

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 27 MARCH 2014

PROPOSED REVISED SPEED LIMIT B4477, FILKINS

Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. An objection has been received from Thames Valley Police to a proposal to extend the existing 30mph speed limit on the B4477 Alvescot Road at Filkins in place of the current 40mph limit.

Background

2. This proposal at Annex 1 arises from a request from County Councillor Peter Handley, in response to local concerns over road safety, in particular for pedestrians and cyclists (including children) crossing the road. However, no injury accidents have been reported in the most recent 5 year period.

Consultation

3. The consultation on the proposals was carried out between 30 January and 28 February 2014. One objection has been received from Thames Valley Police who note that there is no collision history, no active roadside development on the length of the proposed extension to the 30mph limit and that taking account of current speeds, compliance with the new limit may be poor, leading to expectations of enforcement on the part of the Police.

Response

4. A recent speed survey immediately east of the crossroads showed average speeds in both directions were approximately 35mph, although peak speeds were higher in the westbound direction. Applying Department for Transport (DfT) research on the effect of speed limit changes on actual speeds, it is likely that average speeds would reduce to around 33mph.
5. Officers note that the DfT guidelines on setting village speed limits acknowledge that in some circumstances an intermediate speed limit of 40mph is appropriate, as was introduced here in 2002 when the speed limit in the village was last reviewed.
6. The technical case for a reduction in speed limit is therefore judged to be marginal, taking account of the accident history, current speeds and DfT guidelines. However, the latter are not prescriptive and commend for example consideration of other speed management measures to encourage

compliance. Local funding is likely to be available for a vehicle activated sign (for traffic entering the village) and were this to be provided average speeds would likely reduce by around 2mph. Therefore if a 30mph limit were to be in place, along with a Vehicle Activated Sign, average speeds would likely be around 31mph which would be in line with speeds in many other 30mph limits.

How the Project supports LTP3 Objectives

7. The proposals would help reduce the risk of accidents and improve road safety.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

8. Costs will be met from Councillor Handley's Area Stewardship Fund allocation. Maintenance of the signs will be met from the highways maintenance budget.
9. The appraisal of the proposals and consultation has been undertaken by Environment & Economy officers as part of their normal duties.

RECOMMENDATION

10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve implementation of the proposed revised speed limit on the B4477 at Filkins as advertised.**

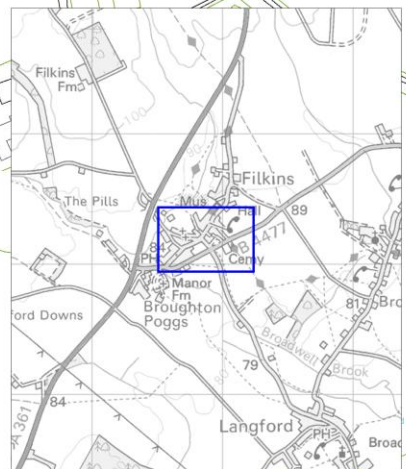
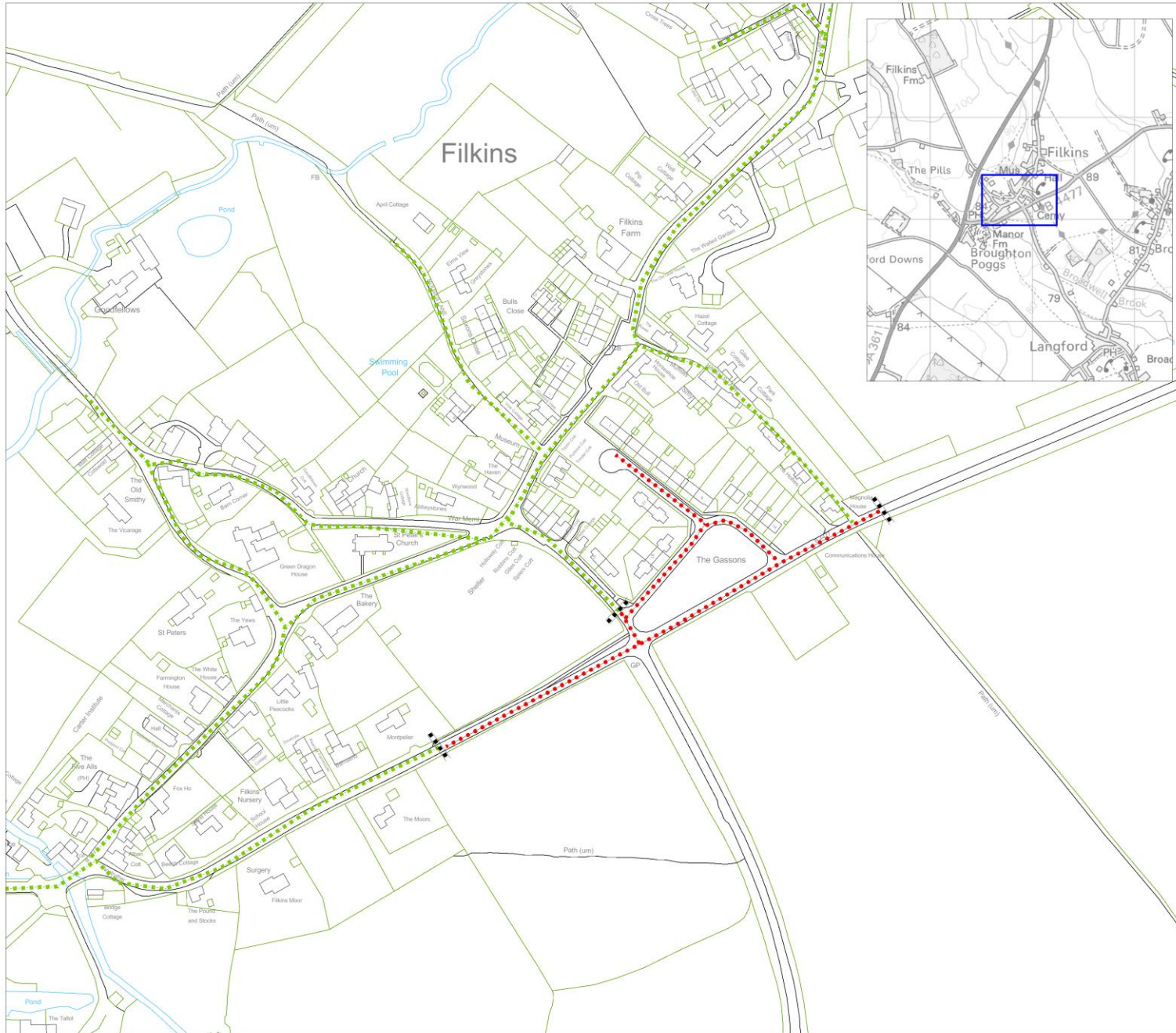
MARK KEMP

Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Letter of objection from Thames Valley Police

Contact Officers: Jim Daughton 01865 323364

March 2014



Drawing No. Revision 1

- - - - - Existing 30mph speed limit
 - - - - - Proposed 30mph speed limit in place of current 40mph speed limit
 - Speed limit terminal point signing change
- Site Location

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**CABINET MEMBER
FOR ENVIRONMENT
27 MARCH 2014**

**B4477 FILKINS
PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT**

Drawing Status		
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Approved by:
CJM		
Date drawn:	Date checked:	Date approved:
18/02/2014		

Drawing No. Revision 1

