

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, STREET SCENE & FLOODING –
CLLR NICK HOLDER**

HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT & COMMISSIONING

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REFERENCE:

PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT CHANGES, BURTON

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of a proposed extension to the 30mph speed limit on Hillside, Burton and the introduction of a 20mph speed limit on the roads listed below and to recommend an appropriate way forward.

Burton Farm Close, Burton, Nettleton – the complete length

Church Hill, Burton, Nettleton – the complete length

Church Rise, Burton, Nettleton – the complete length

Nettleton Road, Burton, Nettleton – from its junctions with B4039 The Street to a point 12 metres south of its junction with Church Hill

The Meads, Burton, Nettleton – the complete length

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) meets two of the outcomes in the Council's Business Plan 2022-2032.
 - Outcome 2 Resilient Society– communicate with communities in a way that promotes constructive discussion, tailored to the communities needs and developing better solutions to these. To empower communities and groups to act in their local area. This outcome has been met through the development of the proposals (to which this report relates) with members of the local community through the Chippenham and Villages Area Board via the Chippenham and Villages Local Highways & Footways Improvement Group (LHFIG hereafter) which is made up of elected members and officers from both Wiltshire Council and relevant Town and Parish Councils, as well as representatives of local interest groups.
 - Outcome 3 Thriving Economy – Deliver infrastructure to enable local communities to live, work and play locally, businesses to invest and everyone to take responsibility for the environment. Helping to build an efficient and effective transport network, including viable alternatives to the car. This outcome has been met through the proposed speed limit changes that will address road safety concerns.

Background

3. As a result of concerns raised by the local community, including pedestrian safety and community severance, a request for an extension to the 30mph speed limit on Hillside and the introduction of a 20mph speed limit on Nettleton Road (and adjacent streets)

was considered, supported and funded by the LHFIG, in partnership with Nettleton Parish Council.

4. A formal speed limit assessment was undertaken on the B4039 from the County boundary to the Nettleton parish boundary. This recommended a reduction of speed limit at Hillside, Burton which is currently subject to a 40mph speed limit.
5. It was considered that a short extension of the 30mph speed limit aligns with national guidance such that the area over which the extended limit will apply retains the frontage development density and characteristics expected within a 30mph speed limit. It was therefore the recommendation to introduce an extension to the 30mph speed limit to the existing gateway entry to the village.
6. In addition, a 20mph speed limit assessment was undertaken on Nettleton Road, Church Hill, Church Rise, The Meads and Burton Farm Close within the extents of the existing 30mph speed limit. This assessment determined that the existing average vehicle speeds, road classification and function and characteristics meet the criteria set with the Wiltshire Council policy for the introduction of a 20mph sign only speed limit.
7. A plan outlining the proposal is provided in **Appendix 1**.

Consultation

8. Consultation has been undertaken with:
 - The elected Wiltshire Council Member through the statutory TRO consultation process.
 - The elected Nettleton Parish Council through the statutory TRO consultation process
 - Members of the Chippenham and Villages Local Highways & Footways Improvement Group (LHFIG)
 - Emergency services through the statutory TRO consultation process
 - Members of the public through the statutory TRO consultation process
9. The proposed TROs were subject to formal consultation between 8th March 2024 and 2nd April 2024. During the consultation period a total of three items of correspondence were received in response to the Council's proposals. Of these, two were in support of the proposal and one provided comments that may be considered as an objection.
10. Nettleton Parish Council has indicated its support of this proposal through the LHFIG meetings and has given a commitment to fund 30% of the cost of implementation.
11. The local elected Wiltshire Council member has not provided comment on this proposal.

Main Considerations for the Council

12. To consider the comments received during the consultation period. A summary of the issues raised and officer comments are included in **Appendix 3**.

Safeguarding Considerations

13. There is no risk to the Council because of these proposals.

Public Health Implications

14. There are none with this proposal.

Corporate Procurement Implications

15. There are none in this proposal.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

16. The Council's proposals would require the introduction of signing on the public highway. Doing so could be considered to have an impact on the visual aspect of the areas where they are to be introduced.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

17. There are none in this scheme.

Risk Assessment

18. There is no risk to the Council arising from these proposals.

Financial Implications

19. Changes on the ground will be funded by the LHFIG, with a contribution from Nettleton Parish Council. Failure to proceed with the project may result in unspent funds currently allocated to this project being returned to the LHFIG.

Legal Implications

20. The implementation of the proposed speed limit change requires the processing of TROs. The process of introducing TROs is governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and associated procedural regulations. Failure to adhere to the statutory processes could result in the TROs being successfully challenged in the High Court.

Options Considered

21. To:
- (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
 - (ii) Abandon the proposals.

Reason for Proposals

22. The proposal is intended to improve road and pedestrian safety and to allay concerns of safety expressed by residents by extending the 30mph speed limit on Hillside and introducing a 20mph speed limit within a residential area of the village.

Proposals

23. That:
- (i) The proposals be implemented as advertised.
 - (ii) The objectors be advised accordingly.

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

None