

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 12 SEPTEMBER 2019

EAST HANNEY, STEVENTON ROAD – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES AND BUS STOP CLEARWAY

Report by Director of Community Operations, Communities

Recommendation

1. The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed introduction of a traffic calming build-out incorporating a speed cushion and bus stop clearway on the Steventon Road, East Hanney as advertised.

Executive summary

2. The provision of traffic calming measures is reviewed when there are changes to the road layout as a result of development, when requested by local councils as a result of road safety concerns and as part of the on-going monitoring of reports on road accidents. Specific proposals are assessed applying national regulations and guidance on the use of traffic calming measures.

Introduction

3. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on a proposal to introduce a traffic calming build-out incorporating a speed cushion and bus stop clearway on the Steventon Road, East Hanney.

Background

4. The above proposal as shown at Annex 1 has been put forward because of the development of land adjacent to the Steventon Road at East Hanney.

Consultation

5. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 26 June and 26 July and 15 February 2019. A newspaper was placed in the Oxfordshire Herald Series newspaper and emails sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, the Vale of the White Horse District Council, East Hanney Parish Council and the local County Councillor. Notices were also placed on site and letters sent to approximately 15 properties adjacent to the proposals.

6. Eight responses were received. 3 (37.5%) objections, 2 (25%) in support and 3 (37.5%) neither supporting nor objecting. The responses are set out at Annex 3 with copies of the full responses available for inspection by County Councillors.

Response to objections and other comments

7. Thames Valley Police and the Vale of the White Horse District Council did not object to the proposal.
8. East Hanney Parish Council neither support or object and while welcoming, in principle, measures to reduce speeds, raised a number of concerns and queries, including:
 - whether the build-out would accommodate larger vehicles using the Steventon Road,
 - the actual effect on traffic speeds given the risk that vehicles may speed up to negotiate the build-out so as not to have to give way to an oncoming vehicle,
 - noise and vehicle emissions for local residents due to vehicles slowing to negotiate the build out and then accelerating,
 - maintenance of the cycle bypass (noting that this was an issue at the similar traffic calming build-out on the Hanney Road at Steventon), and
 - light pollution due to the proposed street lighting, noting that the village as a whole had no lighting.
9. The above concerns are noted, along with the parish council's request for the consideration of alternative traffic calming measures such as additional pairs of speed cushions in place of a build-out. The proposed traffic calming measures – incorporating a build-out and speed cushion – have been used at many locations within Oxfordshire and the great majority of these have proved effective and operate with good levels of safety for all road users (including pedal cyclists) and have not been found to result in the difficulties identified by the parish council, although it is accepted that in some cases maintenance has been an issue and that it will be important that – as with any highway feature – adequate maintenance is carried out.
10. The parish council's concerns on light pollution are also noted but national regulations on the use of road humps and speed cushions required these to be lit (other than in a 20mph zone. Lighting will be designed to minimise light pollution.
11. Three objections were received from members of the public concerning the safety of the proposed build-out and speed cushion, particularly for pedal cyclists. They also raised concerns over its on-going maintenance, citing issues experienced at a similar calming feature on the Hanney Road at Steventon. As discussed above in the review of the response from the parish council, the type of traffic calming measures proposed have in the great majority of cases been found to operate with good levels of safety including

for pedal cyclists and not lead to problems with noise and pollution, but it is accepted that these features need to be adequately maintained.

12. Two expressions of support were received from members of the public.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

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

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

14. Funding for the proposed measures has been provided by the developers of land adjacent to the Steventon Road in East Hanney.

OWEN JENKINS
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Background papers: Plan of proposed traffic calming measures
 Consultation responses

