Divisions affected: Kirtlington & Kidlington North

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

05 SEPTEMBER 2024

SHIPTON-ON-CHERWELL - PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMITS

Report by Director of Environment and Highways

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to:

Approve the proposed introduction of 20mph speed limits in Shipton-on-Cherwell, as advertised:

- a) On the village road at Shipton-on-Cherwell,
- b) On the A4095 at Bunkers Hill.

Executive Summary

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

Financial Implications

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

Legal Implications

3. No legal implications have been identified in respect of the proposals, with proposed changes to existing Traffic Regulation Orders governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and other associated procedural regulations. Failure to adhere to these statutory processes could result in the proposals being challenged.

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 to encourage walking and cycling within Shipton-on-Cherwell by making them safer and more attractive.

Formal Consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 13 June and 05 July 2024. 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, Cherwell District Council, local District Cllrs, Shipton-on-Cherwell & Thrupp Parish Council, and the local County Councillor representing the Kirtlington & Kidlington North division.

Statutory Consultee Responses:

- 7. Thames Valley Police re-iterated their views concerning OCC's policy and practice regarding 20mph speed limits and wish their response to be listed as 'having concerns' rather than an objection. They also queried why the short section of the A4095 from the A4260 towards the proposed new 20mph speed limit was remaining at 60mph National speed limit, thinking that reducing that to 50mph also was more appropriate.
- 8. Oxford Bus Company offered no objection, citing that the proposals would have no impact on regular bus services.

Other Responses:

9. 27 responses were received via the online survey during the course of the formal consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Object	Partially support	Support	No opinion/ objection	Total
20mph at Shipton	1 (4%)	2 (7%)	20 (74%)	4 (15%)	27
20mph at Bunkers Hill	-	5 (19%)	21 (78%)	1 (4%)	27

10. Those who responded online, were also asked whether if the 20mph speed limit proposals were implemented, would it likely influence a change to their mode of travel in the area, the results of which are shown below:

Travel Change	Number	
Yes – walk/wheel more	7 (26%)	

Yes - cycle more	6 (22%)
Yes – scoot more	1 (4%)
No	10 (37%)
Other	3 (11%)
Total	27

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

Officer Response to Objections/Concerns

- 12. 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 reduce the County's carbon footprint. This forms part of a countywide programme of works that seeks to deliver 'a safer place with a safer pace'.
- 13. The concerns of Thames Valley Police primarily comprise observations applicable to the overall 20mph project; their suggestion for replacing the current length of national speed limit on the A4095 between the A4260 and the proposed 20mph speed limit at Bunkers Hill (given that the A4260 itself is already 50mph) will be followed up separately as part of a current review of the speed limits on the A4260 under the Vision Zero speed management programme. A 30mph or 40mph speed limit reduction on this length was also requested by members of the public expressing partial support for this proposal.
- 14. The authority considers objections along the lines of it being unjustified, anticar, a waste of money, not enforceable or pointless to not warrant amendments to a proposal. As such the authority has not addressed any specific comments made of this nature in this report.

