

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Cabinet
Date of Committee 6th April 2006
Report Title Speed Limit on the B4086 Banbury Road at Kineton

Summary
Following formal advertisement of a proposed 30 mph and 40 mph speed limit on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton, five objections were received from residents.
The objections were considered by the Stratford on Avon Area Committee on the 15th March.
The Committee resolved that a 30 mph speed limit should be applied to the whole length of Banbury Road concerned rather than the speed limit proposals which were advertised.
Given that such a speed limit would not be in accordance with the Council's normal policy, the Cabinet is asked to consider the matter.

For further information please contact: Pete Keeley
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? No.

Background papers None

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees Report from the Stratford on Avon Area Committee
- Local Member(s) Councillor David Booth
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member

- Chief Executive
- Legal
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers John Deegan's comments to be added
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet If Cabinet decides to advertise the order sought by the Area Committee
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Agenda No

Cabinet - 6th April 2006.

Speed Limit on the B4086 Banbury Road at Kineton

Report of the Chair of the Stratford on Avon Area Committee.

Recommendation from the Area Committee

That the Cabinet resolves either:

- (1) notwithstanding that this is not in accordance with the Council's normal policy, that a Traffic Order be advertised replacing the existing 40 mph speed limit on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton by a 30 mph speed limit;

or (if option (1) is not acceptable)

- (2) that a Traffic Order be made in the following terms:
- (i) That the existing 40 mph limit be retained on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton with a 36 metre extension of the 30 mph speed limit as advertised;
 - (ii) That speed reducing measures be introduced as described in this report to encourage compliance with both speed limits.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting on the 15th March, the Stratford on Avon Area Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy relating to a speed limit proposal on Banbury Road, Kineton.
- 1.2 A copy of the report is attached at **Appendix A**.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The speed limit on Banbury Road had been investigated as part of the County Council's Village Speed Limit Review. The outcome of which was a scheme involving a short extension of the existing 30 mph speed limit to protect the entrance to the Kineton High School and the retention of the remainder of the 40 mph speed limit. Only short extension was proposed because of local opposition to the engineering and other works that would have been recommended in order to replace the 40 mph limit with a 30 mph limit for the whole of its length.

2.2 The scheme was subsequently advertised and five objections were received.

3. Area Committee's Decision

3.1 Following consideration of the objections the Area Committee decided that there was merit in submissions made by objectors to the effect that lower speed limits should be specified as part of the scheme in order to better promote public safety. Accordingly, rather than agreeing immediately to the proposal which had been advertised, it was resolved that Cabinet should be recommended to make a Traffic Order for a 30 mph speed limit along the whole length of Banbury Road concerned which would enable the impact on speed reduction to be monitored. The Area Committee proposes that this limit be introduced without the full package of accompanying works that would normally be recommended to make the limit self-enforcing. In the event that such an Order was not deemed acceptable however the Area Committee resolved to recommend that Cabinet should agree to a Traffic Order being made in the terms originally proposed (on the basis that while this would not be ideal it would be an improvement on the current situation).

3.2 An extract from the Area Committee's draft minutes is attached at **Appendix B**.

4. Council's Speed Limit Policy

4.1 The 30 mph speed limit proposal is not in accordance with the Council's normal policy, and is consequently outside the delegated powers of the Area Committee.

4.2 If the Cabinet wishes to support the Area Committee's recommendation relating to the 30 mph speed limit it would be necessary to advertise a revised order and make a final decision after another consultation period.

4.3 Alternatively, if Cabinet takes the view that the Area Committee's recommendation on that score is unacceptable it can resolve that a Traffic Order shall be made in the terms originally proposed to the Area Committee.

5. Views of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy

5.1 The recommendation is contrary to Cabinet's decision of 17 October 2002 which was "The existing practice of applying speed limits in accordance with Local Transport Plan Policies SM1 and SM2 be continued until a further review becomes possible following the publication of anticipated government guidelines on speed limits." Policies SM1 and SM2 effectively adopt Government guidance on speed limits in Circular 1/93.

5.2 The new Local Transport Plan came into effect on 1st April this year. Policies SM1 and SM2 have not been carried forward into the new LTP but the new LTP notes that it remains the strategy of the Council, as decided by Cabinet in 2002, to comply with Circular 1/93 pending a review. The Government has consulted on new guidance to replace Circular 1/93, and the final version is

expected in the next two or three months, but the speed limit as proposed by the Area Committee would still be in conflict with the expected new guidance.

