

**Proposed Decision to be taken by the
Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning
on or after 25th July 2014**

**The Warwickshire County Council Highways Act 1980, Section 90a
Blackhorse Road, Bedworth-Proposed Speed Cushions**

Recommendation

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves that the Warwickshire County Council, Highways Act 1980, Section 90A, Blackhorse Road-Proposed Speed Cushions is implemented as advertised.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Blackhorse Road between Ironbridge Way/Blackhorse Road Roundabout Southern End to the junction of Blackhorse Road/Ironbridge Way Western End is a residential road governed by a 30mph speed limit. Complaints have been received by the Local County Councillor and the Hawksbury Village Residents Association relating to the speed that vehicles travel along Blackhorse Road.
- 1.2 An initial consultation for the introduction of speed cushions on Blackhorse Road was undertaken in October 2013 with residents by the Local County Councillor, Cllr Julie Jackson, and the Hawksbury Village Residents Association. The majority of residents, who were either spoken to at the door or emailed, were in favour of the proposed speed cushions. During the Statutory Consultation in April 2014, over 150 letters were hand delivered to properties on Blackhorse Road. Objections were received from four residents, with two letters of support received, as detailed below.
- 1.3 Proposals for changes to introduce Speed Cushions on Blackhorse Road were advertised in the Nuneaton Tribune on 24th April 2014.

2.0 Objections

- 2.1 Proposed Speed Cushions ,Blackhorse Road, Bedworth Highways Act 1980, Section 90A.
- 2.2 The following objections have been received:

Objection [1]: *I have never been consulted on this proposal at any time; I feel it is the wrong sort of traffic calming for a lovely road as this. Because like the neighbouring road which has speed humps traffic rarely slows down, vans and lorries bounce over the humps making a loud noise as their cargo bump up and down. Also buses use Blackhorse Road so I am concerned about the noise, because the cushions will be situated outside my bedroom window. I feel a censor type sign would be a better deterrent.*

Response: Speed Cushions were chosen for Blackhorse Road rather than full width humps or a speed sensor device as they will deter the majority of vehicles who speed along Blackhorse Road. Larger vehicles and buses will be able to negotiate the speed cushions which will reduce the noise and vibration to surrounding properties.

Objection [2]: *I object on the grounds of extra noise from the HGV Lorries bouncing about when driving over the cushions, also the extra pressure on the road surface when the brakes of the many HGV's are applied as my property is directly next door to the factory entrance, so I will suffer the most disruption noise wise. A more effective solution, in our opinion, would be the use of illuminated signs showing a vehicle speed, with a "SLOW DOWN" message if it is exceeding the speed limit. This could be backed up with random, mobile speed camera checks.*

As for the formal consultation no one has contacted me or my neighbour. I would also like to point out why non-residents of Blackhorse Road have proposed this when it will not have any effect on them or their properties.

Response: The design of the speed cushions will cause minimum noise disturbance to surrounding properties. Heavy Goods Vehicles will be able to straddle the speed cushions when negotiating them in Blackhorse Road. The resident lives next to the Factory entrance, so he will already be experiencing noise from vehicles braking to gain entrance to the factory. The introduction of vehicle activated signs would have minimal effect on those drivers who are travelling in excess of the speed limit on Blackhorse Road; vertical deflection is the most appropriate measure to discourage these types of drivers.

The formal consultation process included notices positioned on street furniture at each of the locations that a speed cushion is proposed. We also hand delivered a letter to all the properties in Blackhorse Road setting out our proposals. The proposed Speed Cushions are supported by residents who live off Blackhorse Road who use this road to gain access to their properties. The Hawksbury Village Residents Association who represent Residents in this area are in full support of these proposals.

Objection [3]: *Increased possibility of accidents involving stationery vehicles when railway barriers are down. Increased possibility of accidents involving parked vehicles. It is a commonly accepted issue with speed cushions that they are unsuitable for areas frequently used by HGV's. The weight of these vehicles cause potholes before and after the speed cushions and cause increased road noise. Damage to residents vehicles due to the speed cushions being difficult to navigate, even at low speeds. Discomfort for drivers*

as I suffer from back pain and avoid roads with existing cushions. The addition of speed cushions, combined with stationery traffic and parked vehicles, would increase the potential for accidents caused by learner drivers.

Response: The positioning of the speed cushions on Blackhorse Road are within the current Department for Transport Design Guidelines for spacing and vertical profile. There should be no difficulty in passing stationery vehicles if drivers drive correctly, the positioning of the speed cushions should not lead to a potential increase in accidents. Department for Transport Guidelines recommend the use of speed cushions in roads that are used as a Bus Route. Speed Cushions do not adversely affect Emergency vehicles. We have had no objection to the proposed measures from the Industrial premises on Blackhorse Road or surrounding Businesses. The design/construction of the speed cushions will not affect the surrounding road surface. We do not expect that Heavy Goods vehicles will cause damage before or after the speed cushions.

3.0 Letters of support [2]

- 1) I would like to say that my husband and I totally agree to the "SPEED CUSHIONS" which you are proposing to install on Blackhorse Road.
- 2) Myself and my 93 year old mother, welcome ANY measures that would improve both road safety and noise levels from speeding vehicles.

4.0 Recommendation

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves the introduction of speed cushions on Blackhorse Road, Bedworth. These recommendations can be implemented from within 2014/15 budget provisions.

5.0 Associated Timescales

- 5.1 The aim will be for the Speed Cushions on Blackhorse Road to be completed within this financial year 2014/15.

6.0 Background Papers

- 6.1 Four letters of objection and two letters in support.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Graham Stanley	grahamstanley@warwickshire.gov.uk
Head of Service	Graeme Fitton	graemefitton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Monica Fogarty	monicafogarty@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Councillor P Butlin	cllrbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk



All proposed speed humps are 3m long, 1.6m wide & 75mm high



H:\Traffic\A_CHIPs 2013_14\Nuneaton & Bedworth\N&B01 BLACKHORSE ROAD,BEDWORTH\Bedworth - Black Horse Road 2.dwg

Warwickshire County Council
 COMMUNITIES
 PO Box 43, Shire Hall
 Warwick, CV34 4SX
 Tel: (01926) 410410
 Fax: (01926) 491665
www.warwickshire.gov.uk
<mailto:communities@warwickshire.gov.uk>

Monica Fogarty
 Strategic Director for Communities
 Graeme Fitton BSc, MSc, C.Eng, MICE.
 Head of Transport for Warwickshire

NOTES

Denotes location & direction of photograph

Based on Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of HMSO
 © Crown Copyright and database right 2011. Ordnance Survey 100019520.
 All rights reserved.
 Unauthorised reproduction infringes copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
 Warwickshire County Council.

REV	DATE	BY	CHK	AMENDMENT
-	-/-/-	-	-	-
-	-/-/-	-	-	-
-	-/-/-	-	-	-
-	-/-/-	-	-	-
-	-/-/-	-	-	-

Drawing title	Drawn by	Checked by
Proposed Traffic Calming Black Horse Road Bedworth	PM	GVS
	Date	20 June 2013
	Scale	1:1250 @ A3_L
Project title	Drawing number	
N&B01 Black Horse Road	TR-8927/001	