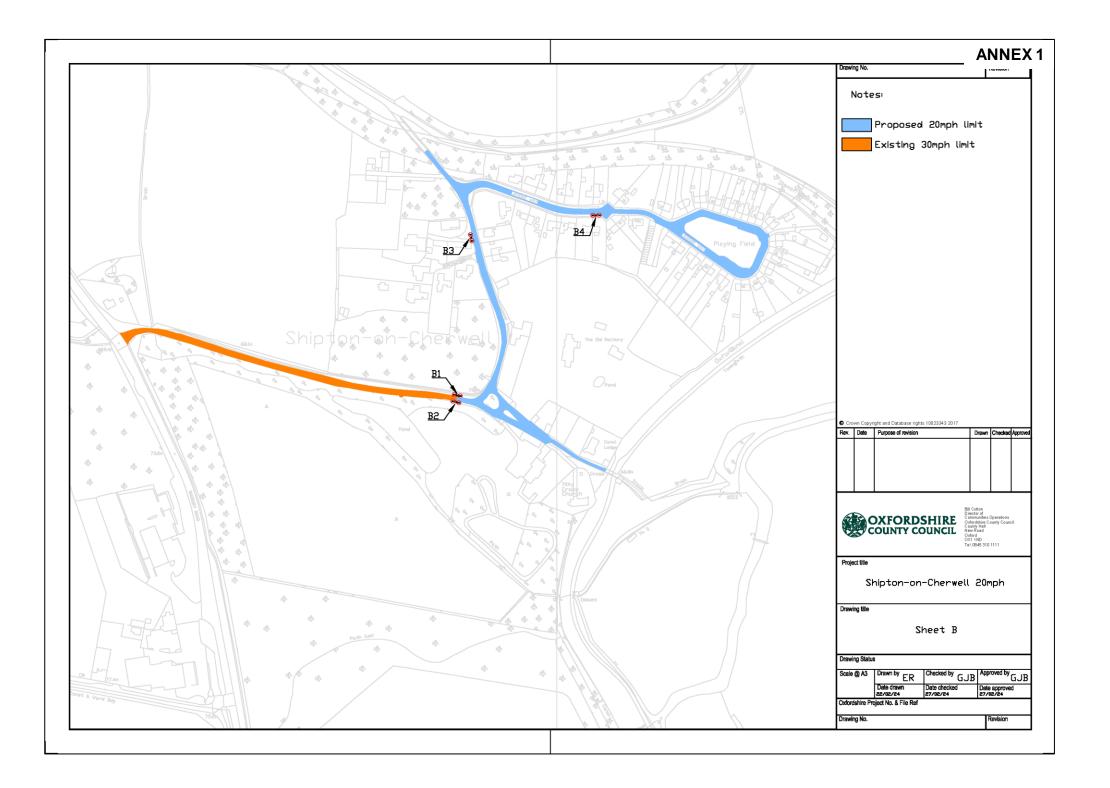
Paul Fermer Director of Environment and Highways

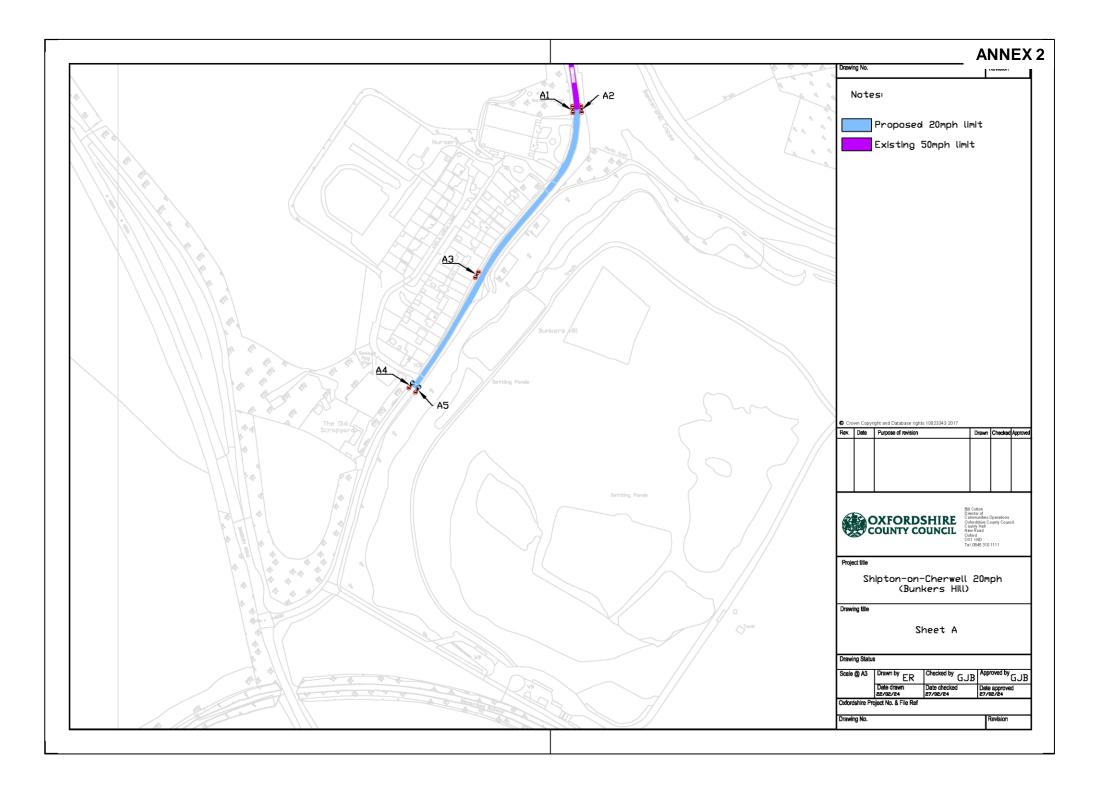
Annexes Annexes 1 & 2: Consultation plans

