

Decision Record

Sherbourne Village (30MPH and 40MPH Speed Limits) Order 2013 and Vicarage Lane and Watery Lane, Sherbourne (Prohibition of Commercial Vehicles of Over 7.5 Tonnes) (Variation No. 1) Order 2013

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Peter Butlin Transport & Planning
Date of Decision (not before: 24 th May 2013)	28/05/2013

Decision Taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning agrees:

- 1) That the Warwickshire County Council (Sherbourne Village) (30 and 40 MPH Speed Limits) Order 2013 is made as advertised.
- 2) That the Warwickshire County Council (Vicarage Lane and Watery Lane, Sherbourne) (Prohibition of Commercial Vehicles of over 7.5 Tonnes) (Variation No 1) Order 2013 is made as advertised.

Reasons for Decisions

Proposed 30mph speed limits in Vicarage Lane, Fulbrook Lane, Church Road and Moat Green. The number of objections received is shown in brackets [].

The following objections have been received:

Objection [3]

We believe that the speed limit in Vicarage Lane should be 20mph.

Objection [2]

I consider this to be a prime opportunity to make the village of Sherbourne a safer place for both residents and the general public. I would like to see a limit no higher than 30 mph but would prefer 20mph on all Sherbourne Roads.

Response

Vicarage Lane, Fulbrook Lane, Moat Green and Church Road run through Sherbourne village and are residential in nature. Reducing the speed to 30mph will help to improve the environment for pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users.

Speed surveys have shown that mean speeds in Sherbourne Village are no more than 25.8mph. Warwickshire Police would formally object to a 20mph speed limit, as it would not conform to the guidance set out in the Department for Transport (DfT) 2006 guidelines concerning speed limits, in particular citing that without significant additional engineering measures (i.e. traffic calming), the proposed limit would not be self-enforcing. In addition, the mean speeds recorded in the survey data are in clear contradiction to such a limit as per DfT Circular 01/2013 "Setting Local Speed Limits".

To achieve a self-enforcing 20mph speed limit, vertical or horizontal traffic calming measures with improved lighting would have to be introduced throughout Sherbourne Village. These types of measures are normally used in urban areas not in rural villages and the cost would be prohibitive.

Objection [1]

As a resident of Moat Green I welcome a 30mph speed limit throughout the Village, but I am astonished that a 40 mph speed limit is being considered on Watery Lane. Despite there being fewer properties on the road, the level of pedestrian traffic will be equal to anywhere in the village. The road itself is unlit, has no pavements, no road markings, and in places is only wide enough for one car.

Response

Speed surveys have shown that mean speeds on Watery Lane are no more than 34.5mph. Warwickshire Police would formally object to a 30mph speed limit along Watery Lane as it would be in contradiction of the advice given in DfT Circular 01/2013 "Setting Local Speed Limits" as the recorded mean speeds are considerably in excess of the proposed limit. Warwickshire Police uses this circular as a keystone document when considering limit changes such as these. Watery Lane and Old Stratford Road has a smaller density of residential properties fronting these roads than other roads within Sherbourne and are more open in environment with all properties set back from the highway.

To achieve a self-enforcing 30mph speed limit, vertical or horizontal traffic calming measures with improved lighting would have to be introduced on Watery Lane and Old Stratford Road. These types of measures are normally used in urban areas not in rural villages and the cost would be prohibitive.

Background Information

Proposals for changes to the current speed limits and the existing prohibition of commercial vehicles of over 7.5 Tonnes in various roads in Sherbourne were advertised in the Warwick Courier on 24 January 2013.

No objections were received to the proposed changes to weight limits, and therefore it is proposed to implement these as advertised.

Objections were received to the proposed changes to speed limits. This report considers the objections and comments that were received and recommends how they should be dealt with.

Sherbourne Village is located just south of the M40 Junction 15 between the A429 Stow Road and the A46 Stratford Road. On completion of changes to the M40 Junction 15 in 2009, Sherbourne Village retained the existing National Speed Limit throughout the village.

Through discussions with residents and the support of Sherbourne Parish Council, a scheme was put forward to introduce a 30mph speed limit throughout the main roads in the village (Church Road, part of Fulbrook Lane, Moat Green and Vicarage Lane), with a 40mph limit on Watery Lane and a section of Old Stratford Road.

Following the results of traffic speed surveys on all the major roads in Sherbourne, Warwickshire Police has indicated their support for the speed limits as advertised.

The comments, suggestions and objections that have been received are outlined above, together with the reasons for the proposals.

The statutory criteria for decisions on making Traffic Regulation Orders/Parking Orders are included as Appendix A to the report.

Financial Implications

None listed.

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Strategic Director	Monica Fogarty
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Peter Butlin

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt? (State the category of exempt information)	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered - please attach a copy of the report

Decision report with one appendix.

List of Background Papers - please include a contact for access to background papers

Various letters and emails.

Members and officers consulted or informed – please include any comments

Portfolio Holder – Cllr Peter Butlin
 All Strategic Directors
 Head of Service – Graeme Fitton
 Legal – Ian Marriott, Serena Cammish, Peter Oliver, John Gregory, Peter Endall
 Finance – Liz Firmstone
 Equality – Minakshee Patel
 Democratic Services – Georgina Atkinson