

Divisions affected: *Didcot Ladygrove; Wallingford*

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 27 JANUARY 2022

DIDCOT AND LONG WITTENHAM – B4016 LADYGROVE & SIRES HILL: PROPOSED 40MPH SPEED LIMIT

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve as advertised the proposed 40mph speed limit on the B4016 and Long Wittenham adjacent to residential development north of Didcot.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on proposals to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the B4016 north of Didcot and also on a length of Sires Hill east of its junction with the B4016 as shown at Annex 1 as a result of adjacent development.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals has been provided by the developers of adjacent land, who will also fund the extension of the limit if approved

Equality and Inclusion Implications

4. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

5. The proposals would help facilitate walking and cycling and the safe movement of traffic.

Consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 13 October and 12 November 2021. A notice was published in the Oxfordshire Herald newspaper and an email sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, Didcot Town Council, and Long Wittenham Parish Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and local County Councillors.

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7. Twelve responses were received during the formal consultation. 4 in support, 5 objections, 2 raising concerns and 1 non-objection.
8. The responses are shown at Annex 2 with copies of the original responses available for inspection by County Councillors.
9. Thames Valley Police did not object.
10. Didcot Town Council's Planning and Development Committee support the proposals.
11. The remaining ten responses were from members of the public, Five objections, two expression of concern and three expressions in support.
12. The objections and concerns were primarily on the grounds that the proposed 40mph speed limit was unnecessary taking account of the alignment and character of the road. One respondent also noting that the adjacent development should have been required to provide a shared use cycle track adjacent to the development on the west side of the B4016. Noting these views, the character of the road will be changed as the result of the development, with the proposed speed limit also including the T junction at the north end of the B4016 Ladygrove Road and also the bend on the unclassified road to the east of the junction, which has had a record of injury accidents. The query on the provision of the cycle track is noted but is outside the scope of the proposal.
13. Expressions of support were received from three members of the public on the grounds of improved road safety.

BILL COTTON

Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes

Annexe 1: Consultation Plan

Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:

