

Divisions affected: *Kingston and Cumnor*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT –
16 DECEMBER 2021**

**FRILFORD AND KINGSTON BAGUIZE: A415 ABINGDON &
KINGSTON ROAD - PROPOSED 40MPH SPEED LIMITS**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed introduction of 40mph speed limits on the A415 as advertised:
 - a) Frilford: An extension of the existing 40mph speed limit in the vicinity of the Millets Farm Centre south-westwards by an additional 300 metres, to cover the proposed improvement works at the Farm Centre access junction;
 - b) Kingston Bagpuize: A new 40mph speed limit extending south-eastwards for 365 metres from the existing Kingston Bagpuize 30mph speed limit.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on the proposed introduction of 40mph speed limits on the A415 at Frilford and at Kingston Bagpuize. The proposal for Frilford comprises an extension of an existing 40mph speed limit by an additional 300 metres to cover the proposed improvement works at the Farm Centre access junction and at Kingston Bagpuize, the introduction of a new 40mph 'buffer' speed limit 365 metres long to meet the existing Kingston Bagpuize 30mph speed limit to reduce speeds on the entry to the village, particularly the village nursery. The proposals are shown at Annexes 1 & 2.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals has been provided by Millets Farm Centre which will also fund implementation of the proposal for Frilford should that be approved. Implementation of the proposal for Kingston Bagpuize will be funded from the County Council's revenue budget if that is similarly 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 safe movement of traffic.

Consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 21 October and 19 November 2021. A notice was published in the Oxford Times newspaper and an email sent to statutory consultees including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, Vale of the White Horse District Council, Frilford Parish Council, Kingston Bagpuize Parish Council and local County Councillor.
7. Eleven responses were received during the formal consultation. These are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Object	Support	No opinion / objection	Total
at Kingston Bagpuize	3	6	2	11
at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre)	2	4	5	11

8. The responses are shown at Annex 3 with copies of the original responses available for inspection by County Councillors.
9. Thames Valley Police and the Vale of the White Horse District Council did not object.
10. The local member supported the proposal at Kingston Bagpuize with no opinion on the proposal for Frilford.
11. The remaining responses were received from members of the public

A415 at Kingston Bagpuize

12. Three members of the public objected to the introduction of the 40mph 'buffer' speed limit at the Kingston Bagpuize end of the A415 on the grounds that the open and flowing nature of the road with no footways or significant features does not warrant a reduction of the existing 60mph limit and that a lower speed limit would impede traffic flow at busy times of the day while not mitigating any obvious danger.
13. Four members of the public supported the proposals.
14. In response, the 40mph 'buffer' speed limit is proposed in order to improve road safety in the vicinity of Sunrise Day Nursery entrance, where there was a

personal injury road traffic collision last year and to reduce the speed of vehicles entering and exiting Kingston Bagpuize village at the existing 30mph 'gateway'. A speed survey carried out in June 2021 showed mean speeds to be 44.3mph westbound and 45.9mph eastbound which, in accordance with the County Council's Speed Limit Policy (46mph or below), is acceptable for lowering the existing national speed limit to 40mph by changing the signs.

A415 at Frilford

15. Two members of the public objected. One expressing the view that the turning for Millets farm was not hidden and had good visibility for approaching motorists from all aspects. The other response expressed the view that the change was not needed.

