

## **TRANSPORT DECISIONS COMMITTEE – 26 NOVEMBER 2009**

### **B481 WATLINGTON ROAD - NETTLEBED – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING**

#### **Report by Head of Transport**

#### **Introduction**

1. This report details the responses to formal advertisement and public consultation of a proposed traffic calming scheme along B481 Watlington Road , Nettlebed incorporating seven pairs of 75mm high speed cushions as shown on the plan at Annex 1 to this report .

#### **Background**

- 2 Watlington Road B481 is a classified road linking Nettlebed with Watlington and the route then continues onto the M40. The length where the traffic calming is proposed has a 30mph speed limit imposed by virtue of a system of street lighting.
- 3 The length of the B481/B4009 from south of Watlington to the M40 is subject to a 7.5T environmental weight restriction and is also a bus route.
- 4 The length of the proposed traffic calming is part fronted by residential properties and has a length of footway on one side.
- 5 Concerns have been raised by Nettlebed Parish Council in relation to vehicle speeds and a speed survey was carried out. The survey results showed a significant number of vehicles speeding. These results met Oxfordshire County Council Vehicle Activated Sign criteria, this allows parish councils to fund traffic calming if they have an available budget.
- 6 Events were subsequently superseded by the County Council Better Ways to School Team who identified this length of road as requiring some traffic calming measures and a decision was made to fund this scheme up to a cost of £10,000.

#### **Consultation**

7. Formal advertisement and consultation on the proposed traffic calming was carried out between 21 August and 21 September 2009. Letters of Support were received from Nettlebed Parish Council and Thames Valley Police.
8. One letter of objection was received from a local resident who says that the problems do not warrant such a dramatic solution. They suggested that scheme will cause increase in noise and air pollution and the scheme will

cause suspension and tyre damage to vehicles, and requests that an alternative of a flashing speed sign would be more successful. There is little evidence that a speed cushion scheme as proposed will result in an increase in air pollution / road noise or tyre damage.

9. One letter was received in support of the scheme from a local resident but they have some concern regarding road noise and asks that the existing weight limit on the B481 be extended to include Nettlebed. A letter from another resident also supports some form of calming but would like the number of humps reduced because of concerns about noise

#### **Financial and Staff Implications**

10. The costs of the proposal and associated works will be funded from the Better Ways to School budget.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Committee is RECOMMENDED to approve the Proposed Traffic Calming Scheme as advertised and shown in Annex 1.**

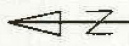
Steve Howell  
Head of Transport  
Environment & Economy

Background papers: Nil

Contact Officer: Peter Ronald Tel: 0845 310 11 11

October 2009

Drawing No. **STC/01/09** Revision



Reproduced from the Cadastre Surveying with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Copyright, Unauthorised Reproduction using this Drawing is a Criminal Offence under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