- 5.3 Any new 30mph village speed limit will be successful if the proposals are relevant, appropriate, adequately supported by engineering measures and, largely self-enforcing.
- 5.4 The existing 85th percentile vehicle speeds on Banbury Road (49.5mph) indicate that a 30mph speed limit with the limited speed reduction features proposed cannot be expected to result in a significant reduction in speed. This will therefore have an insignificant impact on road safety. At the same time there will be an increase in the burden of enforcement for the Police
- 5.5 The Strategic Director anticipates that there will be frequent abuse of a 30mph speed limit in these circumstances. The setting of inappropriate and unsuccessful speed limits will lead to the system of speed limits falling into disrepute.
- 5.6 The proposed speed limit proposed by the Area Committee would also, without appropriate engineering measures, breach Circular 1/93. Although this would not (after 1st April) be a breach of the LTP, it would breach Cabinet's own policy set in 2002 and would probably attract the opposition of the Police when advertised

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Cabinet is asked to consider the Area Committee's alternate recommendations.

COUNCILLOR GEORGE
ATKINSON
Chair of the Area Committee

Shire Hall
Warwick

21 March 2006

- Legal I Marriott - agreed
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police No objections
- Other Bodies/Individuals Kineton Parish Council, Emergency Services,
National Farmers Union, Road Haulage
Associations, Residents.

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** *(If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps)*

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Stratford on Avon Area Committee - 15th March 2006

Kineton Village Speed Limit Review

**Report of the Strategic Director of
Environment and Economy**

Recommendation

1. That the existing 40 mph limit be retained on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton with a 36 metre extension of the 30 mph speed limit as advertised.
2. That speed reducing measures be introduced as described in this report to encourage compliance with both speed limits.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Following formal advertisement of a proposed extension to the 30 mph on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton, five objections were received. This report considers the objections and recommends the actions which should be taken.

2. Background

- 2.1 The speed limit on Banbury Road, Kineton has been investigated as part of the County Council's Village Speed Limit Review.
- 2.2 The central area of the village of Kineton is currently subject to a 30 mph speed limit. On the B4086 Banbury Road this extends adjacent to the High School, where the speed limit then changes to 40 mph. (see **Appendix A**).
- 2.3 Vehicle speed surveys carried out on the B4086 in connection with the Speed Review indicated a poor level of compliance with the existing 30mph and 40mph speed limits. The County Council policy on speed limits, which is based on current national guidelines, permits speed limits to be lowered only when a consequent reduction in vehicle speed can reasonably be expected. Engineering measures may be used to achieve appropriate speed reductions. (see **Appendix B**).
- 2.4 In January 2005 Kineton Road Safety Group submitted a petition with 650 signatures supporting the need for traffic calming to reduce speeds in Kineton.

- 2.5 Initial proposals from the Speed Review involved extending the 30 mph limit to the extent of the current 40 mph limit on the Banbury Road. The proposals included additional road signs, road narrowings and an extension of the street lighting. Initially, Kineton Parish Council supported this scheme.
- 2.6 Consultation letters were sent to residents outlining the above proposals and an exhibition held in the Village Hall on 4th July 2005. The majority of respondents were in favour of a 30 mph speed limit, but 24% objected to or expressed concerns regarding the proposed engineering measures and street lighting. This prompted further discussions with the Parish Council, who requested an alternative scheme to be designed for their consideration.
- 2.7 An alternative scheme was developed which involved a short extension to the existing 30 mph limit to protect the school entrance and the retention of the remainder of the 40 mph limit. This scheme involves only a minor extension of the street lighting and does not employ road narrowings. "Light speed" reducing measures are proposed to encourage compliance with the speed limits. These include improved village and speed limit gateway signs, speed limit repeater signs with carriageway roundels, warning signs and vehicle activated signs. This combination of measures implemented in other villages by the Village Speed Limit Review initiative, has reduced vehicle speeds by up to 7.6 mph.
- 2.8 Kineton Parish Council resolved in its meeting on 13th July 2005 not to proceed with the original 30mph scheme, but to support the alternative scheme described in 2.7 above.

3. Formal Consultation

- 3.1 Legal notices advertising the proposed extension of the 30mph and the retention of the 40 mph speed limit Order were placed in the Stratford Herald on the 10th November 2005, with the objection period ending on the 2nd December 2005. Notices were also placed on street, advertising the Order.
- 3.2 Letters were sent advertising the Order to the local Member, Parish Councils, local residents, Warwickshire Police, Emergency Services, Road Haulage Associations and other external organisations.
- 3.3 The Police have no objections to the proposals.
- 3.4 The local Member, Councillor Booth has no objections to the proposals.
- 3.5 Kineton Parish Council supports the proposals.

4. Objections

- 4.1 Meetings have been held with residents of Banbury Road to discuss their objections. A further meeting with them is to be held prior to the March Area Committee and a verbal update on the outcome will be given to Members.
- 4.2 Five formal letters of objection from residents of Banbury Road were received raising the following points:-

4.3 **Objection: Point One**

- (i) The 40 mph speed limit being retained is considered unacceptable for Banbury Road. Request for the scheme to be modified to introduce a 30 mph speed limit.