Annex 3: Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Roger Plater (Senior Officer - Vision Zero)

Matt Archer (Portfolio Manager – Programme Delivery)





RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	Concerns – In addition to my Standard response. I'm slightly puzzled by the A4095 proposal for Bunkers Hill. Forgive me for suggesting a lower speed limit!! I find it strange the short section of the A4095 from the A4260 to new 20 is to remain at National. Would it not be more in line to drop it to 50.
	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.
	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 disproportionate number of drivers to criminalise themselves and could bring the system of speed limits into disrepute.
	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.
	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.
	The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are:
	 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 road environment
	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.
	Our stance remains that primarily 20 mph speed limits and zones should be self-enforcing
	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.
(2) Head of Built Environment and Infrastructure, (Go- Ahead Group)	No objection – the proposal referenced above has no impact on regular bus services.
(3) Local resident,	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Object 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support
(Bunkers hill, Bunkers hill)	Kids cross the road on a bilnd bend at bunkers hill to get to the school bus stop its dangerous
	Travel change: No
(4) Local resident, (Shipton on Cherwell, kidlington, Field view lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Partially support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Partially support
	20mph is way to low and is more likely to cause an accident as people tend to slow down dramatically as soon as they see a 20mph speed limit.

	I live on Field view lane and as soon as we come out on to the main road the cars are just speeding by which makes it very difficult for us to join! I think a much better and reasonable speed would be 30mph. I'm in support of the 30mph speed limit but I object to 20mph speed limit. Travel change: No
(5) Local resident, (Field View Lane, A4095)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Partially support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support The A4095 is often used as a rat run and the current speed limit is too high considering the volume of traffic Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(6) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill area, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Partially support The proposed 20mph limit at Bunkers Hill should be extended to the Scrap Yard and quarry entrances as these are dangerous turnings. The national speed limit area between the Banbury Road and the proposed 20mph limit on Bunkers Hill should also be reduced to 40mph so that drivers are prepared to reduce their speed to 20mph. It is nonsensical to go from 50mph on Banbury Road, up to 60mph and back down to 20mph within 200m. The white lines should also be maintained on the road within the 20mph limit - removing these will be dangerous as it is a narrow road and there are regularly near misses between lorries and cars travelling on the road. The pavements are also narrow and I believe removing the white lines will increase the danger for pedestrians on that stretch of road. Travel change: No
(7) Local resident, (Shipton on Cherwell, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Partially support

	It is essential that the white lines in the centre of the road are repainted following the work completed, including the 'cats eyes'. I support the moving of the sign for the speed limit PROVIDING that the Council ensure that it is visible at all times, and any trees, bushes, shrubs are kept clear of the signs. Travel change: No
(8) Local Cllr (i.e. Town/Parish/District), (Shipton-on-Cherwell, Jerome Way)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Partially support 100% behind the proposed limit for Shipton-on-Cherwell, but I am concerned about the Bunkers Hill project. As this stretch of road is used as a "rat-run", it WOULD necessitate further controls (ie: Speed Cameras!) put in place in order to stop motorists from completely ignoring the limit. Travel change: No
(9) Local resident, (BUNKERS HILL, BUNKERS HILL)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support The traffic along this road is relentless and fast because the path is so uneven and so close to the road it is a danger to anybody using it. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(10) Local resident, (Bunkers hill, Bunkers hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support Many crashes over the past 10 years this road should have been reduced a long time ago. Built up residential area no different to Bletchingdon and surrounding areas that are all ready 20mph. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more

