

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 10 MAY 2018

KENCOT – PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

Report by Director for Infrastructure Delivery, Communities

Introduction

1. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on a proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit in place of the existing 30mph limit on the village roads south of the B4477 at Kencot.

Background

2. The above proposals have been put forward by Kencot Parish Meeting in response to concerns over road safety and the wider adverse impact of traffic on residents and visitors to the village; a plan showing the proposals is provided at Annex 1.
3. As part of the technical appraisal for the proposals, speed surveys were carried out which showed that current speeds on the village roads south of the B4477 were largely compliant with advice issued by the Department for Transport in respect of proposed 20mph speed limits.

Consultation

4. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 28 March and 27 April 2018. A public notice was placed in the Witney & West Oxfordshire Gazette newspaper and sent to statutory consultees including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, West Oxfordshire District Council, Kencot Parish meeting and the local County Councillor.
5. Three responses were received. 1 in support and 1 objecting. Thames Valley Police did not object. These responses are summarised at Annex 2. Copies of the full responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Response to objections and other comments

6. The response of Thames Valley Police expressing no objection is noted together with the expression of support from the Kencot Action for Road Safety (KARS) group.
7. One objection was received from a member of the public, who expressed concerns over the likely effectiveness of the scheme noting that the existing 30mph speed limit on the B4477 was poorly respected and also that a higher

priority for improving safety in the village would be to widen the road at a pinch point by Astrop Farm.

8. In response to the above, it is accepted that no supporting measures to encourage compliance with the 20mph limit are currently being proposed while noting that these roads do comply with Department for Transport guidance on the use of 20mph speed limits. The limit if approved should hopefully be seen as reasonable by the majority of motorists and, in turn, should help achieve good levels of compliance. Lower speeds will presumably also help address the concerns expressed over safety at the pinch point. The broader issue of whether the proposed 20mph limit is the best use of funding is a matter for Kencot Parish Meeting to determine.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

9. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

10. Funding for the proposed 20mph speed limit has been provided by Kencot Parish Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

11. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit in place of the existing 30mph limit on the village roads south of the B4477 at Kencot as advertised.**

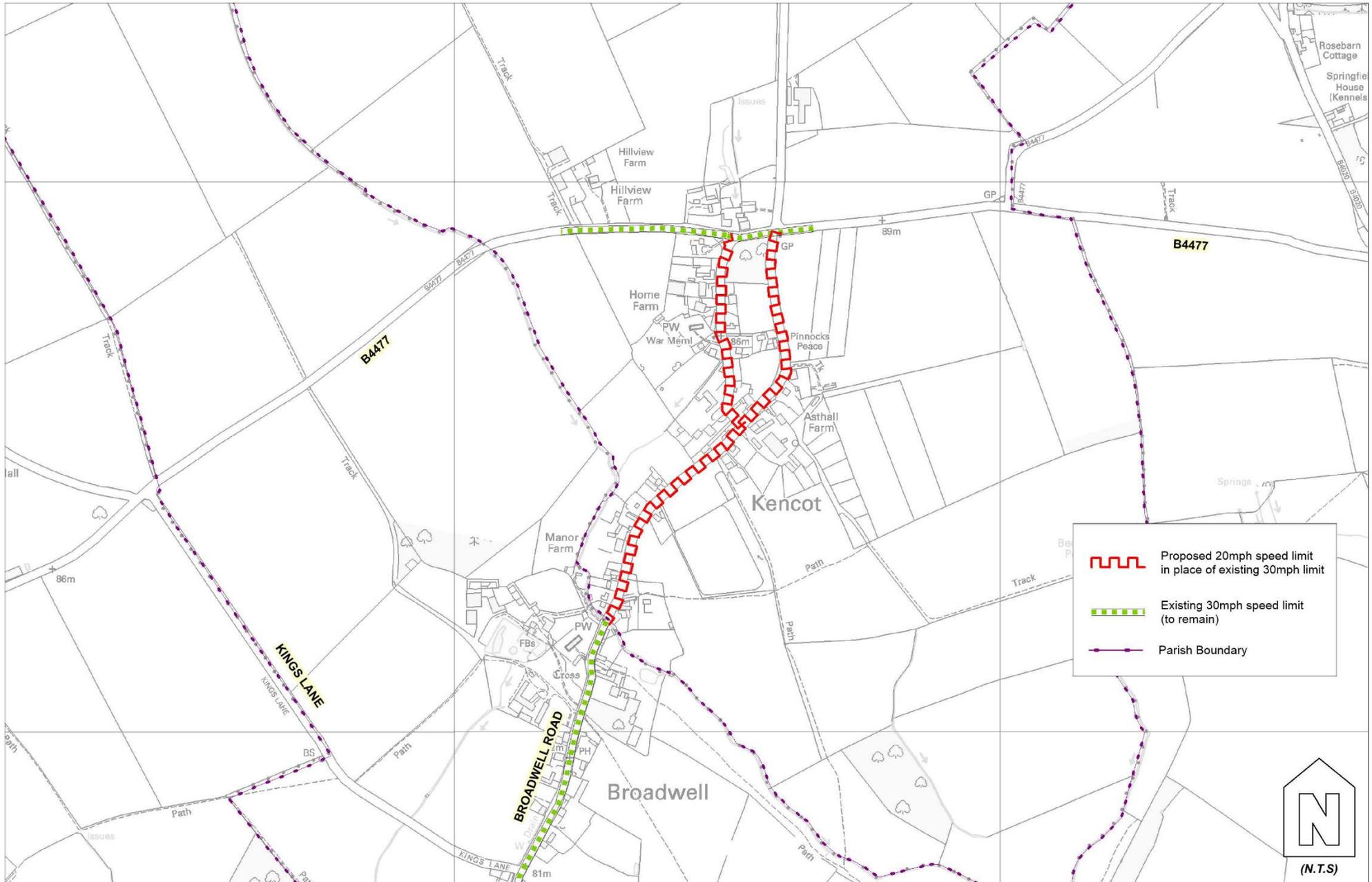
OWEN JENKINS
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Background papers: Plan of proposed speed limits
 Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704

April 2018

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY



	Proposed 20mph speed limit in place of existing 30mph limit
	Existing 30mph speed limit (to remain)
	Parish Boundary



(N.T.S)

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Date drawn: 05/03/2018
 Drawn by: CJM

Map centre:
 easting. 425420, northing. 204530

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection – Most of the roads surveyed (for speed) are closer or within the guidelines which makes this proposal a marginal case for acceptance.
(2) Kencot Action for Road Safety Group	<p>Support - At the beginning of this year, we circulated to all villagers a plan which included a 20m ph zone south of the B44 77. Of the 86 villagers entitled to vote, 81 (94%/o) voted and 5 (6%/o) abstained. Of the 81 people who voted, 68 (84%) voted for the traffic-calming proposal, 13 (16%/o) voted against.</p> <p>I suspect that you won't get anything like the same response to your consultation document, partly because the people of Kencot will think they've already expressed resounding support for the new 20mph limit. Please, though, accept this letter as confirmation that your proposal meets with the strong approval of the local community.</p>
(3) Local Resident, (Red Rose Close, Kencot)	Object - The existing 30mph limit on the B4477 is totally ignored. Occasionally traffic exceeds 30mph within Kencot. The most dangerous section of village road is between Astrop Farm and the B4477. It is too narrow for cars to pass safely unless one car stops. If a bus or lorry is on this section one vehicle has to back up. Road widening would be a better solution.

CMDE7