4.4 **Response**

- (i) As the existing 85%ile speeds are 49.5mph on Banbury Road, the introduction of a self enforcing 30 mph speed limit that meets the County Council Speed Limit Policy, is only achievable with the introduction of extensive engineering features to alter the road environment.
- (ii) During public consultation Kineton residents expressed concerns at the urbanisation of the village that this would cause and the Parish Council resolved not to introduce a 30mph scheme with engineering features.
- (iii) The advertised proposal includes less intrusive speed reduction features to achieve a better compliance with the 40 mph speed limit.

4.5 **Objection: Point Two**

- (i) Speeds have increased causing a difficulty in crossing the road and danger to children.

4.6 **Response**

- (i) No injury accidents have been reported in the last three years on Banbury Road.
- (ii) The proposals are anticipated to reduce actual vehicle speeds on Banbury Road and include an extension to the 30 mph speed limit to protect the school entrance.

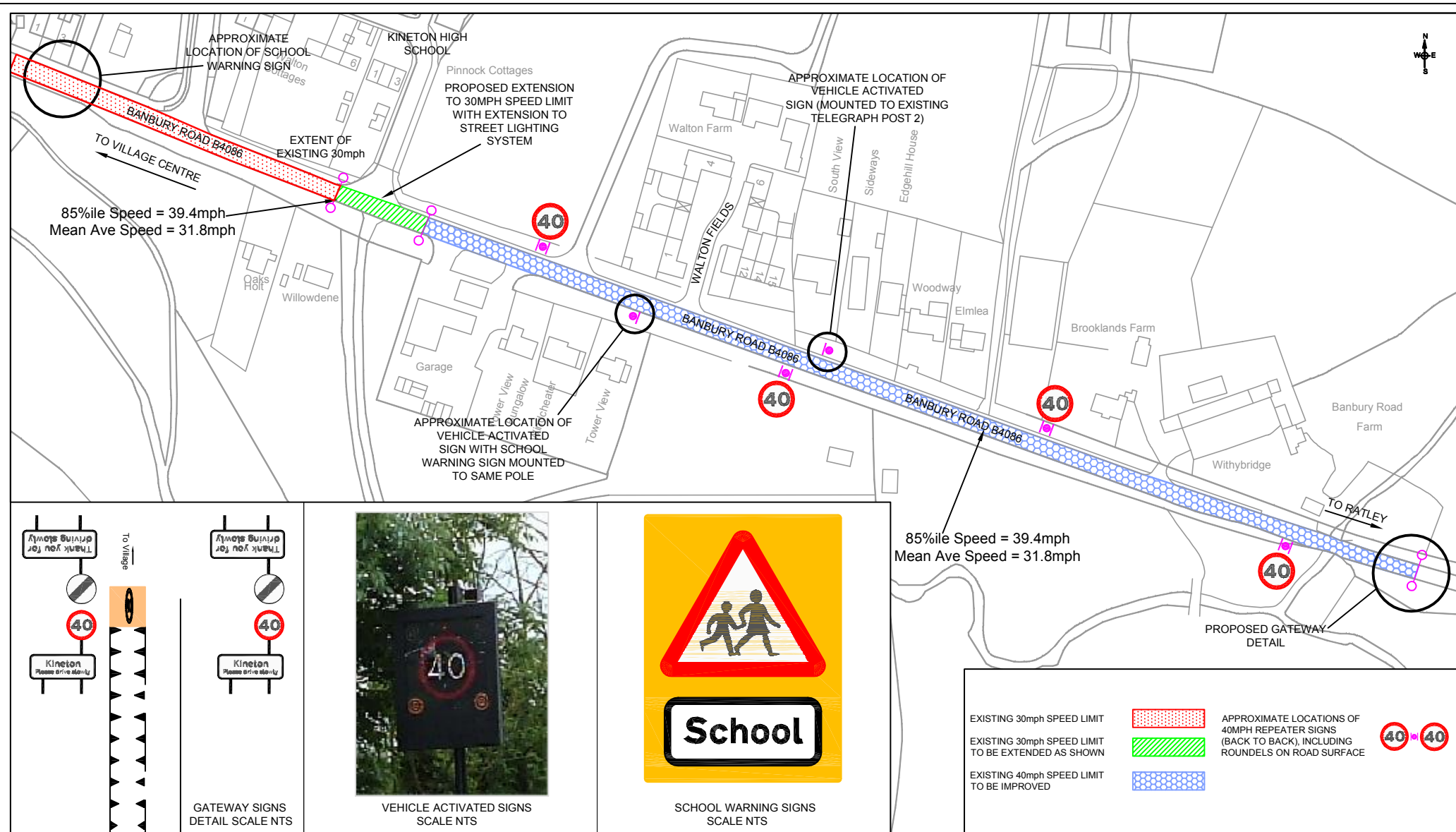
5. **Conclusion**

- 5.1 Kineton Parish Council does not support the introduction of engineering features necessary for the introduction of a self enforcing 30 mph speed limit. Support is given to the advertised proposals, which they considered more suitable with reductions in traffic speed for less cost, less intrusive signage and limited engineering works.
- 5.2 The advertised proposals have the support of the Local County Council Member and Warwickshire Police.
- 5.3 The advertised proposals are expected to be effective in reducing vehicle speeds.

