

## **CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 7 SEPTEMBER 2017**

### **PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT, KIDMORE END**

#### **Report by the Director for Infrastructure Delivery**

#### **Introduction**

1. This report presents responses received in the course of a statutory consultation to introduce a 20mph speed limit within the village of Kidmore End.

#### **Background**

2. Kidmore End Parish Council have requested that a 20mph speed limit is introduced on the roads in the village, and have undertaken to meet the full costs of the scheme should it be approved. A plan showing the proposed extent of the 20mph speed limit is shown at Annex 1.

#### **Consultation**

3. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 26 May and 23 June 2017. A public notice was placed in The Henley Standard newspaper, and sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Kidmore End Parish Council and the local County Councillor.
4. 48 responses were received as summarised at Annex 2. Copies of the full responses are available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
5. Thames Valley Police expressed no objection to the proposal. Kidmore End Parish Council who are funding the project, expressed support. Forty six responses were received from members of the public comprising two objections, and forty four expressions of support.
6. The objections were on the grounds that there was no evidence that the proposed reduced speed limit would materially change speeds and that other measures to improve safety in the area – including maintenance measures – were a higher priority.

#### **Response to objections and concerns**

7. While it is accepted that the proposed 20mph speed limit will likely not result in a major reduction in speeds, it is judged to be consistent with Department for Transport guidance on setting local speed limits and help reduce the risk

of accidents on the village roads. The concerns expressed that there are higher priorities for expenditure on safety measures in the parish are noted, but Kidmore End Parish Council have chosen to fund this project.

### **How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives**

8. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

### **Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)**

9. The full costs of the 20mph speed limit will be provided by Kidmore End Parish Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

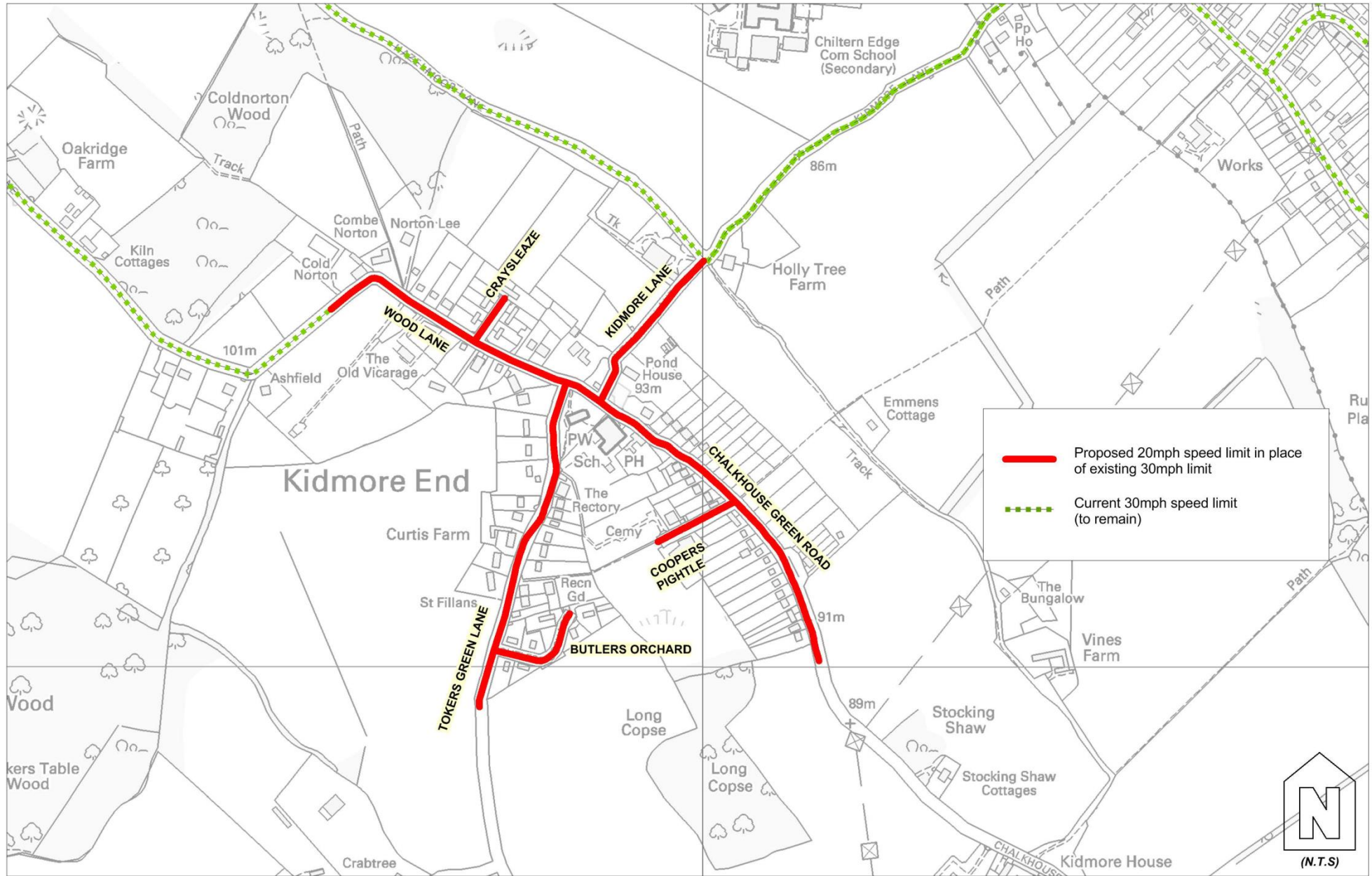
10. **The Cabinet Member for Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposals as advertised**

