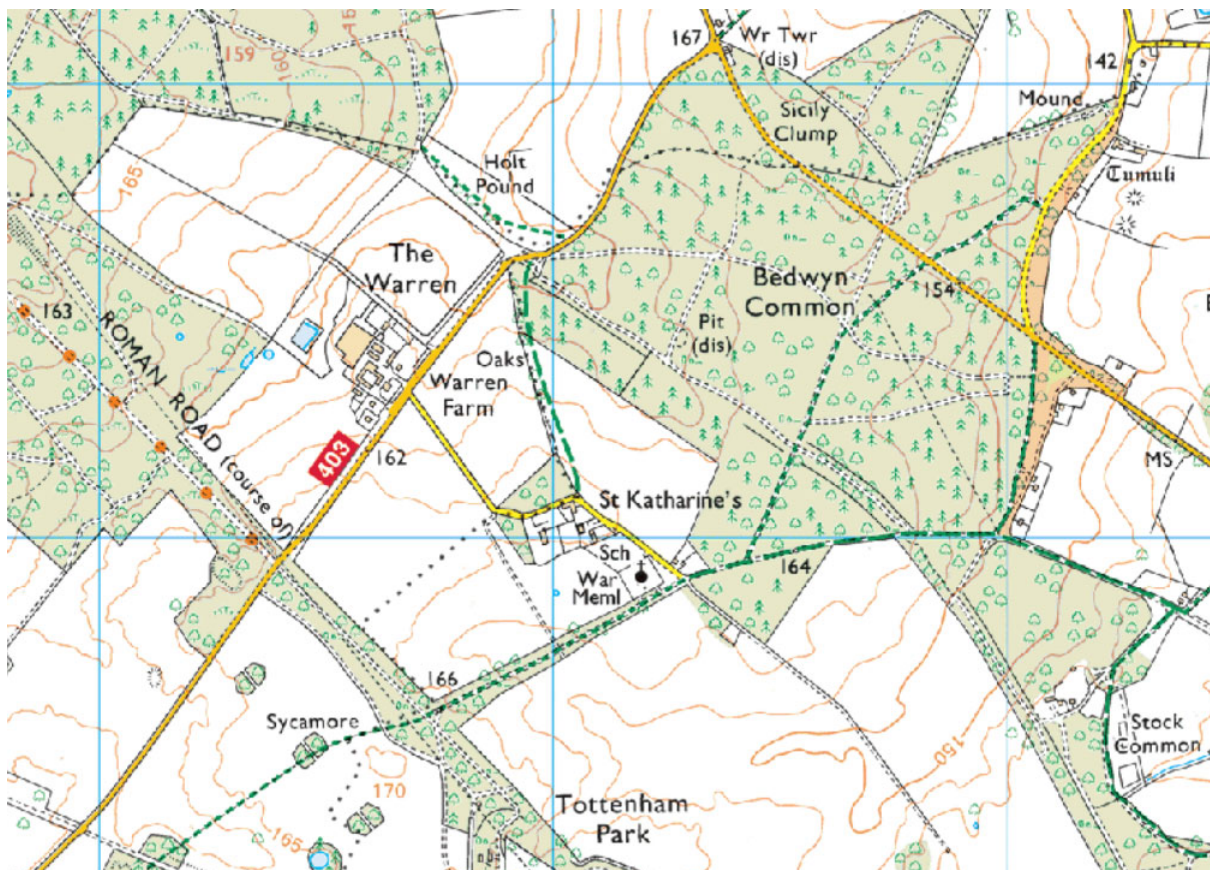
The Warren is described as a small hamlet and is situated alongside Savernake Road. St Katherine's School and church is situated nearby, although these do not front the road in question. The Warren consists of a small number of residential properties and businesses including a dairy farm and children's nursery. There is pedestrian activity, notably accompanied children travelling between the nursery and the school, and also local residents and visitors to the forest.

The road is currently subject to the National Speed Limit of 60 mph and there are no footways or street lighting provisions. Warning signs are posted to indicate the junction of the road leading to the church and school.

An examination of the collision database shows there have been no personal injury collisions here within the most recent 6 year period (up to end of May 2018).

The stakeholders wish to see some or all of the following measures:

- A reduced speed limit of 30 or 40 mph.
- Village gates / warning signs.
- Police / Community enforcement of the speed limit.



Both the Parish and Highways representatives have met on site with the stakeholders to discuss their concerns and it was agreed to undertake a speed survey by means of a metro count to gain some evidence of the problems described.

Metro count results

The survey commenced on 2 October and was completed on 12 October, during school term time. The unit was attached to the warning sign on the northbound approach as shown below. The unit recorded speeds in both directions.



Number of vehicles recorded = 7536

Mean speed (both directions combined) = 42.3 mph

85th Percentile Speed (the speed at which 85% of vehicles were recorded at, or below) = 52.01 mph

Percentage of vehicles travelling at or below 60 mph = 96.9%

Mean daily speeds (includes weekends) recorded between hours specified:

08:00 to 09:00 northbound = 41.5 mph

08:00 to 09:00 southbound = 36.7 mph

15:00 to 16:00 northbound = 40.4 mph

15:00 to 16:00 southbound = 38.3 mph

Setting Local Speed Limits

Speed Limits are assessed in Wiltshire using the Department for Transport guidelines set down in their Circular 01/2013. The C192 Savernake Road was last assessed in 2016. This section of the route was assessed as meeting the criteria for a 50 mph limit but the recommendation was not to implement this as the mean speeds were contained below this

figure and the introduction of a series of 50 mph signs would be detrimental to the environment. This recommendation was accepted by the CATG.

Conclusions

It is highly unlikely that a further assessment of the speed limit will produce a different set of results / recommendations from the 2016 review.

Whilst the recent metro count has demonstrated that mean speeds currently sit around the 40 mph mark, a modest reduction in speed and increase of driver awareness could be achieved by the introduction of village gates / nameplates, and / or a review of warning signs, in a manner sympathetic to the environment.

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10/12/18