

A4905 (Bladon to Long Hanborough) Speed Limit Reduction – Local Resident

While I support the council's proposal to reduce the speed limit, I must highlight that the A4905 junction with Lower Road is an extremely dangerous blind spot that requires more effective safety measures. As a resident of Ox Close having lived directly next to this junction for 18 years, I have unparalleled daily experience of the severe danger here and I ask that the council consider the following points:

- **Constant Near Misses and unrecorded accidents:** I hear car horns blaring and tyres screeching multiple times a day, which is a constant reminder of how frequently drivers are forced into emergency braking maneuvers. The recorded accident statistics do not take these near misses and frequent minor accidents into account.
- **Severe Visibility Issues:** Drivers approaching from Long Hanborough see this T-junction very late due to the sharp bend in the road. Drivers emerging from Lower Road are forced into making last minute decisions to pull out, due to the poor visibility caused by the bend. The recent addition of a second filtering lane approaching the junction from Lower Road has resulted in more significant blind spots, further compromising visibility for drivers in both lanes emerging into the path of oncoming A4905 traffic. Drivers on the main road cannot now see cars pulling out until it's too late, because they are obscured by the second lane of traffic.
- **Bottlenecks and Tailbacks:** Lower Road has become a heavily used corridor and the difficulty of turning safely out of Lower Road onto the A4905 creates long vehicle tailbacks, driver impatience, and highly risky maneuvers.
- **History of Serious Incidents:** This specific junction is one of the most significant accident black spots on the A4905 with a documented history of collisions - many of them have been serious and resulted in injuries.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Simply changing the signage on the A4905 between Bladon and Long Hanborough to 40mph will not alleviate the real dangers faced by the public. Furthermore, I question the disparity in speed limits along the A4905 from Bladon, with a long 20mph stretch extending onto the straight section of road to the west of Bladon and a similar stretch at 30mph to the west of Hanborough. Surely, the most dangerous part of the road that has the most accidents should be subject to at least the same measures, which could most easily be implemented by extending the 30mph limit from the east end of Long Hanborough to include the junction with Lower Road.

To genuinely achieve Vision Zero goals and prevent future serious injuries, I strongly feel the T junction should be replaced by a roundabout, which would also help traffic flow and reduce tailbacks on Lower Road. I understand that this requires investment and more crucially a significant portion of land to build it on. As the owner of the land to the south west of the junction, I would be open to discussions about donating land to enable such a project and I urge Oxfordshire County Council to reevaluate their options and consider implementing physical safety enhancements that will actually alleviate the danger at this location. Thank you for taking my feedback into account during this consultation.