16. Four members of the public supported these proposals.

BILL COTTON

Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes

Annex 1 & 2: Consultation Plans

Annex 3: Consultation responses

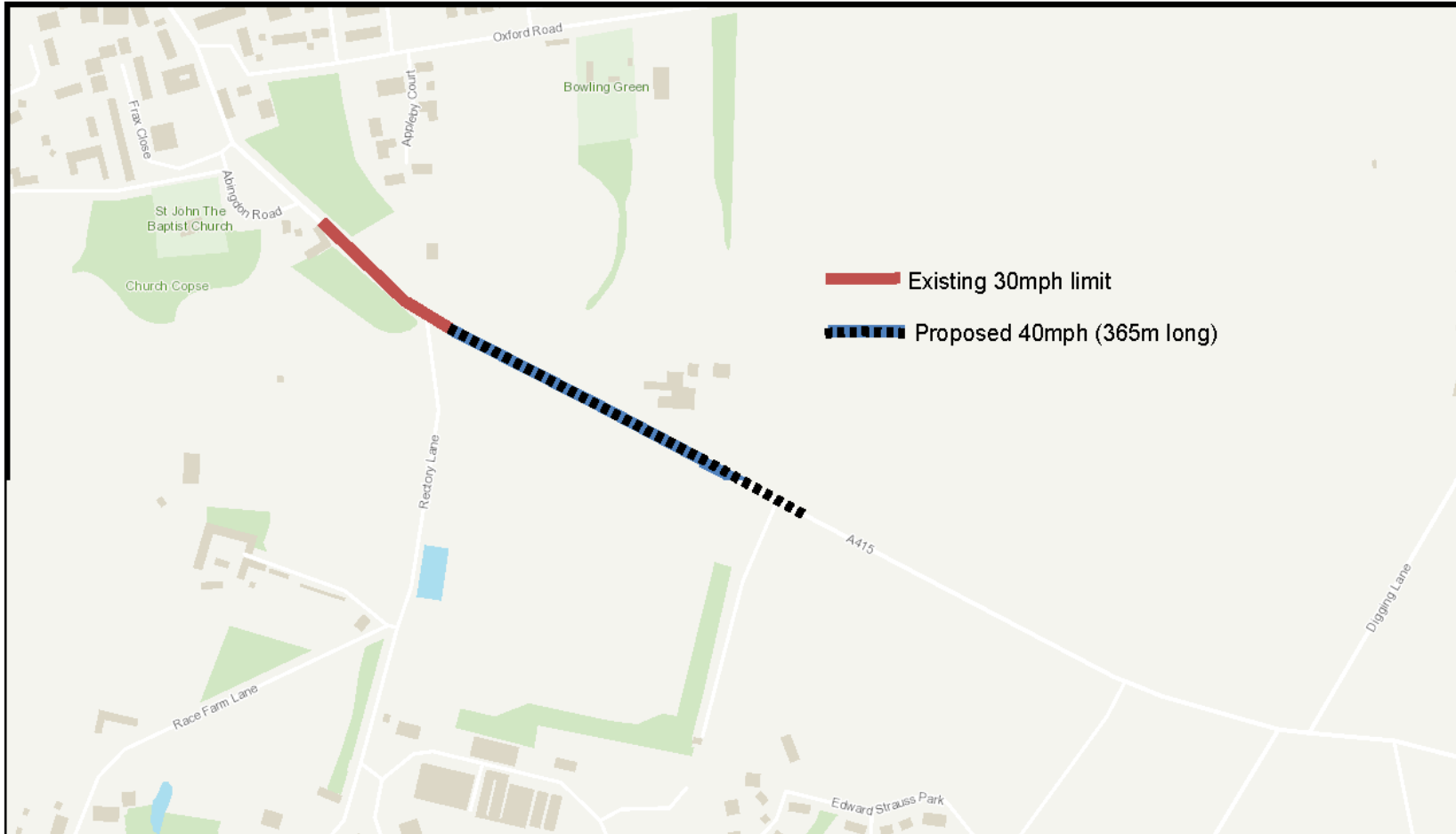
Contact Officers:

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December 2021



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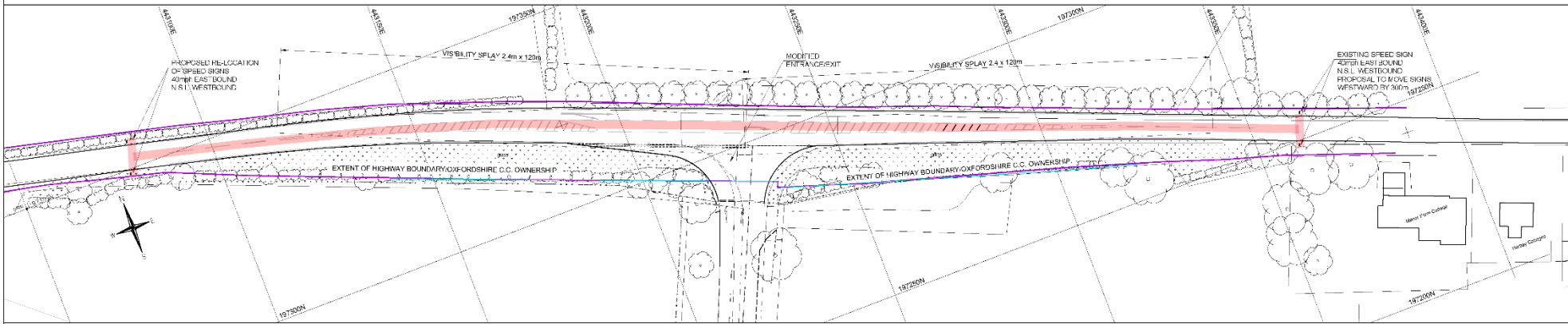
Plot Date: 27/09/2021

