

**PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
5 JUNE 2014**

**CALL IN OF A DECISION BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR
ENVIRONMENT - MIDDLETON STONEY ROAD, BICESTER:
PROPOSED ROAD HUMPS AND PUFFIN CROSSING**

A request has been received to call in the decision for scrutiny by the following Councillors:

Councillor Sibley

Councillor Waine

Councillor Stratford

Councillor Atkins

Councillor Gray

Councillor Billington

Councillor Reynolds

Councillor Mallon

Councillor Mrs Fulljames

Councillor Hallchurch

Councillor Owen

The reasons given for the request are:

1. Lack of proper cycle and footpath provision: In the interests of highway safety- pedestrians and cyclists should have their own dedicated routes and should not be part of the main Highway as stated in the planning statement for South West Bicester (Pedestrian and cycle schemes -page 43). The use of the advisory cycle lane (painted white line) on both sides of the Middleton Stoney Road offers no protection for cyclists and pedestrians from motor vehicles.
2. Lack of proper consultation with local Bicester County Councillors.
3. The use of road humps as a traffic calming measure are known to cause damage to vehicles suspension and tyres, plus endangering cyclists and motor cyclists and can also cause damage to nearby buildings from traffic vibrations. Road or speed humps make traffic noisier as vehicles especially lorries, pass over them. They are also held responsible for increasing carbon emissions because drivers are forced to brake repeatedly, increasing fuel consumption.
4. The use of Build outs with priority traffic signs to control the speed of traffic with the build outs designed to enhance and soften the visual impact of the road as illustrated by Highway code rule 153 is the preferred traffic calming measure.
5. Middleton Stoney Road is a fairly straight road with two new roundabouts at Shakespeare Drive and Howes Lane. There are no houses fronting on either side of the road and would suggest that consideration be given to increasing the speed limit to 40mph bearing in mind the characteristics of the road that lends itself to a higher speed limit.