

REGULATORY COMMITTEE
10th SEPTEMBER 2003

PETITIONS

Purpose of Report

1. To consider and decide action on petitions received.

Background

2. The following petitions have been received since the last meeting of the Committee:-
 - (i) Pewsey Vale: Quiet Lanes Project
 - (ii) Trowbridge: Wyke Road and The Down - Traffic calming
3. Details of the petitions, officer comments and recommendations are set out in **Appendices 1 and 2** of this report.
4. The petitions and any supporting correspondence will be available for inspection in the **Members' Room** or from the Director of Corporate Services prior to the meeting.

Recommendation

5. The Committee is asked to consider the petitions, along with officer comments, and any address made to Members by the petitioners at the meeting, and approve the recommendations set out in **Appendices 1 and 2**.

GEORGE BATTEN

Director of Environmental Services

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

Petitions and related correspondence

Environmental impact of the Recommendation contained in this Report:

Not applicable

Organiser: Mr. Roy Rummings, 8 Martins Close, Bottlesford, Nr. Pewsey

Petition for	Number of Signatures	Parish Or Town	Existing Speed Limit	Injury Accidents in 3 years	Comments from supporting letter	Observations	Recommendation
Residents' petition asking for the reinstatement of two junctions for the safety of all road users.	44	North Newnton	40 mph Bottlesford 30 mph Woodborough	Bottlesford None Woodborough None	<p>The residents in a Quiet Lane would like to raise concerns regarding certain aspects of the project.</p> <p>The junction from Bottlesford onto the Hilcott/Broad Street 'C' road has always been a dangerous blind junction with zero visibility to the right. The entrance to this junction has now been narrowed. Vehicles turning left into Bottlesford now have to swing out into the opposite carriageway for this manoeuvre, and if a car is approaching from within Bottlesford it is impossible to turn in, causing a potentially dangerous situation. It has also made the right hand turn even more hazardous for motorists, horseriders and pedestrians.</p> <p>The junction outside the church, as the Woodborough Road turns onto Pewsey's Wilcot Road, has also been made narrower. Positioning at this junction to turn right has always been awkward. The narrowing of this junction has also exacerbated the problem.</p> <p>Many of the very costly looking posts have been obscured by undergrowth.</p> <p>The road markings, a faint colour and not readily visible, are confusing; some have triangles, others have squares and rectangles and are meaningless to many motorists.</p> <p>It has become apparent, in recent rainstorms, that the Bottlesford junction is prone to flooding. As the junction has been narrowed the storm drain has been raised by one foot in height. Therefore, water has nowhere to run off.</p>	<p>The changes referred to in the petition form part of the Pewsey Value Quiet Lanes project, which aims to minimise today's traffic by encouraging considerate driving and promoting greater use of country lanes by horseriders, cyclists and walkers, whilst maintaining essential access by motor vehicles.</p> <p>A Working Group representing local residents, businesses, and Members supported by County and District Officers have overseen an extensive consultation process where 92% of local residents support the aims of the Quiet Lanes project.</p> <p>The technique of narrowing road junctions has been employed at four sites in the Quiet Lanes Network. These sites are at strategic entry points to the Quiet Lanes Network. The purpose of this work is to reduce entry and exit speeds of vehicles thus making the junctions safer for horseriders, cyclists and walkers.</p> <p>Bottlesford to Hilcott Junction</p> <p>The road narrowing that has taken place has not made the visibility any worse. The works have presented the opportunity to move the give way line forward and improve visibility, albeit by a small amount.</p> <p>Vehicles turning left into Bottlesford do not have to swing out into the opposite carriageway to make this manoeuvre. If a car is approaching from the Bottlesford direction it is not impossible to turn in.</p> <p>Woodborough Road and Wilcot Road Junction</p> <p>The build-out and new road markings are designed to encourage motorists to pull up to the give-way point at right-angles to Wilcot Road. This is a better position than previously existed. Visibility to the right is excellent, which enables motorists to safely edge out.</p> <p>Traffic using the Wilcot Road will be encouraged to keep to the left when approaching Woodborough Road by extending the centre line and through the installation of a junction warning sign.</p> <p>Vegetation and undergrowth was cut back around all the new signage on the 17th July.</p> <p>The road markings are due to be completed when surface dressing work in the area is finished during the Autumn. There are two types of road markings being used, both are to raise road users' awareness that the lane they are on has been designated a Quiet Lane. The buff colour was chosen by a representative of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty so that they are not too intrusive.</p> <p>Engineers have investigated the drainage system at Bottlesford junction. It could be that the problem lies with the adjacent drainage ditch, which is silted up and impairing the operation of the drain. The Area Highway Engineer is liaising with the landowner to clean the ditch and, thereafter, the re-engineered drain should function effectively.</p>	<p>That:-</p> <p>(i) The request for the junctions to be reinstated be not acceded to.</p> <p>(ii) The petitioners be advised accordingly.</p>

Organiser: Mr. J.F. Tarr, 71 The Down, Trowbridge

Petition for	Number of Signatures	Parish Or Town	Existing Speed Limit	Injury Accidents in 3 years	Comments from supporting letter	Observations	Recommendation
The petition is for the provision of traffic calming on Wyke Road and The Down, Trowbridge.	74	Trowbridge	30 mph	There have been five injury accidents on The Down and the length of Wyke Road between Horse Road and Victoria Road	<p>"I am writing with respect to road safety on The Down and Wyke Road. These linked roads are used as speed zones by many motorists. It is not unusual to see cars and motorcycles travelling at far above the speed limit to the danger of other road users and pedestrians.</p> <p>Calming is being installed at other locations in Trowbridge, ie College Road, Studley. These roads are not straight and I am sure do not encourage the speeds we have to put up with.</p> <p>There have been many accidents at the junction of Wyke Road and Victoria Road and there is an entrance to a Primary School at the top of The Down. I would think that these two points were sufficient to support the installation of traffic calming in at least two locations along the roads.</p> <p>We have all seen money being spent on roads in the town and believe that the Council is not spending it in the fairest way; the votes in our area carry as much weight as those in others."</p>	<p>The County Council is allocated funding, via the Local Transport Plan (LTP) settlement, for 'integrated transport' measures that are intended to encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport, and reduce accidents. This includes the provision of traffic calming for which no other source of funding is currently available.</p> <p>In March 2003, the Committee considered the allocation of the integrated transport funding from the LTP settlement. The report indicated that the Government is keen to see explicit linkages between the integrated transport schemes carried out in Wiltshire and national transport targets.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is vital that funding is directed to schemes which reduce accidents or promote walking, cycling and the use of public transport to ensure national and local targets are met.</p> <p>The agreed allocations reflect the acceptance that less money can be allocated for traffic management schemes in urban residential areas, such as traffic calming, as investment in these locations is considered less effective in terms of meeting transport targets.</p> <p>Against this background, the request for traffic calming on Wyke Road and The Down, Trowbridge, will be assessed to determine whether it satisfies the Government's integrated transport requirements and thus will be eligible for future LTP funding.</p>	<p>That:-</p> <p>(i) The request for the provision of traffic calming on Wyke Road and The Down, Trowbridge, be added to the list of requests to be assessed for future Local Transport Plan funding.</p> <p>(ii) The petitioners be advised accordingly.</p>