OWEN JENKINS  
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Background papers:           Plan of proposed restrictions  
  Consultation responses

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September 2017



RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Thames Valley Police	<b>No objection</b> - The police stance still reflects that 20 mph limits and zones should still be self-enforcing, speed data has already been gathered on some roads subject to these proposals and mean speeds do support the speed limit is lowered.
(2) Kidmore End Parish Council	<b>Support</b> – the proposed speed limit is supported by the parish council, who are meeting the full costs of the project should it be approved.
(3) Local Resident, (Emmer Green)	<b>Object</b> - In the absence of any obvious study that shows that this improves road safety, I don't see how it helps. The people who speed through the village will continue to do so regardless of what the limit is set at. More attention should go into other safety measures such as re-painting the lines outside the school and signage warning people that the school is there.
(4) Online Response, (unknown)	<b>Object-</b> I would love to know why the council sees fit to propose and fund a consultation for a reduction in speed limit in a village where I cannot recall in my 15 years as a resident an accident caused by speeding, yet will not support and fund the same for the A4074 in Chazey Heath where in the same period there have been multiple and frequent serious accidents - what a complete misuse of funds.
(5) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)	<b>Support</b> - As Headteacher of the primary school in the village I receive regular reports of near miss incidents or minor accidents caused by careless driving in the village. I am also aware from driving through the village on a daily basis myself that with no pavements pedestrians are very vulnerable, even when drivers proceed cautiously. The roads are narrow and sight lines from driveways of residential properties are not good. A 20mph speed limit would certainly improve safety for the children in my school, particularly those who walk the short distance within the village. An increased vigilance from the police would also address other road safety issues, such as people parking carelessly around the main junction in the village.