(11) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Bunkers Hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support Every few months there is a car crash on the bunkers hill road with serious injuries. The speed limit needs to be reduced to make it safer for road users and he families livibgvonBunkers hill Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(12) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support As a resident, this stretch of road is already extremely dangerous. We've had an accident and numerous close calls when pulling out onto Bunkers Hill. The small pavement is busy with school children being dropped off/collected from school buses. Combine this with traffic road the nursery and the blind corner, it's a surprise we don't have more accidents but it's only a matter of time. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(13) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support Given the narrowness of the road, the proximity to the houses and the frequency of use I support assigning a 20 mph limit, for safety and noise reasons. The pedestrian walkway is narrow and cars passing at speed pose a danger given potential proximity to walkers at points along the road. With the turn out from both the garden centre and Field View Lande, having a reduced speed means safer use of the junctions at these points as well. Travel change: No
(14) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support

(15) Local resident, (Bunkers hill, Bunkers hill)	I live on Field View Lane and pulling out of our lane onto Bunkers Hill can be very dangerous as car come too fast pass. Travel change: No 20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill = Support The A4095 at Bunkers Hill is used as a rat run with unacceptable volume of traffic speeding. The lorries fly through here doing a lot more than 40mph. It is barely safe to walk along the narrow footpath at the front of the houses and part of the road does not have any footpath. The school bus is on the opposite side of the road and it has never been safe for children to cross to it. We have personally lost 3 cats to the road at times when the road should be quiet but cars go a lot faster than the current speed limit so it is continuous. We have asked for some time for the speed to be reduced. It should not be 40mph in a residential area. The road is unlit and unsafe and reducing the speed won't make cars go 20mph, hopefully it will slow them down from what they are doing at the moment. In addition, when the A34 is closed, this stretch is used as a diversion and in the summer you cannot have any front windows open because of the noise of the Lorrie's thundering past. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(16) Local resident, (Bunkers hill, Bunkers hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support I am a resident at bunkers hill and have had many near misses trying to pull out of our road as the speed is 40 and people drive at about 50 minimum: I've since Lorrie's driving at about 60/70. There have also been many accidents on our road over the years and it will become fatal one day. When I used to go to school, I am 22 now, you had to cross the road to get to the bus stop. I had a near miss once which panicked me and from there on I had to find lifts. It's okay crossing to the lay-by but crossing from the lay-by to the path is near luck as you'll cross and someone will come quick around the corner. This is similair for why it is hard to pull out of our road. I've gone to pull out many times and had to stop in the middle because a car has quickly come doing about 50-60 towards me. It's also extremely noisy at night now as our road has become a rat run more and more over the past 10 years and Lorrie's and HGV beguiles now cause a lot of noise.

	There are also many pets around this area now and we've unfortunately lost about three cats to cars going to quickly. It this was 20 people would have time to stop or the pets would have a chance to cross Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(17) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Bunkers Hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support I live in Bunkers Hill and think slower traffic would be a positive. Vehicles frequently exceed the current 40 limit and often leave the road on the bends. A 20 limit might also encourage drivers not to cut though the village to reach the banbury road, re reducing traffic volume. I'd also be happy to see the white lines go as I belive that would further slow traffic, but I'm aware neighbours object to that - I think a better information campaign is needed to allay fears. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(18) Local resident, (Bunkers hill, Bunkers hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support The current speed is highly dangerous for bunkers hill residence entering and leaving via car. The noise level at busy times. Walking along bunkers is highly dangerous for pedestrians. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(19) Local resident, (Bunkers hill Kidlington oxford, Bunkers hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support Many accidents on this road and lowering the speed limit to 20 mph would make drastic difference, to noise levels and safety Travel change: Yes - cycle more

