

Annex B

OBJECTIONS / COMMENTS TO ADVERTISED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Scheme:	BRACKNELL FOREST BOROUGH COUNCIL (WEST END LANE, WARFIELD) (20MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2017		
	West End Lane – 20mph speed limit		
Date Advertised:	28th June 2017	No. of Objections Received:	1 Objection

Objector	Summary of Objection / Comment	Officers Comments	Decision Abandon/Modify/ Proceed as advertised.
X X XXXXXXXX West End Lane (via email)	<p>X XXXXXXXX objection is based on the proposal having limited to no impact on average speeds on the road and the safety implications the proposal will have on those crossing the road on the new footpath.</p> <p>X XXXXXXXX states that data collected on the implications of 20mph speed limits have an average reduction of 1mph when signs alone are changed. X adds that should the speed limit be implemented without enforcing measures, those crossing the road will expect all vehicles to be travelling at the 20mph speed limit, making them more likely to cross the road without looking properly and, unfortunately more likely to be struck by those who already speed on the road.</p> <p>X XXXXXXXX adds, the speed limit would only be safer should the speed limit be enforced, either by traffic calming or through permanent police enforcement.</p> <p>X XXXXXXXX states that the proposed speed limit should not be implemented on such a road. X adds, if the issue is with the pedestrian crossing, it would be safer to make the current location a more prominent crossing point through installing bollards on either side, removing vegetation on the approach to the crossing and placing warning signs in advance of the crossing.</p>	<p>The speed limit proposal was developed following receipt of a petition, in November 2016, requesting a 20mph speed limit on the road signed by a number of residents. The reasoning behind the request was the increase in vehicular traffic and increase in pedestrians both crossing and using the carriageway to gain access to the newly constructed school.</p> <p>The Council committed to carry out a speed survey in the road to ascertain existing average speeds. This survey was carried out in earlier this year and resulted in 7 day average speeds of between 23 and 24mph being recorded.</p> <p>The Borough has adopted a Speed Management Strategy which aims to develop a set of speed limits for the Borough which, so far as possible, are accepted and respected by the community, and are clearly understood and naturally “enforced” by road conditions for the great majority of drivers. In this Strategy, steps are set out to ensure that there is a consistent approach to all existing speed limits as well as new speed limit enquiries. These steps include measures such as, assessing the layout and visibility of the road, investigating its vehicle usage and any previous history. In this particular instance, the recorded average speeds conformed with the Department of Transport guidelines for the implementation of 20mph speed limits (average speeds to be at, or less than 24mph) and a decision was made to include this scheme within the Council’s 2018/18 Capital programme. Whilst the Council accepts the research that suggests that changes in speed limits alone tend to have a minimum effect on reducing average speeds, that fact is that on West End Lane average speeds are already at a level that</p>	Proceed as advertised

		<p>suggests a 20mph limit is appropriate and a reduction of 1-2mph in speeds would only make the speeds more so.</p> <p>It has never been a consideration to install traffic calming on the road as part of this proposal. The installation of traffic calming would require a system of street lighting to be installed which would be cost prohibitive and would likely prove unpopular with residents who have chosen to live in a rural environment. Additionally, whilst the Council has the option of installing a 20mph zone rather than speed limit, which would remove the need for street lighting, West End Lane does not meet the criteria contained in the Council's Traffic Calming policy of having a significant history of speed related accidents (currently 0) or factors in the road that are likely to generate a large number of pedestrian traffic.</p> <p>As part of this proposal there are plans to erect a 'Cycles crossing' warning sign and place 'Slow' markings in advance of the 'greenway' crossing.</p> <p>Finally, the Council does not concur with X XXXXXXXX assertion that pedestrians/cyclists crossing West End Lane will be less vigilant due to a lower speed limit. In line, with Department of Transport guidelines to avoid unnecessary sign proliferation, the signing of the speed limit will be minimal. Therefore, it is extremely unlikely that those crossing the road would be aware of the speed limit in force and would use the same judgement of assessing when it is safe to cross as they would when crossing any other road.</p>	
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Local Member Comments on Consultation responses:

Cllr Mrs S Peacey – No comments have been received

Cllr J Harrison – No comments have been received

Cllr I Leake – No Comments have been received