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<p>(6) Local Resident, (Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Whilst I support the limit being lowered to 20mph I fail to see how this will be enforced, those that drive too fast already will not think that the 20mph limit applies to them and continue to drive too fast. When the village is busy it is impossible to drive at more than 20 mph anyway.</p> <p>I think our money would best be spent elsewhere.</p>
<p>(7) Local Resident, (Wood Lane, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Last year I was misfortunate enough to have 2 car accidents. Neither which I was liable for and both were caused by the drivers of the other vehicles driving too fast on our country roads. I firmly believe that 30mph is too fast for the single track lanes that surround our village.</p>
<p>(8) Resident, (Reades Lane, Sonning Common)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - For the safety of the school children and due to the narrowness of the roads I think it will help keep everyone safer.</p>
<p>(9) Resident, (Woodcote Road, Caversham)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Traffic desperately needs to be slowed as it is dangerous, especially around school drop off and pick up times. My daughter has been brushed (squeezed against another parked car) by a passing impatient car, I have lost several wing mirrors and had several near miss incidents when walking &amp; cycling along the lanes. It is an area waiting for a serious incident! More people would cycle and leave their cars if it was safer with slower cars too. Cannot wait for my daughter to leave the school so we can keep away from the dangerous roads if I am honest!</p> <p>Brilliant idea to slow the traffic - needs a way to reinforce it along with parking near the school also (many parents regularly pull up in driveways and on the yellow lines causing mayhem!)</p>
<p>(10) Resident, (Elm Road, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I walk along Tokers green lane with my children and dog people drive too fast and don't slow down for anyone.</p>
<p>(11) Resident, (Uplands Road, Caversham)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I would support a 20mph zone in the immediate vicinity of Kidmore End Primary School, St John's Church, the New Inn and the Parish Hall where the pre-school is held, where the children and parents walk and cross the road, but not extending to any other side roads.</p>

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<p>(12) Resident, (Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Personally I already drive at about that speed in Kidmore End because the roads are narrow with no pavements. Also because of the school and the likelihood of encountering horses and other pets. Anything that encourages other drivers to act responsibly is a good idea. I would also like to see the proposal extended to the Roads in Tokers Green. It is frightening the speed that some people drive on Rokeby Drive and Tokers Green Lane. On Rokeby Drive there are always parked cars and children and animals crossing the road. Although it is a straight road it is ridiculous to drive too fast here. If a 20mph limit made the bad drivers slow down to 30 then that would be something.</p>
<p>(13) Resident, (Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I believe this is a good idea because the roads in Kidmore End are narrow, with blind corners and no pavements. There is a school, pub and church all of which give rise to pedestrians walking in the road and parked cars making the roads more dangerous. There are also other hazards often encountered like horses and bikes. Anything that encourages drivers to act responsibly is a good idea. I would also like to see the proposal extended to the Roads in Tokers Green. It is frightening the speed that some people drive on Rokeby Drive and Tokers Green Lane. On Rokeby Drive there are always parked cars and children and animals crossing the road. Although it is a straight road it is ridiculous to drive too fast here. If a 20mph limit made the bad drivers slow down to 30 then that would be something.</p>
<p>() Resident, (Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - It would make the roads in the village safer - particularly around the school.</p>
<p>(14) Resident, (Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - The Council should also consider applying this to Hazelmoor Lane as lots of children use this road to get to and from Kidmore End Primary and Chiltern Edge Schools.</p>
<p>(15) Local Resident, (Russell Road, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I fully support the request to reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20 mph for Kidmore End village.</p>
<p>(16) Local Resident, (Kidmore End Road, Emmer Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>

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<p>(17) Local Resident, (Reading)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I walk my children to school every day in the village and also walk my dog and feel reducing the speed limit in the village where it is narrow with often parked vehicles that this would improve safety for my family. Cars exceed 30mph so reducing the limit will hopefully decrease their speed as often cars using these roads as a by route do not slow down when seeing people walking. People often don't park considerably as they think it's a small village it doesn't matter and therefore often making it difficult to see out of the junctions so this would also help slow traffic down and make it safer to drive in and out of the junctions in the village.</p>
<p>(18) Local Resident, (Russell Road, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>
<p>(19) Resident, (Sonning Common)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>
<p>(20) Resident, (Chazey Close, Chazey Heath)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I welcome the lowering of the speed limit seeing as there is a school in Kidmore End although I like to think that road users are already doing that speed or lower because of the school. I would like to see the new speed limit signs well displayed as even though the country lanes should make drivers slow down anyway, having lived in the area for 22 years I can speak from experience that some drivers think they are on a main road rather than a country lane.</p>
<p>(21) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - At the heart of this speed limit restriction is a primary school. It is my opinion that all schools should be subject to additional speed limits as children are often distracted coming out of school at the end of a school day. Parents dropping off children are often running to work and at the end of a working day are often running late and perhaps not concentrating as they should.</p> <p>At Kidmore End, there are few warning signs that a school is imminent. A few additional signs should also be considered.</p> <p>I fully support this proposal.</p>
<p>(22) Local Resident, (Coopers Pightle, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I wholeheartedly support this - and being a resident of Coopers Pightle, which seems to be neglected by the council, I hope to see the road surface fixed soon. It is disgraceful and 90% of the traffic on this road is caused by</p>

