

Divisions affected: *Wheatley*

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 16 NOVEMBER 2023

TIDDINGTON: PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMITS

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve the introduction of 20mph speed limits in Tiddington as advertised.

Executive summary

2. The report presents responses to a statutory consultation on the proposed introduction of 20mph speed limits in Tiddington as shown in **Annexes 1 & 2**.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation and the proposals themselves has been provided by the County Council's 20mph Speed Limit Project.

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 encourage walking and cycling within Tiddington by making them safer and more attractive.

Formal consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 07 September and 29 September 2023. A notice was published in the Oxford Times newspaper, and an email sent to statutory consultees & key-stakeholders, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport, access & disabled peoples user groups, South Oxfordshire District Council, the local District Cllrs, Tiddington parish council, and the local County Councillor representing the Wheatley division.

Statutory Consultee Responses:

7. Thames Valley Police and Tiddington Parish Council responded to the consultation. The Police re-iterated their views concerning OCC's policy and practice regarding 20mph speed limits which they consider as 'concerns' rather than an objection. The Parish Council expressed support for the proposals but also seek a 20mph limit on the A418 as they state that it splits the village and many parishioners, including school children, need to cross the road regularly. In addition they ask that the speed limit on the A40 though Milton Common is reduced from 40mph.

Other Responses:

8. A single online response was received and while stating support the respondent mirrored the parish council in seeking a lower limit on the A418.
9. The consultation responses are shown in **Annex 3**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Officer response to objections/concerns

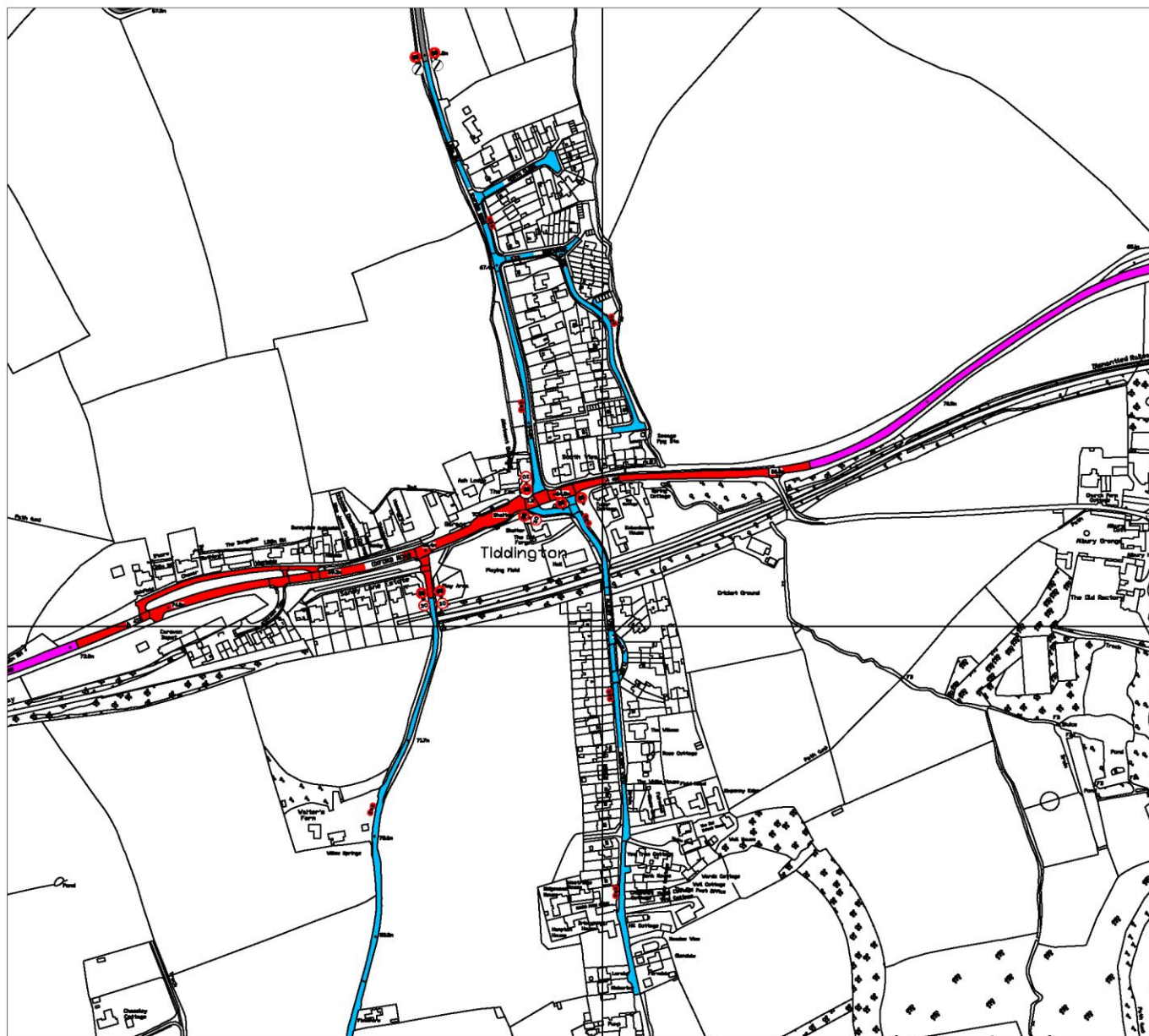
10. The main purpose of the scheme is to encourage greater use of active travel by reducing speeds; this is also expected to reduce accidents. The aim of reducing speed limits is to change driver's mindsets to make speeding socially unacceptable and make more environmentally friendly modes of travel such as walking and cycling more attractive, and also help reduce the Counties carbon footprint. This forms part of a countywide programme of works that seeks to deliver 'a safer place with a safer pace'.
11. Officers consider the existing 30mph speed limit on the A418 through Tiddington to be a realistic compromise given its strategic nature and that most dwellings are set back from the road. The A40 in Milton Common is in the parish of Great Milton and while officers believe there may be a case for the limit to be reduced over a short section this is not deemed critical and has not been sought within the Great Milton consultation.

