

Annex B

OBJECTIONS / COMMENTS TO ADVERTISED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Scheme:	BRACKNELL FOREST BOROUGH COUNCIL (CHURCH ROAD & NORTH ROAD, WINKFIELD) (20MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2020		
	Church Road & North Road – 20mph speed limit restrictions		
Date Advertised:	24.06.2020	No. of Objections/comments received:	14

Objector	Summary of Objection / Comment	Officers Comments	Decision Abandon/Modify / Proceed as advertised.
X X XXXXX	<p>X XXXXX is happy with the proposals but adds that it's difficult to go faster with the current volume of cars and has doubts a sign will help.</p> <p>X XXXXX adds that a bigger concern would be making Long Hill Road and Priory Road safer. X states that over 90% of the cars break the speed limit and reducing it further would not help.</p>	<p>Speed surveys carried out a number of years ago on Priory Road recorded average speeds of just over 40mph and there have been no recorded accidents on the road in over 15 years.</p> <p>Speed surveys carried out 18 months ago on Long Hill Road recorded average speeds of approximately 31mph and there has been one recorded personal injury accident in the last 5 years.</p> <p>In view of the above information there is little justification in further speed or casualty reduction works at this time.</p>	Proceed as advertised
X XXXXXX	<p>X XXXXXX fully supports the 20mph speed limit on Church Road and North Road.</p> <p>X XXXXXX asks if further action can be taken against traffic that enters through the 'No Entry' restrictions on both roads. X suggests installing cameras.</p> <p>X XXXXXX asks why Priory Road does not have a 30mph whereas Long Hill Road does. X states that traffic regularly exceeds the 40mph speed limit and is a danger to pedestrians.</p>	<p>Enforcement of the 'No Entry' restrictions is the responsibility of Thames Valley Police and this comment will be raised them.</p> <p>Speed surveys carried out a number of years ago on Priory Road recorded average speeds of just over 40mph and there have been no recorded accidents on the road in over 15 years. In view of the above information there is little justification in further speed or casualty reduction works at this time.</p>	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXX & X X XXXXX	Support the proposals	Comments noted.	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXX	<p>X XXXXX is objecting to the 20mph proposal for Church Road & North Road.</p> <p>X XXXXX states that X is a resident on Church Road, and X has no concerns with the speed of traffic on the road. X adds that BFC has noted</p>	The speed surveys were carried out using automatic traffic counters placed in locations agreed with local members and the local community from 11th October to 21st October 2019.	Proceed as advertised