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	council vehicles doing work at the cemetery, delivery vans, and visitors to the cemetery.
(23) Local Resident, (Coopers Pightle, Kidmore End)	<b>Support</b> - It is. Wry good to see Coopers Pightle is being adopted as a road. Is it possible for someone to come a finally repair the potholes.
(24) Local Resident, (Coopers Pightle, Kidmore End)	<b>Support</b> - Particularly pleased that Coopers Pightle is included on the plan.
(25) Local Resident, (Beech Road, Tokers Green)	<b>Support</b> - I support this proposal, however I am absolutely baffled as to why this 20mph speed limit proposal is not planned for the length that serves Tokers Green as well. It is one of narrowest parts of the road and has many blind corners. As it meets Caversham it is incredibly dangerous for pedestrians (including school children walking to/from the bus stop in Caversham), cyclists, horses and vehicles using the road. Myself and many of my neighbours have had accidents or have been nearly been run over by people driving too fast along the road. One of my neighbours has been hospitalised due to being hit by a car when walking along that stretch of road. We urge you to consider extending this speed limit to include Tokers Green as well.
(26) Local Resident, (Rosebery Road, Tokers Green)	<b>Support</b> - I fully support the proposal to reduce the speed limit to 20mph in the roads leading into Kidmore End and would like to see this extended along the length of Tokers Green Lane right through the village of Tokers Green. Pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders are frequently endangered as drivers accelerate through and beyond the junction in the village. There have been accidents at both the cross roads and the blind corner on the sharp left hand bend leaving the village in the direction of Kidmore end.
(27) Local Resident, (Beech Road, Tokers Green)	<b>Support</b> - Tokers Green Lane in Tokers Green is just as narrow and equally as impassable as the lane through Kidmore End so the 20mph speed limit should be extended through Tokers Green.  Also, more and more traffic is cutting through Tokers Green from Caversham to Kidmore End and Sonning Common. This is very dangerous as the lane cannot take the level of traffic. There should be signs saying 'Tokers Green only' at both ends of the hamlet so that traffic is encouraged to stick to Woodcote Road instead.



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<p>(28) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I fully support the proposal of a 20mph speed limit - we must do all we can to ensure the safety of pedestrians in the village, especially the young children walking to and from Kidmore End Primary School. With such narrow roads and zero separation between vehicles and pedestrians, it is my opinion that driving at 30 mph is not a safe speed for the Village.</p>
<p>(29) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Cars drive too fast through the village and with no foot paths , pedestrians are at risk and a lot of children walk to school also.</p>
<p>(30) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>
<p>(31) Local Resident, (Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>
<p>(32) Local Resident, (Wood Lane, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I wholeheartedly agree with this. I walk up and down Wood Lane in Kidmore End at least 4 times a day, with young children and some cars go far too fast along there. 20 mile an hour speed limit should help keep children walking to school safe, before there is a nasty accident.  I also live in the village on a blind bend and would feel safer crossing the road if cars weren't going so fast.</p>
<p>(33) Online Response, (unknown)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - My son attends the school in Kidmore End and at school drop off and pick up times the roads around the school are very busy with lots of parked cars, with many children crossing the road a 20mph speed limit would make the roads safer for them.</p>
<p>(34) Resident, (Kidmore Lane, Sonning Common)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>
<p>(35) Online Response, (unknown)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I am worried daily about the speed that some cars and motorbikes travel past the entrance to my drive (Idlemede) on Chalkhouse green road.</p>