	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support There have been multiple accidents on Bunkers Hill A4095 since we moved here in 2012. I have children who are getting ever closer to secondary school age when they may need to crops the road to the bus stop. With the current speed of the
	road this does not feel like a safe option.
(20) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill OX5, Bunkers Hill)	I would ask that it you consider reducing the speed limit to 30moh from the A4260 junction as a buffer as drivers are far less likely to reduce their speed from 50/60mph to 20mph where the current proposal is stated to begin (adjacent to residential properties). The junction we use to pull onto the A4095 is at the proposed speed reduction point. Having cars approach at a reduced speed would make this far safer.
	Anything that can be done to improve the safety of the road at Bunkers Hill will have our support. Thank you for taking action.
	Travel change: Other We still have no safe mode of travel out of the village of Bunkers Hill besides a car. Should a shared footpath/cycle path be extended past it's current termination at Shipton-on- Cherwell, so we didn't have to compete with the traffic on the A4260, then
(21) Local resident, (Bunkers hill resident, Bunkers hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support
	I fully support the 20mph speed limit. I am a resident of Bunkers Hill and every day pulling out onto the main road feels like I am taking my own life and others into my own hands. A combination of poor visibility and the road being used as a divert every time there is an issue on the a34 or m40 leads to increased risks to the residents of this area. There are numerous accidents on this road where people take the corners too fast and end up.in the ditches and only the other day I attempted to.pull out of field view and nearly hit a motorbike who was travelling beyond the current 40mph speed limit
	Travel change: Other No, I am a district nurse so need to travel. I will however be more inclined to turn right out of Field view instead of turning left and taking an extended route for safety reasons

(22) Local resident, (Field View lane, Bunkers Hill . Shipton on Cherwell, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support My children are at an age where they would like to learn to cycle on the road but wee do not feel it is safe enough. My son is at Marlborough school, ideally he should be able to cycle from Bunkers Hill to Woodstock but it is not safe enough. The cars travel way too fast. We also have a very narrow footpath on Bunkers Hill so when walking the dogs or children it is not quite safe enough. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(23) Local resident, (Field view Lane, Shipton on Cherwell, Field view lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support I am supporting the proposal for a 20mph limit of the B4095 Bunkers Hill Road. However, I would like to add that the signage should start before the Scrap Yard as that is also a very busy entrance and exit point from the road. I would also like the council to consider slowing the whole road down to 40 mph as the road is the national speed limit - so going from 60 mph to 20mph and back to 60mph is a bit ridiculous and people will just ignore the 20mph signs. Travel change: No
(24) Local resident, (Kidlington, Bunkers Hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support A4095 is used as a major route from Bicester, to Kidlington. Traffic is constant, and the speed limit of 40 which is the current speed is not followed by any means. The path that runs along side the road is uneven and impassable by mobility scooters and child buggers. At the current speed, it is dangerous to use. However, by reducing the speed limit to 20 it gives the occupants of the properties, a much more relax approached to using the path out the front for those who are able bodied. The reduction of the speed limit, may also reduce the traffic accidents, that have occurred in recent years. Entry and exit will be less fraught, when trying to get onto the A4095. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more

(25) Local resident, (Kidlington., Bunkers Hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – Support 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support The current 40mph speed limit is way too high. This makes it dangerous for motorists and cyclists exiting the Field view junction onto Bunkers hill. It is also dangerous for those attempting to exit the Bunkers hill garden centre/nursery. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(26) Local resident, (Bunkers hill, bubkers hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – No objection 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support I support this proposal because the footpaths are narow and it is dangerious walking along them with a dog or a baby in a pushchair as the cars and lorries are so close and travaling at speed, I use an mobilty scooter to get about and cant use it on the path as to narrow so im trapped inmy own home. Travel change: Yes – scoot more
(27) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Bunkers Hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – No objection 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Support We only lived in bunkers hill 4 years ago and we have seen so many accidents around Bunkers hill. Also we have pets and children in the area, using the footpath on the busy road Travel change: Other Will walk and cycle more, but still difficult to get to the other side of Oxford without a car for work
(28) Local resident, (Bunkers Hill, Bunkers Hill)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – No objection 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – Partially support Support the 20th, but would like white lines and cats eyes re-instated after the resurfacing works. I am anxious about not having these

	Travel change: No
(29) Local resident, (Shipton on Cherwell, Field View Lane)	20mph Shipton-on-Cherwell – No objection 20mph A4095 Bunkers Hill – No objection The road to Shipton on Cherwell is narrow, and it seems appropriate to encourage drivers to slow down. Bunkers Hill is different, and a 20mph speed limit will not change how the majority of drivers go alone this route. It appears (only anedoctal evidence) that may exceed the current 40mph limit, and so reducing it to 20mph will not deter unless there are other initiatives in place, such as speed reduction changes on the road itself. Travel change: No