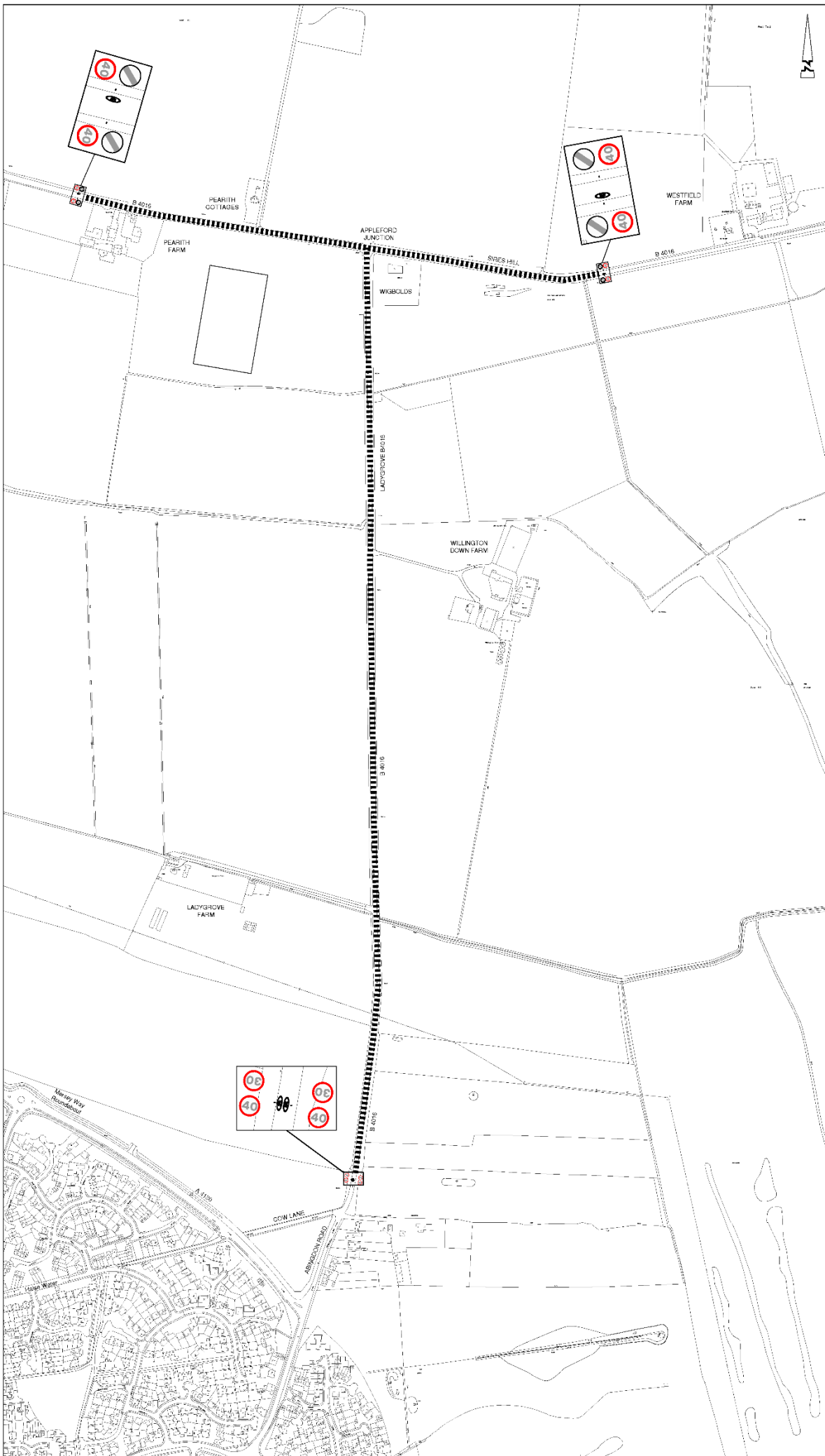
Tim Shickle 07920 591545

Jet Dehal

January 2022

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ANNEX 1



NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHKD

ABLEY LETCHFORD PARTNERSHIP
CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS

3 Tealgate, Charnham Park
 Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 0YF
 www.abley.co.uk Tel: 01493 684290

Client: **LEGAL & GENERAL**

Project: **WILLINGTON DOWN**

Site: **LADYGROVE B4106 TRO PLAN**

DATE	BY	CHKD	DATE
1:2000 @ AL	DEC 2019	VPI	KLW
Drawing No: A252-LG-S278-104			Sheet: P3

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
(2) Didcot Town Council	Support – Didcot Town Council’s Planning and Development Committee met on Wednesday 27th October and resolved to support the proposed speed limit change on B4016 and Sires Hill.
(3) Local Resident, (Didcot, Abbott Road)	Object - why not make sure the junctions are clearly visible from all directions, unlike it's at the moment where junction lady grove/b4016 has poor visibility due to overgrown hedges and conifers on bend. why 40mph? why not 50mpg like it's along the A4130
(4) Local Resident, (Didcot, Ottery Way)	Object - As usual the council strategy is to impose speed limits rather than build better cycling/walking infrastructure. As someone who cycles this stretch several times a week, it is not the speed of the cars that is problematic, it is the road surface and width that need updating. A new development spans the western margin of the Ladygrove road with a pavement that is not connected in any way to the roadside (no access). This is ridiculous, the developer should have been made to build a cycle lane adjacent to the road instead. No joined up thinking or planning ahead as usual.
(5) Resident, (Oxford, Rymers Lane)	Object - Aside from the 90 degree bend this road has excellent visibility and the existing speed limit is completely appropriate. Changing this will delay the progress of traffic unnecessarily and with no benefit.
(6) Resident, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Kings Orchard)	Object - I believe that the limit needs to be 50 MPH as 40 MPH is too slow and unrealistic and result in frustration or speeding/Law breaking.
(7) Resident, (Wallingford, McMullan Close)	Object - No need to have such a slow limit on such a large section of road, this will cause frustration for motorists. If anything, just something to briefly slow people down around the Appleford road junction might suffice.

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<p>(8) Local Resident, (Didcot, Sinodun Road)</p>	<p>Concerns - It's poker straight. At times when it's busy; traffic dictates your slower speed. Otherwise, it's perfectly safe at 60mph</p>
<p>(9) Local Resident, (Didcot, Sutherland Beck)</p>	<p>Concerns - Because this is a route I often use to get out of Didcot to avoid congestion caused by GWP development</p>
<p>(10) Local Resident, (Didcot, Nightingale Way)</p>	<p>Support - This is a positive decision for the safety of local road users, I am in wholehearted support of it.</p>
<p>(11) Local Resident, (Didcot, Peacock Mews)</p>	<p>Support - I cycle along these roads and lower speeds would make it safer for me.</p>
<p>(12) Local Resident, (Didcot, Rawthey Avenue)</p>	<p>Support - Leaving this stretch at 60 mph will make it difficult for residents of the development adjacent to join the main road. Access to the perimeter road (A4130) is sensibly restricted to 50 mph and well served by roundabouts, even then there are a fair number of accidents.</p>