Rev.	Date	Description

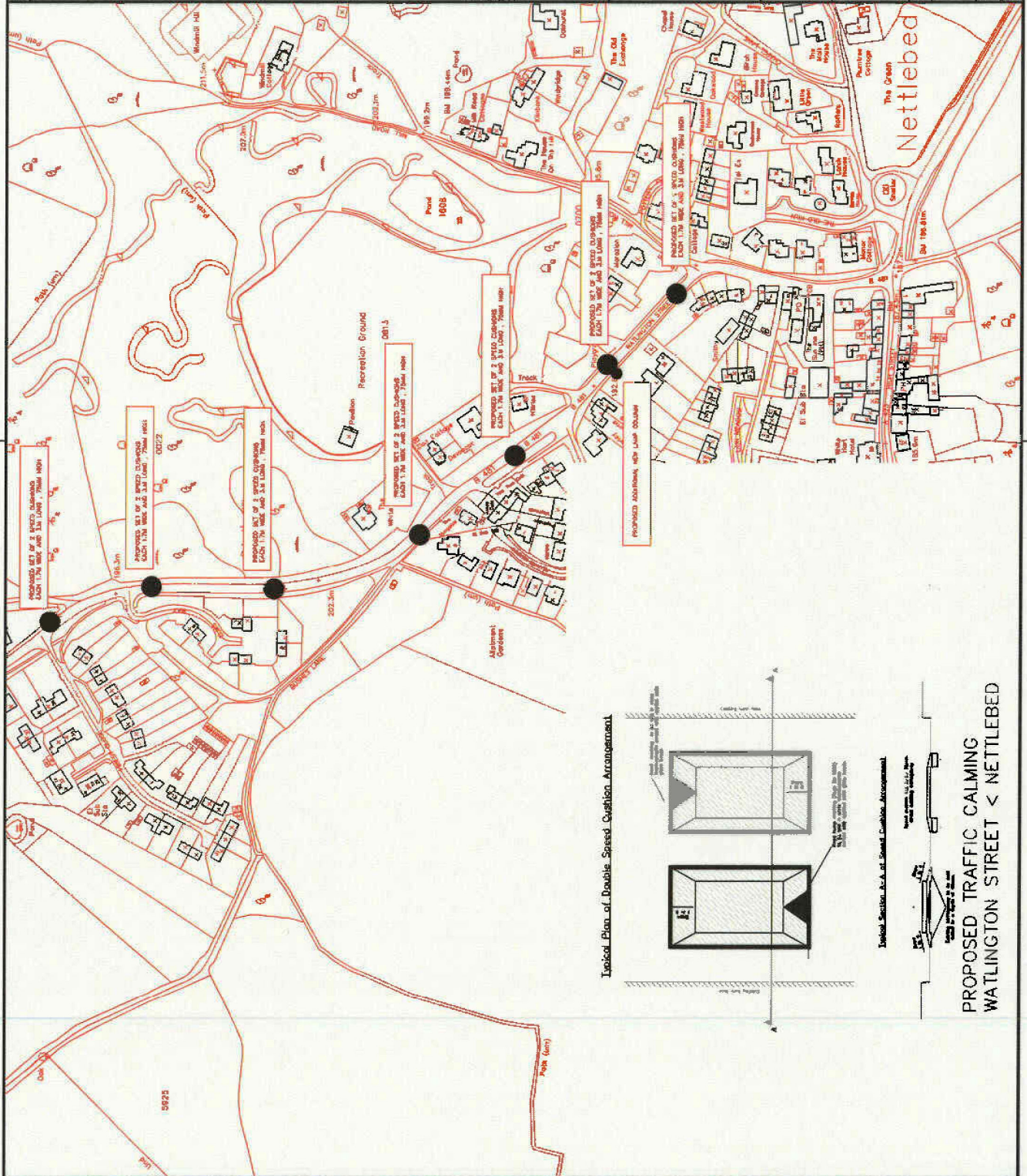


Project title  
**Traffic Calming Proposals**

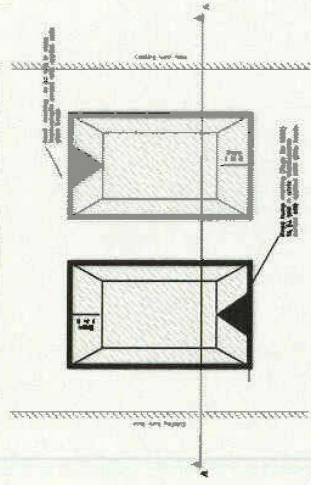
Drawing title  
**B481 Watlington Street Nettledbed**

Drawing Status		Approved by	
Drawn by	PER	Checked by	Approved by
NTS	DATE	Date checked	Date approved
Oxfordshire Highways Project No. & File Ref			

Drawing No. **STC/01/09** Revision



Isolated Plan of Double Speed Cushion Arrangement



Isolated Section A-A of Speed Cushion Arrangement



**PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING  
WATLINGTON STREET < NETTLEBED**