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	<p>I strongly support the plan to reduce the speed limit to 20mph to improve the safety of the roads in our village, for my children, family, friends and neighbours.</p> <p>I work as a trauma and orthopaedic consultants at royal Berkshire hospital, and see first hand the devastating injuries caused by road traffic collisions in our local communities.</p>
(36) Resident, (St Peters Avenue, Caversham)	<p><b>Support</b> - This is speed limit is vital for a village with small roads and with a primary school, church and public house all located on almost single track roads.</p>
(37) Local Resident, (Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common)	<p><b>Support</b> – <i>No comment.</i></p>
(38) Local Resident, (Wood Lane, Kidmore End)	<p><b>Support</b> - Please reduce the speed limit and ensure that drivers are observed through speed guns or cameras. Walking around the village and to and from school gets more dangerous. There seems to be a lot of large lorries using the lane and in the summer months the tractors drive at high speeds.</p>
(39) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)	<p><b>Support</b> - The roads through Kidmore End are narrow, have almost no footpaths and many partial blind spots. They are used by school children, dog walkers etc. Most drivers are careful, and probably drive at about 20mph already (because it is clearly dangerous to go any faster in many places), but some do not, and a 20 mph limit would encourage a few more to drive cautiously which would be very welcome.</p>
(40) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)	<p><b>Support</b> - I understand that it is the school that is pushing for this reduced speed limit which I totally support , but the school is also responsible ( like many other school in the country) for the majority of traffic congestion in the village at school in/out times and the highway authority / police should also address the dangerous parking that occurs every school day at the junctions of Chalkhouse Green Road with Kidmore Lane and Tokers Green Lane which any resident in the village will confirm is far more of an issue than the speed limit which is not really enforceable.</p>
(41) Local Resident, (Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End)	<p><b>Support</b> - We support this proposal as there are many pedestrians, including children, in the village and there are no pavements.</p>

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<p>(42) Local Resident, (Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I support the planned reduction of the speed limit in and around Kidmore End.</p> <p>It will need enforcement to make sure it is followed so is there any plans for speed cameras or other enforcement mechanisms.</p> <p>Its a good start but on the highlighted sections of the roads in the plan I am not sure drivers will be speeding, I believe that they will be speeding on the more open / longer sections of Chalkhouse Lane, of Tokers Green Lane etc. So I think the reduced speed limit should be more extensive within the parish. In particular I would strongly support a 20mph limit along the whole of Tokers Green lane as that is where I live. Especially during the school run in the morning and afternoon the road is mad with many people driving crazily fast. Likely to be the same on others roads used to get to KE school.</p>
<p>(43) Local Resident, (Russell Road, Tokers Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Tokers Green lane is increasingly used as a secondary route into &amp; out of Reading. Speeding motorists have increased &amp; are a hazard on such a narrow road - an accident is waiting to happen. 20mph is a more suitable speed for this road rather than the current 30mph. Of course, it's only relevant if properly enforced.</p>
<p>(44) Online response, (unknown)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - This is very much needed in the area. We live in Chalkhouse Green Road and walk to Kidmore End primary school every day and I live in fear of the speed some drivers go at.</p>
<p>(45) Local Resident, (Gallowstree Road, Peppard Common)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - We would also propose the inclusion of Hazlemoor Lane of a20mph speed limit because there are children who walk this lane as a route to school. Seeing this is a Very narrow lane we think it should be included for the safety of every one walking this lane.</p>
<p>(46) Email Response, (unknown)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - As a resident for 24 years, I have seen a great increase in the volume and speed of traffic. With the current 30mph limit, cars are frequently driven at 40-50mph. Perhaps with a 20mph limit they might slow down to 30 !</p>
<p>(47) Local Resident, (Kidmore End)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Having reviewed the documentation, I support the proposal to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph, although I think consideration should be given to whether this reduction should only apply during restricted hours e.g. 7am to 7pm.</p>

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