

Divisions affected: *Hanborough and Minster Lovell*

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 27 JANUARY 2022

MINSTER LOVELL – B4047 BURFORD ROAD: PROPOSED EXTENSION OF 40MPH SPEED LIMIT

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve as advertised the proposed extension of the 40mph speed limit on the B4047 at Minster Lovell and ask officers to assess and provide costings to Minster Lovell Parish Council for a further reduction of the speed limit to 30mph.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on proposals to extend the 40mph speed limit on the B4047 at Minster Lovell as shown at Annex 1 because of adjacent development It should be noted that a consultation on the same proposal was carried out in June and July 2019 with no objections but as the order was not made within two years of the consultation (although some works were carried out on site), national regulations on traffic orders require a further consultation.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals has been provided by the developers of adjacent land who will also fund the extension of the limit if approved.

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 facilitate walking and cycling and the safe movement of traffic.

Consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 17 November 2021 and 17 December 2021. A notice was published in the Witney Gazette newspaper and an email sent to statutory consultees including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, Minster Lovell Parish Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and local County Councillor.
7. Three responses – all objections - were received during the formal consultation.
8. The responses are shown at Annex 2 with copies of the original responses available for inspection by County Councillors.
9. Thames Valley Police have not responded. However, they did not object to the proposals when originally consulted on in 2019.
10. Minster Lovell Parish Council with the support of the local member objected to the proposals on the grounds that, since the original consultation in 2019, views within the village had changed with the council supplying a petition signed by approximately 350 residents, seeking a reduction in the speed limit on the Burford Road to 30mph through the entire village to include the Dovecote Park development.
11. In response to this request, it is not possible to require the developer to fund a consultation on a 30mph speed limit or its implementation. Therefore, it is being recommended that the 40mph speed limit be approved but that officers then work with the parish council to assess and cost a 30mph speed limit, noting that proceeding in this way will not materially increase costs for the parish council as compared to deferring a decision on the 40mph speed limit pending a consultation on a 30mph limit.
12. Two members of the public expression objections on the grounds that the speed limit change was not required.

BILL COTTON

Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes

Annexe 1: Consultation Plan

Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:

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January 2022

Key

- Proposed 40mph Speed Limit extension - approximately 215 metres.
- Existing 40mph Speed Limit
- Existing 30mph Speed Limit

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Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved

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Project title

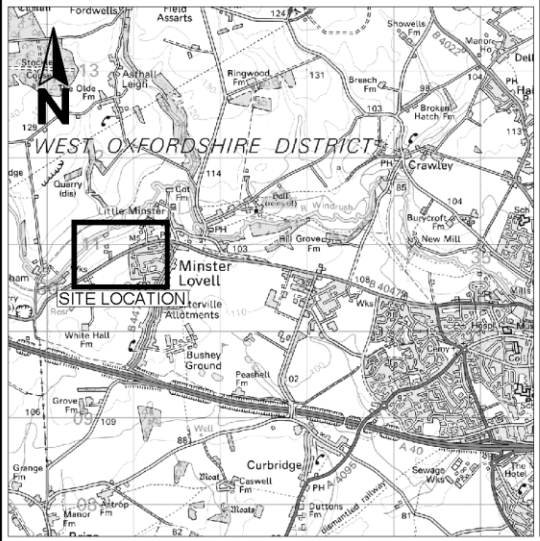
B4047 BURFORD ROAD
MINSTER LOVELL

Drawing title

PROPOSED 40MPH SPEED LIMIT
EXTENSION

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
N.T.S.	JaC		
	Date drawn	Date checked	Date approved
	05/19		



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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Minster Lovell Parish Council	<p>Object – Villagers have voiced their concerns regarding the length of time it has taken to extend the 40mph speed limit beyond the entrance to Dovecote Park and a number of residents approached the Parish Council in October 2021 to suggest that the speed limit should in fact be reduced to 30mph. They polled villagers and over 350 agreed with them.</p> <p>I have attached the petition signed by residents of Minster Lovell in support of reducing the speed limit on the B4047 Burford Road, Minster Lovell, plus two photos showing parking of vehicles on the grass verge opposite the Horse & Radish Public House provided by one of the organisers of the petition.</p> <p>The cars parked on the grass are patrons of the Horse & Radish PH and parking on the grass verge creates a reduced view of oncoming cars for drivers exiting Upper Crescent.</p> <p>Even though the speed limit at that point is 40mph many drivers exceed that limit and with cars driving on and off the grass verge, coupled with the reduced visibility for drivers exiting Upper Crescent the petition organisers consider the current 40mph to be dangerous.</p> <p>I would also like to point out that there is no designated crossing area for residents of the new estate and nearby Upper Crescent and Wenrisc Drive area of Minster Lovell who wish to cross over the B4047 to visit the public house or to walk directly to the nearest bus stop (opposite the White Hart PH).</p>
(2) Resident, (Bampton)	<p>Object – This is a section where the road alignment and views ahead mean the limit could be higher than 40 with no adverse effects on safety. The limit is proposed with no surrounding features that reinforce it - the contrary, in fact, as the proposed limit covers an area outside the more built-up area of Minster Lovell. No speed limit-related accidents on this stretch means no need for the lower limit. Highly likely that because the limit will not be self-enforcing that it will be ignored, lessening respect for other limits.</p>

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<p>(3) Resident, (Oxford)</p>	<p>Object – Appears to be unnecessary - nothing about this road seems to be any different to turning on to any other 60 mph road.</p>
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