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 Ryan Moore 07557 082568

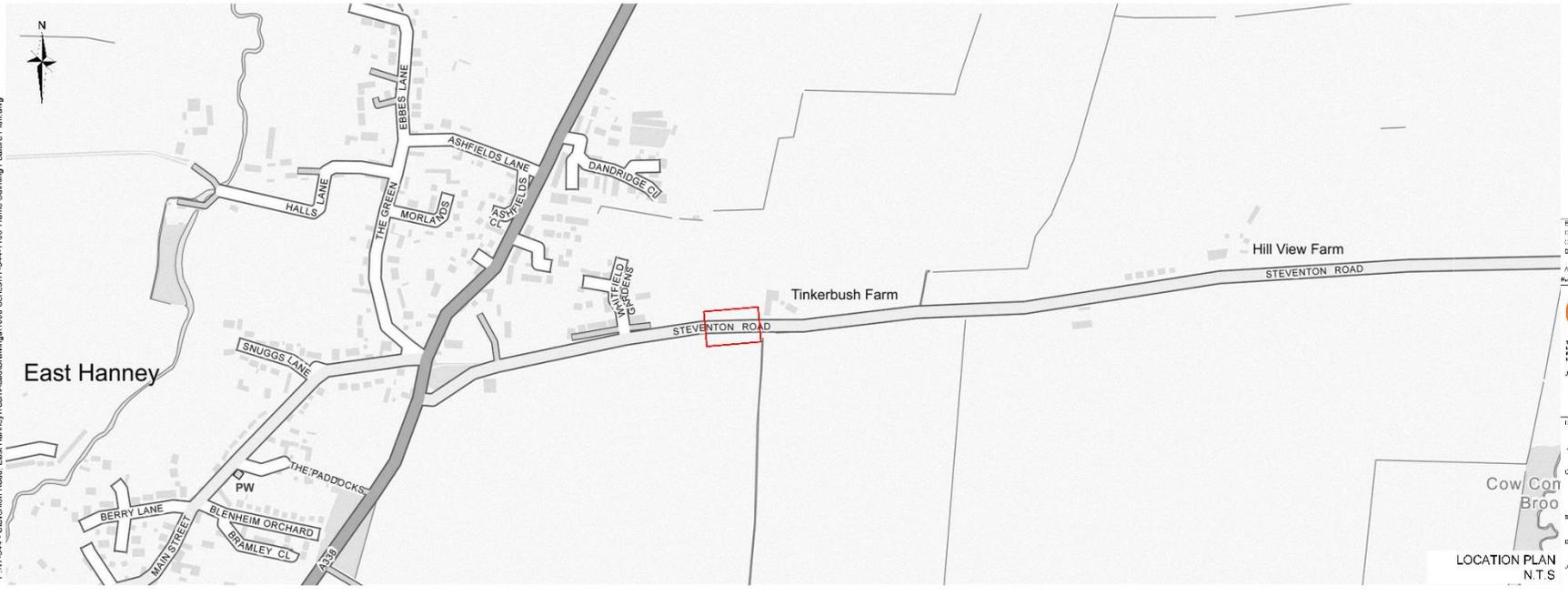
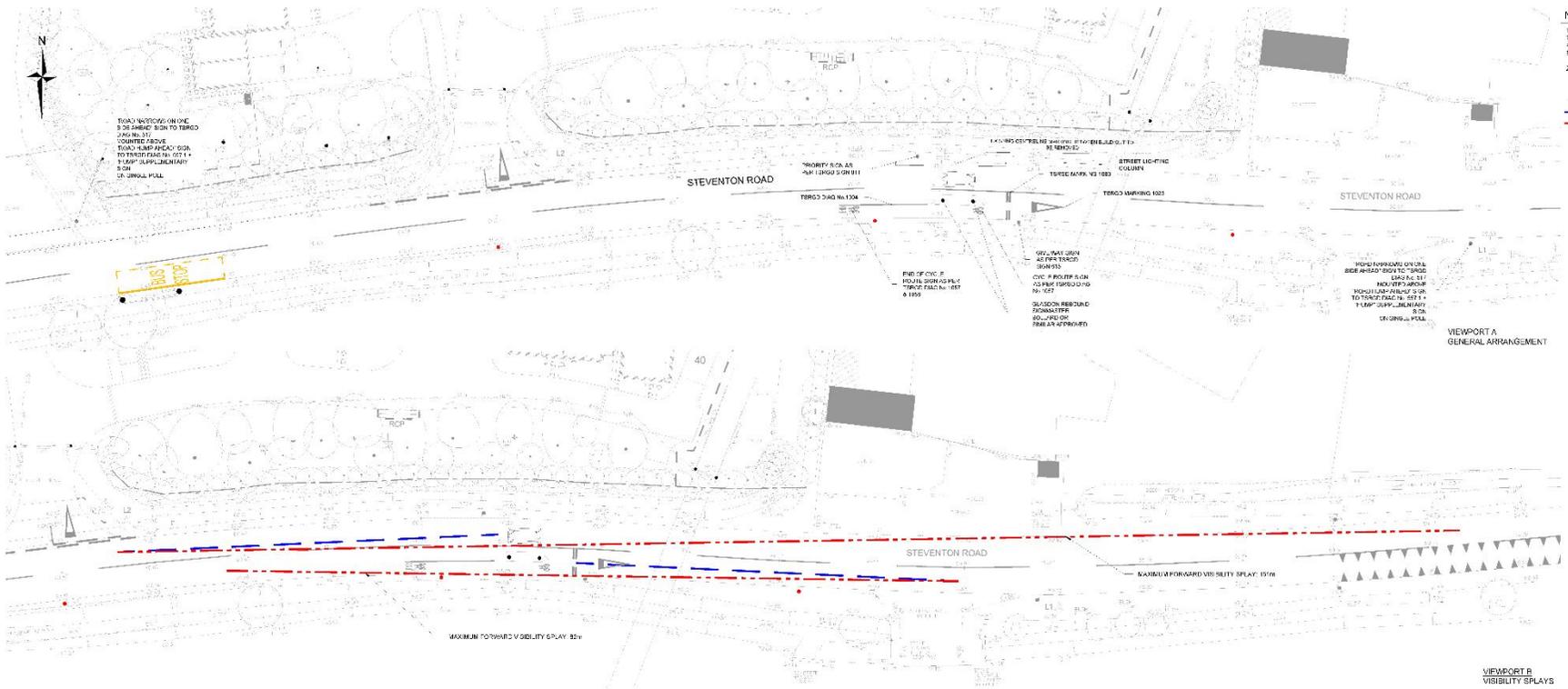
September 2019