Bill Cotton
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes
Annex 1 & 2: Consultation plans
Annex 3: Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Phil Whitfield 07912523497
Geoff Barrell 07392 318869

November 2023



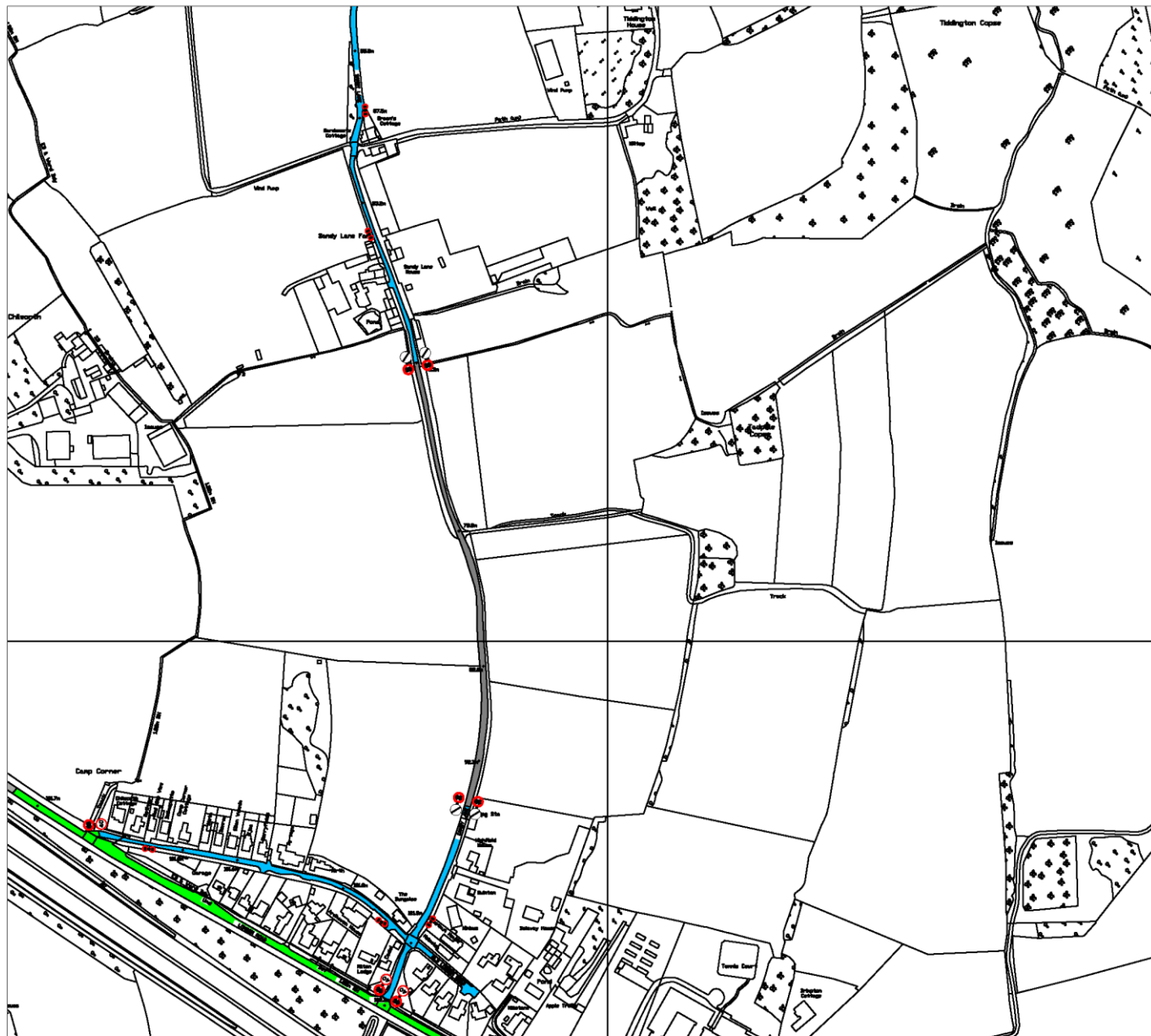
Tiddington Overview 1		Revision 1.0													
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1.0	30.06.23	Proposed 1	C.R.												
<p>Owen Jenkins Director for Infrastructure Delivery Communities Oxfordshire County Council County Hall New Road Oxford OX1 1ND Tel: 0845 310 1115</p>															
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Drawing title: Tiddington 20mph Scheme Overview 1 Northern Half															
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Tiddington Overview 2		Revision 1.0													
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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<p>Concerns – Thames Valley Police welcome the opportunity to engage on plans for road safety improvement and acknowledge that 20mph limits can be a useful tool in road safety. There are other reasons 20mph limits may be desirable for communities, such as environmental concerns, and creating a shared space environment to encourage greater diversity of road users.</p> <p>Compliance with 20mph limits is a challenging issue as there is a difference between the achievable results of the various available schemes. For example a sign-only scheme will only have a limited effect on the mean speeds, as opposed to other schemes that influence the road environment, which is recognised as being key to achieving compliance. If a speed limit is set too low and is ignored then this could result in the vulnerable road user being less safe. It can also cause a dis-proportionate number of drivers to criminalise themselves and could bring the system of speed limits into disrepute.</p> <p>Thames Valley Police have no policy to enforce based on arbitrary speed limits alone but will enforce based on threat of harm, risk and resourcing. 20mph limits are not excluded from this and will be enforced where appropriate. There should be no expectation that the police would be able to provide regular enforcement if a speed limit is set too low as this could result in an unreasonable additional demand on police resources and there are no additional resources available to support extra enforcement. Messages from partners that police will not enforce need to be discouraged. Such messaging can encourage non-compliance and should be avoided.</p> <p>The policy of Thames Valley Police is to use sound practical and realistic criteria (Setting local speed limits - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)) 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.</p> <p>The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • history of collisions • road geometry and engineering • road function • composition of road users (including existing and potential levels of vulnerable road users) • existing traffic speeds