	<p>in various planning applications that the on-street parking keeps vehicle speeds low.</p> <p>X XXXXX requests to see the results of the speed surveys and where and when they were carried out. Additionally, X asks for information on the DoT guidance on the installation of 20mph speed limits.</p> <p>X XXXXX states that there are national concerns regarding installation of traffic calming measures, and X believes that the 20mph speed limit will be a precursor to the installation of speed humps.</p> <p>X XXXXX concludes by suggesting the Council focuses its finite funds and resources into projects that will improve safety.</p> <p>Additional response:</p> <p>X XXXXX asks why is there concern with speeds, when the users of Church Road are clearly adhering to the 30mph limit and the users in North Road are already under 20mph. X XXXXX adds that the parked cars in both roads calm the traffic speeds.</p> <p>X XXXXX asks what the concerns are in relation to Church Road and North Road given the lack of speeding and accidents.</p> <p>X XXXXX asks why a 20mph speed limit is being proposed for Church Road when the average speeds in one direction are in excess of the 24mph recommended in Department of Transport guidelines?</p> <p>X XXXXX asks for a full set of the speed survey data so the residents can see the full range of recorded speeds rather than relying on average speeds.</p> <p>X XXXXX states that X believes the implementation of a 20mph speed limit will be a pre-cursor to lobbying for traffic calming measures on the two roads.</p> <p>X XXXXX asks for details of the costs of the implementation of the scheme.</p> <p>X XXXXX asks for an extension in the consultation period to allow residents to consider the new information X has requested.</p> <p>X XXXXX asked to see the output from the Speed Assessment Tool referred to in Department for Transport guidelines.</p> <p>Finally, X XXXXX reiterates that X believes the funding for the scheme could be put to be better use on places where there are road safety issues to be tackled. X XXXXX indicates X will be investigating the possibility of legal action to stop the scheme being implemented.</p>	<p>The Council received enquiries from residents and local Council members regarding vehicle speeds and rat-running traffic. In response to these enquiries the Council agreed to carry out speed surveys that showed that speeds were well under the signed limit of 30mph but also showed a level of vehicles using Church Road in the pm peak hours that were likely to be using the road as a short-cut. In response to these results it was agreed to begin work to implement a 20mph speed limit. It is intended that the 20mph speed limits will keep average speed limits low and discourage motorists from using the roads as a short-cut. North Road has been included in the proposals to ensure motorists are discouraged from using both roads as a short-cut.</p> <p>The mean speeds recorded for North Road were 16.5mph (Westbound) and 17.4mph (Eastbound). The mean speeds recorded for Church Road were 24.5mph (Westbound) and 18.8mph (Eastbound).</p> <p>The speed limits have been developed in conjunction with the guidelines in Department of Transport Circular 01/2013 Setting local speed limits for 20mph speed limits. This states that where existing average speeds are below or at 24 mph there will be a general compliance of the new limit. Therefore, a threshold of 24mph is generally used as a measure of whether a 20mph speed limit is suitable for a road.</p> <p>Department of Transport Circular 01/2013 Setting local speed limits states that a reduction of about 1 mph can be expected by implementing 20mph speed limits through signing alone. This would bring the mean speeds down to under the level of 24mph.</p> <p>The Council is unable to release the full speed survey data to residents as it has commercial value to outside organisations.</p> <p>It is currently estimated that the costs associated with the implementation of the 20mph speed limits will be approximately £1,700 which includes speed surveys, newspaper public notices and road signs and markings.</p> <p>The Councils current traffic calming policy is that intrusive speed reducing measures (such as speed humps) will only be considered if there is proven issuing with speeding or speed related accidents. As explained in the consultation literature neither Church Road or North Road currently have a speeding or road traffic accident issue so traffic calming would not be considered at this time.</p> <p>The Department of Transport Speed Assessment Tool has not been used in the development of this scheme. As specified in paragraph 65 of Circular 01/2013 'local authorities are invited, though not required to use it'. The Council has implemented many 20mph speed limits on roads across the Borough and in general they are welcomed by the</p>	
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X XXX XXXXXXXX Chavey Down Association	<p>The Chavey Down Association are grateful that the Council is advancing this scheme as local residents are extremely concerned about the amount of traffic/speeding. They add that the problem has become significantly worse following the installation of the traffic lights at Martins Heron crossroads as many road users won't wait for the traffic lights and use the two roads as rat-runs.</p> <p>The association has carried out a lot of work locally and have received positive support for the proposals.</p>	Comments noted	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXXXXX Church Road	X XXXXXXXX has no objections to the implementation of a 20mph on Church Road but would suggest that a one-way restriction is also implemented.	One-way restrictions can prove very unpopular with those residents who are disadvantaged by whichever direction of travel is being promoted. Residents at either end of a road will have extra distance and time added to their journeys compared to a road with 2-way traffic.	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXX Church Road	<p>X XXXX is in full support of the roads having 20mph limits. Specifically, Church Road which has been used as a rat run since the Martins Heron crossroads improvements.</p> <p>X adds the road has elderly and very young residents and is already congested due to the amount of on-street parking.</p>	Comments noted	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXX Church Road	<p>X XXXXX supports the positive plan for a reduction of the speeds on both roads.</p> <p>X XXXXX adds that X has lived on Church Road for 15 years and has seen the speed of cars rising in the last 5 years. X XXXXX claims X has nearly been hit on several occasions whilst getting in out of X car, had X car damaged by a speeding van and X has had a cat killed and one seriously injured.</p>	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>The Councils current traffic calming policy is that intrusive speed reducing measures (such as speed humps) will only be considered if there is proven issuing with speeding or speed related accidents. As explained in the consultation literature neither Church Road or North Road currently have a speeding or road traffic accident issue so traffic calming would not be considered at this time.</p>	Proceed as advertised