NOTES

1. THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MANUAL FOR CONTRACT DRAWINGS, VOLUME 1, SPECIFICATION FOR TECHNICAL DRAWINGS, 2011 EDITION, SPECIFICATION AND ALL OTHER RELATED DRAWINGS ISSUED.
2. ALL ROADMARKINGS TO BE AS PER TRASS.

REF: WJ

- 4m SLOW VISIBILITY SPLAY (MS)
- MAXIMUM FORWARD VISIBILITY SPLAY
- SEE COLUMN REFER TO THIS DRAWING AND FOR DETAILS AND SPECIFICATION.



1. STREET LIGHTING DESIGN UPDATED	LP	TD	24/08/19
2. ROAD NARROWS ONE SIDE SIGN ADDED	LP	TD	16/08/19
3. ADDITIONAL VIBRANT SPLAY PROVIDED	LP	TD	16/08/19
4. SIGNATURE FOR REGULATION 4 ADDED	LP	TD	26/04/19
5. ADDITIONAL VIBRANT SPLAY PROVIDED	LP	TD	27/02/19
6. UPDATES TO SIGN COMMENTS	LP	TD	27/02/19

Rev: A - Issued Date: 08/04/20

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Energy Group
 1000 Series 17, 344-1108
 Traffic Calming Feature Plan.dwg

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Job Title: **STEVENTON ROAD EAST HANNEY**

Drawing Title: **SECTION 278 AGREEMENT TRAFFIC CALMING FEATURE PLAN**

Client: **MARTIN GRANT HOMES**

Scale: 1:250 @ A1

Date: JAN 19

Drawn by: LP

Checked by: RS

Approved by: RS

Job No: 17-344

Drawing No: 17-344/1108

Rev: E

P:\17-344 - Steventon Road - East Hanney\Tech\AutoDrawings\1000 Series\17-344-1108 Traffic Calming Feature Plan.dwg

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NOTES
 1. THIS DRAWING IS TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MANUAL FOR CONTRACT DRAWINGS, VOLUME 1, SPECIFICATION FOR TECHNICAL DRAWING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFICATION AND ALL OTHER RELATED DRAWINGS ISSUED.
 2. ALL ROAD MARKINGS TO BE AS PER TS/RD.



