Divisions affected: Deddington

# CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 13 OCTOBER 2022

## DEDDINGTON: B4031 HEMPTON ROAD - PROPOSED EXTENSION OF 30MPH SPEED LIMIT & TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve:
  - a) The proposed extension of the 30mph speed limit in place of the current national speed limit, and
  - b) The proposed traffic calming build out.

#### **Executive summary**

2. This report presents responses received to a consultation on a proposed extension of the 30mph speed limit and traffic calming on the B4031 Hempton Road at as shown in **Annex 1** to permit safe access to approved residential development adjacent to this road.

## **Financial Implications**

3. Funding for the consultation on the proposals and their implementation if approved has been provided by the developers of adjacent land.

#### **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 the safe movement of traffic.

#### Consultation

- 6. Consultation on the proposals was carried out between 18 August and 16 September 2022. A notice was published in the Banbury Guardian newspaper and emails were sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport, access & disabled peoples user groups, Deddington Parish Council, Cherwell District Council, and the local County Councillor representing the Deddington division. Letters were also sent to approximately 100 properties in the immediate vicinity.
- 7. 11 responses were received during the formal consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Object	Concerns	Support	No opinion/ objection	Total
30mph speed limit	1	2	5	3	11
Traffic calming	2	2	5	2	11

8. The responses are shown at **Annex 3**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

### Officer response to objections/concerns

- 9. Deddington Parish Council expressed support for both proposals, with Thames Valley Police and Cherwell District Council expressing no objection.
- 10. Objections and expressions of concern were received from four members of the public; these focussed on whether the measures would in practice be effective in managing speeds and the potential for aggravating problems due to drivers speeding up or making hazardous manoeuvres in order to avoid giving way to oncoming traffic, pollution and nuisance due vehicles queuing to give way and the possible obstruction of large vehicles including farm vehicles. A suggestion weas also made that the speed limit is reduced between the 30mph speed limits at Deddington and Hempton.
- 11. Noting these points, widespread experience of traffic calming build-outs at other locations in the county has typically been positive; while it is accepted that the issues as cited by the respondents are occasionally observed, experience has been that they are effective in emphasizing the transition from a rural to village setting, and also do not present an obstruction to large farm vehicles.
- 12. On the request for a lower speed limit between Deddington and Hempton, this could be explored as part of the wider programme of amendments to speed limits as part of the County-wide 20mph project for towns and villages.

13. Expressions of support for both proposals was received from four members of the public.

Bill Cotton

Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes Annex 1: Consultation Plans

Annex 2: Consultation responses

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October 2022



RESPONDENT	COMMENTS	
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection	
(2) Cherwell District Council	No objection	
(3) Deddington Parish Council	30mph speed limit – Support  I am the chair of Deddington Parish Council. I understand that you have been running a consultation concerning the intention to extend the 30mph limit along the Hempton Road westwards from Deddington village and to include a traffic calming build-out.  I should like to let you know that the parish council does indeed favour the extension of the 30mph limit and the insertion of a peninsular as a traffic calming measure. We asked for this to be done as a condition of the planning permission for the nearby Stone Pits development by Burrington.  Drivers speeding into the Deddington stretch of the Hempton Road from Clifton has long been a concern for many parishioners. We hope the peninsular will bring about an improvement.	
(4) Member of public, (Deddington, Mill Close)	30mph speed limit – <b>Object</b> Traffic calming – <b>Object</b> I understand fully the reasons you are suggesting a traffic calming system in the area you are proposing but feel it would be beneficial to have a sleeping policeman system rather than a kerbed build-out plan you are suggesting because the majority of young and old road users simply do not understand fully the red and white arrow system	

	currently used in Adderbury and other local areas where it simply does not work and causes additional hazards by drivers jumping ahead when they should not.
(5) Member of public, (Deddington, Mill Close)	30mph speed limit – <b>No objection</b> Traffic calming – <b>Object</b> I regularly drive to Chinnor in Oxfordshire, where similar chicanes have recently been built at every approach to the village. In theory, they seem like a good idea. In practice (and I urge you to take a deckchair down to Chinnor, position yourself by one, and observe) they cause traffic to speed up to race to try to beat oncoming traffic to the chicane. They therefore cause the opposite outcome you think you will achieve.  If the race fails, they also cause more engine idling pollution as cars queue (not a personal concern for me in Deddington, as the prevailing wind will blow this towards the new development and Wimborne Close).  As a cyclist, the Hempton road into Deddington is already dangerous enough for two reasons:  - cars overtaking a cyclist on the approach to Deddington don't take account of vehicles exiting the cemetery and the Windmill centre, so frequently cut me up when they suddenly realise there isn't room. I believe the "chicane race", if I can call it that, will make this situation worse  - the road surface along the Hempton Road is so shockingly bad (made worse last year by that dragon resurfacing machine) I have to cycle in the middle of the road. Instead of spending money on a construction that will encourage vehicles to race, how about using it to properly resurface instead?  I believe this is a well-meaning proposal that will not work in practice.
(6) Member of public, (Deddington, Murdock Close)	30mph speed limit – Concerns Traffic calming – Concerns  If this slows traffic onwards to the traffic lights I am for it. If it prevents heavy vehicles and especially farm vehicles using this road then I am against it

(7) Member of public, (Deddington, Hempton Road)	30mph speed limit – Concerns Traffic calming – Concerns I have lived on this road for over 30 years and I regularly witness crazy speeding, foolhardy overtaking even today 6 cars travelling at the correct speed towards the traffic lights were ALL overtaken by a driver doing at least 60 mph.  I have walked my dogs over many years along the road between Deddington and Hempton and again have often put hands across my eyes as to the amount of 'close calls 'I have witnessed Your proposal sounds very good on paper but I think you would be better actually spending a day walking between the two villages to see the extent of irresponsible driving that takes placeit really needs to be seen to be believed.  As soon as drivers hit the end of the speed limit they put their foot down dead wildlife is commonalso household petsit is a miracle there has not been a pedestrian.  In my opinion there should be a reduced speed between Hempton and Deddington and traffic calming similar to Croughton!	
(8) Member of public, (Deddington, Mill Close)	30mph speed limit – Support Traffic calming – Support  I walk my dog along this stretch of road daily and almost every day I witness vehicles speeding into the village and don't tend to kill their speed untill they reach Wimbourne crescent.	
(9) Member of public, (Deddington, Mill Close)	30mph speed limit – Support Traffic calming – Support To improve traffic speeds in this part of the village	

(10) Member of public, (Deddington, Hempton Road)	30mph speed limit – Support Traffic calming – Support We live on the Hempton Rd and have noticed heavier traffic travelling much faster than 30 for last 5 years. They do not slow down till they get to traffic lights.  Traffic has increased, more heavy lorries and cars all travelling in excess of 30mph.
(11) Member of public, (Deddington, Hempton Road)	30mph speed limit – <b>Support</b> Traffic calming – <b>Support</b> The parish has been asking for speed calming measures on the Hempton Road for many years. The Parish Council pushed really hard to have the build-out included in the planning application and Section 278 agreement. This peninsular will help protect the west end of Deddington and the junction with the Windmill Community Centre. Will help reduce speed and protect the west end of Deddington.