

Decision Record – Proposed 20mph speed limit for Warwick Town Centre, traffic calming and shared cycle/footway, Priory Road Warwick

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Jeff Clarke Transport and Environment
Date of Decision (not before 21 July 2017)	03/08/2017

Decision Taken
That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Environment approves:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The introduction of a 20mph speed limit zone for Warwick Town Centre and: 2. The installation of a shared use cycle/footway and traffic calming features for Priory Road Warwick.
In accordance with the Highways Act 1980, Section 65 and Section 90G, and Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Reasons for Decisions
Where any objections have been received to a road traffic order the Portfolio Holder is required to decide on whether it be approved or not.

Background Information
<p>A public consultation was held in the summer of 2016 to seek the views of residents, local businesses and stakeholders.</p> <p>The purpose of the consultation was to gauge the level of support from the public and stakeholders to the overall proposals for the town centre and to help decide whether to develop them further. Additional detail was provided on the proposed 20mph speed limit zone and changes to Priory Road.</p> <p>A report was presented to Cabinet on 8 December 2016, seeking approval to move forward with the 20mph speed limit for the town centre and improvements on Priory Road and Northgate.</p> <p>As part of the overarching rationale for Warwick Town Centre, key themes have been to increase use by cyclists and improve facilities and connectivity for cycle and pedestrian use, and reduce traffic speed throughout the key core area of the town.</p> <p>To achieve these goals, it is proposed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Widen the footway to the northern side of Priory Road to allow cyclists to travel into the town centre from the St Johns area. The proposed shared use cycle/footway will allow sufficient room for cyclists and pedestrians to pass one another. It is likely that cyclists travelling from the Northgate junction towards St Johns will continue to cycle on the carriageway. Cyclists travelling uphill towards the town centre are most likely to use the proposed new facility. <p>Following detailed design considerations, it will not be possible to widen the footway between Cross Street and St Johns junction because of the need to accommodate delivery vehicles to the Roebuck public house. The shared use cycle/footway in this area will be 1.6m – 2.5m in width, with a pinch point of 1.3m over a short distance (less than 5m).</p>

2. Introduce a 20mph speed limit zone for the whole of Warwick town centre.

The proposed 20mph speed limit zone (Appendix B), includes roads within an area bounded by St Nicholas Church Street, Castle Lane, Bowling Green Street, Theatre Street, Saltisford, Northgate and Priory Road. And includes the following roads within the zone

Theatre Street Commainge Close Cocksparrow Street
 Linen Street Bowling Green Street Castle Close
 Castle Lane Leycester Place Back Lane
 Castle Court Castle Street High Street
 Jury Street Castle Hill Puckering's Lane
 Brook Street Market Street Market Place
 The Holloway New Street Church Street
 Swan Street Barrack Street Joyce Pool
 Northgate Northgate Street Old Square
 Priory Road The Butts Chapel Street
 Smith Street Cross Street Chapel Row
 Gerrard Street St Nicholas Church StMill Street
 Garden Court Yeomanry Close

For a 20mph speed limit zone to be self-regulating, it is necessary to promote and encourage slow speeds throughout the zone. The Department for Transport (DfT) recommend that any road that has a recorded speed of 24mph or less is suitable for a 20mph speed limit to be applied. However Priory Road currently experiences traffic speeds that are higher than the recommended maximum. To address this issue, traffic calming is proposed in the form of raised tables and speed cushions.

Consultation on the Proposal

Formal, statutory consultation for the proposed 20mph speed limit zone; traffic calming and shared cycle/footway on Priory Road was carried out between 30th March 2017 and 30th April 2017.

During this period formal objections have been received from Warwickshire Police, The Warwick Society and eight residents.

Financial Implications

At the Cabinet meeting of 8th December 2016, approval was granted for funding received from s106 contributions from South West Warwick developments to be used to facilitate the 'early deliverable' schemes. These proposals form part of that package of work. The cost of these proposed works is estimated to be in the region of £120,000. The current level of s106 contributions available from the South West Warwick developments is in the order of £1.0m.

Report Author	Carolyn Burrows
Head of Service	Mark Ryder
Joint Managing Director	Monica Fogarty
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Jeff Clarke

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cmis5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/4106/Committee/587/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers

Letters of Objection from Warwickshire Police, the Warwick Society and eight residents.

Members and officers consulted or informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Jeff Clarke

Corporate Board

Legal – Ian Marriott, Jane Pollard

Finance – Liz Firmstone, Virginia Rennie

Equality – Polly Sharma

Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Local Members:

Councillors P Williams, Holland and Singh Birdi

Other Members:

Councillors Clarke, Western, Shilton, Fradgley, Horner, Cockburn