- 5.4 It is recommended that the existing 40 mph speed limit be retained on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton with a 36 metre extension of the 30 mph speed limit as advertised.

JOHN DEEGAN
Strategic Director of Environment and Economy
Shire Hall
Warwick

1 March 2006



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Stratford on Avon Area Committee - 15 March 2006

Plan A

Kineton Village Speed Limit Review

B4086 Banbury Road Proposed Speed Limit Extents



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Warwickshire County Council
John Deegan
Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy
Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4SX

Appendix

Stratford on Avon Area Committee – 15th March 2006

Kineton Village Speed Limit Review

1. The Department for Transport (DfT) Circular Roads 1/93, sets out the criteria that are to be used in setting local speed limits. It states “speed limits should be lowered only when a consequent reduction in vehicle speed can reasonably be expected”. The DfT procedure to determine what limit should be set is as follows; “If the observed 85thile speed is within 7 mph or 20% of the proposed limit, the limit may be introduced. If the 85thile speed is not within 7 mph or 20% of the proposed limit, either: impose a higher limit in the expectation that it will reduce vehicle speed (but probably not to the optimum level); or alter the environment/road geometry so as to achieve speeds closer to the desired speed and then introduce the lower limit.
2. The DfT road safety strategy Tomorrow’s Roads – Safer for Everyone, included a commitment to update the guidance to local authorities on the setting of local speed limits, which is currently set out in Circular Roads 1/93. The DfT is now circulating the proposed revised guidance for consultation to replace Circular Roads 1/93. It is believed that the proposed measures on the B4086 Banbury Road would satisfy this revised guidance.
- 3, Vehicle speed surveys were carried out on the B4086 Banbury Road Kineton, which indicated an 85th percentile speed of 49.5 mph near Brooklands Farm and 39.4 mph at the point where the existing 30mph speed limit starts near Kineton High School (see **Appendix A**). This indicates a poor level of compliance with the existing speed limits. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at which 85% of drivers travel at or below. It is the speed measurement used nationally and by the Police in assessments for speed limits.

8. Kineton Village Speed Limit Review

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy.

Following formal advertisement of the proposed 30 mph and 40 mph speed limit on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton, five objections from residents had been received.

Don Foster, Head of Community Services, Environment and Economy introduced the report. The proposed scheme would involve associated engineering measures include improved village and speed limit gateway signs, speed limit repeater signs and carriageway roundels, warning signs and vehicle activated signs.

The report considered the objections and recommended that the existing 40 mph speed limit should be retained but with a 36 metre extension of the 30 mph speed limit as advertised.

Councillor David Booth suggested that, in the interests of better promoting public safety, the Committee should consider the introduction of a 30 mph speed limit over the whole section of Banbury Road with subsequent monitoring to see if the speed limit was having the desired result. He added that if the Committee could not agree with his suggestion he would accept the recommendation as printed in the report.

Don Foster responded to questions raised by members as follows:-

- The Council's speed limit criteria for the imposition of speed limits, as mentioned in the report, had regard to the characteristics of roads. He outlined differences in the characteristics of certain roads in Shipston on Stour and Alderminster with 40 and 30 mph speed limits and the characteristics of Banbury Road at Kineton which was not recommended for a 30 mph limit.
- The 30 mph proposal would be contrary to the Council's policy for applying speed limits and consequently would need Cabinet approval.
- The Police would be likely to oppose a 30 mph proposal .
- The officers considered a 30 mph speed limit would be ignored by motorists
- The 40 mph speed limit recommendation, which had the support of the Parish Council, included a compromise proposal of an extension to the existing 30 mph zone to deal with the schools requirements

Councillor David Booth moved, Councillor Izzi Seccombe seconded and it was Resolved by 7 votes to 2:-

That the Area Committee recommends to Cabinet either

- (1) notwithstanding that this is not in accordance with the Council's normal policy, that a Traffic Order be advertised replacing the existing 40 mph speed limit on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton by a 30 mph speed limit

or if option (1) is not acceptable

- (2) that a Traffic Order be made in the following terms
 - (i) That the existing 40 mph limit be retained on the B4086 Banbury Road, Kineton with a 36 metre extension of the 30 mph speed limit as advertised.
 - (ii) That speed reducing measures be introduced as described in the report to encourage compliance with both speed limits.