

COMMENTS

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Comment Received</u>	<u>Officer Comment</u>
	<u>A3102</u>	
	<p>Objections Melksham Without Parish Council oppose the proposal to increase the speed limit to 40mph and feel strongly it should remain at 30mph due to the location of the new solar farm and housing development at the old school site.</p> <p>The Council was unanimous in this resolution. If it helps the support their case, they cited anecdotal evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Councillor is currently making lots of deliveries to the new solar farm in a lorry, he is unable to turn right on exiting the site due the speed of traffic coming down the hill, and therefore goes down to the roundabout to turn around to go back up the hill. The councillors are concerned that this will also be an issue for residents pulling out of the new housing development in the future. • The crash barriers were erected some years ago following a serious car accident, these presumably will be removed as part of the development; councillors have concerns that a future accident may occur, without the crash barriers this would impact the front gardens of the new housing. 	<p>Response to Comments A key factor when setting a speed limit is what the road looks like to the road users, such as its geometry and adjacent land use. Drivers are likely to expect and respect lower limits, and be influenced when deciding on what is an appropriate speed, where they can see there are potential hazards, for example outside schools, in residential areas or villages and in shopping streets.</p> <p>On site observations indicate that a 40 mph limit aligns with the actual driven speed of the majority of motorists and provides a restriction that will provide a greater degree of adherence.</p> <p>The existing 30 mph limit through Sandridge, introduced in 2004, was established due to the presence of the Forest and Sandridge Primary School. It was considered appropriate to relax the criteria in use at that time in view of those exceptional circumstances. With the school having been relocated the criteria for a 30 mph limit on this length of the A3102 are no longer met.</p> <p>The issue of access and egress from the solar farm is temporary during the construction phase and could be overcome by the use of a banksman to help guide traffic in and out if this is thought necessary. The visibility splays for the new housing development have been designed in anticipation of a 40 mph speed limit so the concerns raised should not actually accrue.</p> <p>The safety fencing is to be removed as its presence is no longer considered necessary. The collision referred to took place in 1995 and the fencing was specifically installed to protect the school premises and those children attending. The layout of the housing development differs significantly from the previous layout and therefore safety fencing is not required.</p>
	<p>Support I fully support this pragmatic proposal which seems very sensible given the closure of Sandridge School. There are few hazards on the proposed stretch and housing is sparse. 40 mph is about right.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>