P:17-344 - Steventon Road, East Hanney\Tech\Acad\Drawings\1000 Series\17-344-1105 Bus Stop Clearway Plan.dwg

LAST UPDATED TO EAT 000 COMMENTS
 Rev: A - 20/01/2019
 Date: 20/01/2019



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JOB TITLE
**STEVENTON ROAD
 EAST HANNEY**

Drawing Title
**SECTION 278 AGREEMENT
 BUS CLEARWAY PLAN**

Client
**MARTIN GRANT
 HOMES**

Scale
 1:200 @A1
 Date
 JAN 19
 Drawn
 LP
 Checked
 RS
 Design No
 17-344
 Drawing No
 17-344/1105
 Rev
 A

LOCATION PLAN
 N.T.S

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
(2) Vale of White Horse District Council	No objection
(3) East Hanney Parish Council	<p>Neither - welcomes the plans to calm traffic entering and leaving the village along the Steventon Road. There are a number of concerns that the Council would like noted:</p> <p>The proposed narrowing of the road may hinder the passage of larger vehicles. The Council notes that there is a distribution centre further east along the Steventon Road and that large goods and agricultural vehicles use this road. The Council is concerned that the speed reduction achieved by having 2 speed humps rather than a pinch point has not been fully explored. The chance that vehicles will speed up to ensure they pass the pinch point was noted, as people may not want to slow down on entry or exit to the village to allow other vehicles through and delay their journey.</p> <p>The Council has heard from residents close to the proposed site. Those residents voiced concerns that the proposal could increase traffic noise, from queuing vehicles and acceleration. This could lead to an increase in local air pollution.</p> <p>The Council notes that a similar installation at the western edge of Steventon, further east, shows that the proposed cycle passage becomes filled with debris and is difficult for road sweepers to clean out.</p> <p>The Council and residents are concerned about the number of lights that are proposed across the village. This proposal adds more lights. The main area of the village is dark at night and the Council and residents would like this to be continued.</p>

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<p>(4) Local Resident, (Wantage)</p>	<p>Object - The county is unable to maintain these pinch-points, and they become a severe hazard with broken signage on unlit areas of the road. The ones at the Steventon end of this road are an example. The warning signs are all broken, the road makings are worn out and it is clear that there have been accidents due to this.</p> <p>Pinch-points are by their nature dangerous, as they force traffic into travelling in opposite directions on the same stretch of road. There are safer alternatives, which do not require maintenance, which the council is clearly unable to afford. They don't do much to stop the really dangerous drivers - those who ignore the speed limits.</p> <p>A better option would be to do what has been done on the A417 approaching Wantage, where the road is slightly narrowed by line markings where the speed limits start.</p> <p>Why do we need bus stop clearways? There are no routes that run on that road?</p>
<p>(5) Local Resident, (East Hanney)</p>	<p>Object - The calming measures would increase the risk of fatalities on this already terrible road. The road is curved where you intend to place the restrictions and the traffic calming measure already on this road near Stevenson are always smashed and replaced with filthy temporary signage which looks a disgrace and is a real hazard. The road surface is so bumpy and uneven my car weaves from side to side if the car exceeds 40 mph already on this road- what more calming do you need.</p>
<p>(6) Local Resident, (East Hanney)</p>	<p>Object - The proposed traffic calming measure is currently used on the Steventon end of this very road. This type of measure is not safe for the following reasons;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The reflective bollards on the 'cushion' are not cleaned regularly enough so at night they cannot be seen. As a consequence, they are regularly hit by vehicles. 2. When the bollards are hit this leaves an unguarded raised kerb/island for other vehicles to hit. Bollards at the Steventon village end of this road are not replaced for weeks at a time once they have been knocked over. 3. As the whole area around the traffic calming measure is not cleaned regularly enough the cycle way to one side becomes a dumping ground for road debris, making it useless for cyclists and forcing them to stick to the main carriageway.

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	<p>4. I cycle this road numerous times a month and vehicles regularly fail to give way to cyclists negotiating the road passed the built out 'Cushion' when the road signs show the cyclist to have priority. I have had numerous near miss's as a result.</p> <p>5. If a cyclist does use the cycle route through the traffic calming layout, they can find themselves competing for road space on the exit with a car that has come through behind them but travelling faster, resulting in both exiting at the same time.</p> <p>For these reasons this type of traffic calming measure is dangerous for cyclists. Please do not install another one on the East Hanney to Steventon Road. Better still, also remove the one at the Steventon village end.</p>
(7) Local Resident, (Wantage)	<p>Support - As this proposal is going in a village with dark skies and minimal street lighting, can the street lights be ones that are fitted with shades to avoid light pollution and also can it be confirmed that only 3 street lights will be added as shown on the plan.</p>
(8) Local Resident, (East Hanney)	<p>Support - Fully support this proposal, it's very much needed</p>