Oxfordshire County Council

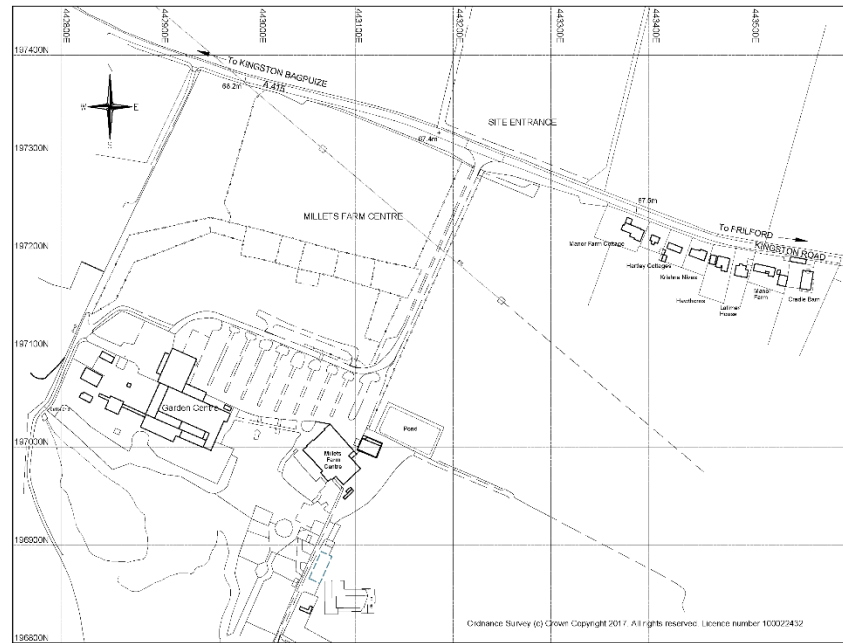
Author: ArcGIS Web AppBuilder

ANNEX 1

- Notes:**
1. All dimensions are shown in millimetres unless noted otherwise.
 2. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all architectural drawings and any other design information.
 3. All setting out is to be based on the Arcoflex drawings. If there is any discrepancy between this drawing and the architect's drawings, it is to be reported to Arcoflex/Wellan Ltd.



PROPOSED LAYOUT
Scale: 1:500



LOCATION PLAN
Scale: 1:2500

REV	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION	CHK	APP
PLANNING					
WELLAN Ltd Wellan House, Aylesmore, Slipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, CV36 5EJ Tel: 01608 685753 Email: mail@wellan.co.uk Website: www.wellan.co.uk					
MILLETS FARM CENTRE LTD					
PROPOSED WIDENING OF ENTRANCE ROADWAY					
T.R.O. (TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER) PLAN					
SCALE	DATE	DESIGN/DRW	CHECKED	APPROVED	BY
SEE DRG.	16.03.20	MKW/SW	NW	HW	AI
18-173					
DRAWING NO.					REV
03					P1

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
<p>(1) Thames Valley Police, (Traffic Management Officer)</p>	<p>No objection – Thames Valley Police are not opposed to lowering speed limits providing they are appropriate to the road environment and likely to have casualty reduction benefits. All aspects of the proposed speed limit are taken into account i.e. collision history ,speed of existing traffic, road environment, enforcement, road character and driver perception etc.</p> <p>The current speed of traffic is a reliable indicator of how acceptable a new speed limit would be. The recognised way of ascertaining this level of self-compliance is the mean speed. If the mean speed is 7 mph or more over the proposed limit it is unlikely to be effective without other measures such as engineering or continual enforcement.</p> <p>There is a proven link between road environment/character and driver speed. Drivers must respect the need for a speed limit .If it is not accepted as realistic it will quickly be abused and be the source of constant demands for police action.</p> <p>The policy of Thames Valley Police is to use sound practical and realistic criteria (Circular Roads 1/2013) when responding to Highway Authorities in an effort to promote consistency and to reduce the burden of constant and unnecessary enforcement. The advice shown in Circular Roads 1/2013 states Speed Limit should not be used to attempt to solve the problem of isolated hazards, for example, a single junction or reduced forward visibility.</p> <p>TVP have no policy to enforce based on arbitrary speed limits alone but we will enforce based on harm, risk and resourcing. 40mph limits are not excluded from this and would be enforced where appropriate. However, there are no additional resources available to support extra enforcement.</p> <p>I am aware that speed data has been obtained covering only part of these proposals. No data for the section adjacent to Millett's Farm entrance.</p> <p>The data obtained for the Nursery School is worryingly near the top end at 44 mph and there are considerable numbers of vehicles way above the speed limit enforcement threshold of 46.</p>