	<p>X XXXXX states that the noise of the speeders significantly impacts X health and X claims that that cars speed between 40-60mph in the evenings and weekends.</p> <p>X adds that residents feel that speed humps would significantly reduce the speed of vehicles.</p>		
Thames Valley Police	Thames Valley Police have no objection to the proposals	Comments noted	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXX Church Road	X XXXXX states X is in agreement with the 20mph speed limit proposals.	Comments noted	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXXX Church Road	X XXXXXX states X fully supports the 20mph speed limit proposals in Church Road	Comments noted	Proceed as advertised
X & X XXXXX Church Road	X & X XXXXX have lived in Church Road for over 17 years and fully support the proposals. They state they often see vehicles using the road as a shortcut when London Road is busy and often at an inappropriate speed.	Comments noted	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXXXX Church Road	<p>X XXXXXXX states about time! X adds X has been speaking to the Council for some years about this. X states X has often wondered why roads like Whitelands Drive in North Ascot (which is not a cut-through) should have a 20mph limit and not X road which is increasingly used as a rat-run. X was told five years ago that Council did not have the budget to consider this.</p> <p>X XXXXXXX concludes that the proposals will not work unless there are penalties for speeders.</p>	<p>Until several years ago, the Council had a rolling programme of introducing 20mph speed limits into residential roads. The 20mph speed limit in Whitelands Drive was introduced as part of an area wide scheme in North Ascot. 20mph speed limits are now introduced to address specific issues such as casualty reduction or to tackle 'rat-running' traffic.</p> <p>20mph speed limit schemes are designed to be largely self-enforcing with little enforcement action needed from the local Police. However, the normal range of penalties can be issued to those motorists breaking the limit.</p>	Proceed as advertised
X X XXXXX Church Road	<p>X XXXXX states that as a family with young children they have had a number of near misses where cars have been speeding down the road. X states they regularly witness cars using Church Road as a cut through.</p> <p>X believes that reducing the speed limit along the length of the road will help ensure drivers respect the residential status of the road.</p> <p>X adds they regularly have cars, trucks or vans parked outside of their house and this makes it nearly impossible to see anything coming down the road when they leave their driveway. Therefore, this makes it considerably more dangerous when drivers hurtle over the brow of the hill because they are unable to see X emerging from X drive until they are close by.</p> <p>X also adds that X regularly witnesses cars coming into Church Road from the Long Hill Road end where it is no entry.</p>	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>Enforcement of the 'No Entry' restrictions is the responsibility of Thames Valley Police and this comment will be raised them.</p> <p>The Councils current traffic calming policy is that intrusive speed reducing measures (such as speed humps) will only be considered if there is proven issuing with speeding or speed related accidents. As explained in the consultation literature neither Church Road or North Road currently have a speeding or road traffic accident issue so traffic calming would not be considered at this time.</p>	Proceed as advertised

	X concludes that in addition to the proposed 20mh speed limit, X believes road humps at certain points in the road would help slow drivers who may not otherwise do so.		
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Local Member Comments on Consultation responses:

Cllr N Atkinson – ‘Having read through the objection and comments summary, one of the objector’s key concerns seems to be a view that introducing the 20mph speed limit is a precursor to further traffic calming measures such as speed humps.

As there are no plans to introduce these for the reasons that you have outlined, this should not be an issue.

All of the other comments seem to be generally supportive of the scheme, which is good news’.

Cllr D Hayes – No further comments received.