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • road environment <p>However I recognise Oxfordshire County Council now have their own Policy for Setting Speed Limits and I expect full compliance of that policy going forward in relation to both monitoring , future engineering and self-enforcement through Community Speed Watch .</p> <p>Our stance remains that primarily 20 mph speed limits and zones should be self-enforcing</p> <p>Speed limits should be considered as part of a package of measures to manage vehicle speeds and improve road safety. Changes to the highway (for example through narrowing, providing vertical traffic calming or re-aligning the road) may be required to encourage lower speeds in addition to any change in speed limit. Though these may be more expensive, they are more likely to be successful in the long term in achieving lower speeds without the need for increased police enforcement to penalise substantial numbers of motorists.</p>
(2)Tiddington with Albury Parish Council	<p>Support – fully support the proposed 20mph speed limits within the Parish.</p> <p>We would, also however, like to request that through the Tiddington village on the A418, the speed limit is also reduced to 20mph from 30mph. Due to the village being split by the A418, we have many of our parishioners, including school children, who need to cross the road on a regular/ daily basis.</p> <p>In addition we would also like to request that the speed limit on the A40 though Milton Common is reduced from 40mph. Although we have recently installed Safety Cameras along this stretch, the cars, and especially the many lorries who use this road, can do so at great speed, making it quite dangerous for pedestrians and those crossing the road, including school children.</p>
(3) Local resident, (Milton Common, London Road)	<p>Support – To make the roads safer to use - however I am disappointed that the A40 through Milton Common is to remain at 40mph and do not understand why the residents here are treated differently. As a resident who walks these roads the speed and closeness of cars and lorries that exceed this speed is frightening and to not even take the opportunity to reduce back to 30 mph as it used to be is sad.</p>