	In principle I am not objecting but other engineering may have to be considered in the future if this limit is to work.
(2) Vale of White Horse District Council, (Planning)	No objection
(3) Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Parish Council	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize – Support A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) – No opinion</p> <p>Supports the proposal to lower the speed on the A415 into Kingston Bagpuize principally to help prevent accidents in the area of the Sunrise Nursery but also as a buffer zone leading to the 30mph further into the village. This stretch of road is heavily used but is relatively narrow and the aspect is closed by trees and hedgerows. The parish council has received many concerns expressed by local residents on the speed which many vehicles approach the village. By lowering the limit to 40mph near the business park this is in line with the limit at the Frilford end of the A415.</p>
(11) Local County Cllr, (Kingston & Cumnor Division)	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize – Support A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) – No opinion</p> <p>Supportive of measures to limit speeds to 40 miles per hour for a short section on the A415 South of Kingston Bagpuize and by the childrens’ nursery in order to reduce the risk of catastrophic accidents in the vicinity.</p>
(4) Resident, (Oxford)	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize - Object A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) - Object</p> <p>The A415 south of Kingston Bagpuize is open and flowing allowing for 60mph while still being safe. During evening rush hour, this can be very busy so any measures to keep the traffic flowing is needed. A lower speed limit would only bunch up traffic and hamper progress while not mitigating any obvious dangerous. This presumes the conditions allow, in which case drivers would travel at a lower speed anyway, showing the speed limit is not a 'drive to' anyway. The turning for Millets farm is not hidden and has good visibility for approaching motorists from all aspects. This is the biggest factor to junction safety, as well as being aware and taking caution approaching it; drivers are taught to spot (potential) hazards they approach. IF a mitigating factor is to be taken, then a 50mph limit would be a slightly more sensible compromise. However, the</p>

	current national speed limit section is adequate and safe.
(5) Resident, (Oxford)	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize - Object A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) - No opinion</p> <p>This is a road with no pavements or significant features which warrant a reduced speed limit to 40mph. The statement of reasons does not provide sufficient reason for making this change. If it is solely for the nursery (which it seems unlikely people are walking too given the lack of a pavement) the 40mph limit should only apply during drop off/collection time here.</p>
(6) Local Resident, (Southmoor)	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize - Object A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) - Object</p> <p>This ridiculous proposal is just to placate a few vocal mummies who have so called problems exiting the pre-school drive who then think it is acceptable to drive in excess of the 30mph through the village. They should leave the house 5 minutes earlier and either cycle or walk their children via the rear entrance which is well away from vehicles. Leave the road with the 50mph</p>
(7) Local Resident, (Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor)	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize - Support A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) - Support</p> <p>Traffic speed and vehicle types using the A415 in the designated areas are too fast and large given the narrow highway near the nursery and Kingston Bagpuize 30mph limit and the busy junction at Millets Farm Centre. There is great merit in better protecting all road users by making the Order cover the whole distance of the A415 from the junction at Frilford to the 30mph limit at Kingston Bagpuize. There are too many RTCs around the bends in the section of the A415 not currently covered by this proposal.</p>
(8) Resident, (Appleton)	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize - Support A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) - Support</p>

	<p>The amazingly increased amount of housing in Kingston area with increased traffic has generated the need for slower speeds on these roads to help drivers take greater care at junctions.</p>
<p>(9) Resident, (Witney)</p>	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize: Support A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre): Support</p> <p>There are already reduced speed limits (e.g. 30 or 40 mph) in Kingston Bagpuize itself and at the Frilford traffic lights, and the current 60mph section between them is too fast. These proposed speed limits would make the limits of the overall section of road more consistent, would not reduce journey times much, and would improve safety</p>
<p>(10) Resident, (Appleton)</p>	<p>A415 at Kingston Bagpuize - Support A415 at Frilford (Millets Farm Centre) - Support</p> <p>As a regular cyclist on the A415 I would appreciate traffic being calmed a little on this busy stretch where cars regularly join and leave the road.</p>