

**HITCHIN COMMITTEE
8 SEPTEMBER 2015**

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

AGENDA ITEM No.

12

INFORMATION NOTE: 20MPH LIMITS

INFORMATION NOTE OF THE HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING CONTROL

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 To update Members on the latest development on 20mph speed limits in Hitchin.

2. STEPS TO DATE

- 2.1 This Information note is at the request of the Chair of Hitchin Committee.
- 2.2 County Councillors Judi Billing and Derrick Ashley have been advised of the wishes of the Hitchin Committee to proceed with the application for a 20 mph in 'Hitchin North' ward, Hitchin.
- 2.3 Following receipt of the Hitchin Area Committee's request in 2014, the list of roads being promoted by County Councillor Judi Billing for inclusion within the proposed 20mph Zone(s) was reviewed.
- 2.4 The roads as listed below have been included in an assessment by HCC. Consideration was given to a 20mph zone for the following roads;

- 1 Bearton Road
- 2 Lancaster Avenue
- 3 Lancaster Road
- 4 Balmoral Road
- 5 Brampton Park Road
- 6 York Road
- 7 Bunyan Road
- 8 Dukes Lane
- 9 Ickleford Road
- 10 Periwinkle Lane
- 11 Water Lane
- 12 Stormont Road
- 13 Old Hale Way
- 14 Strathmore Avenue
- 15 Heathfield Road
- 16 Baliol Road
- 17 Whitehurst Avenue
- 18 Wilton Road
- 19 Bearton Green
- 20 Bearton Avenue

- 2.5 Consideration was given to a 20mph zone which includes the following roads; Florence Street, Alexandra Road and Kings Road.
- 2.6 Consideration was given to introducing a 20mph limit in Radcliffe Road
- 2.7 Consideration was given to introducing a 20mph limit in Dacre Road
- 2.8 HCC has undertaken an assessment to look at which roads would require traffic calming (or just speed limit signs). The assessment of whether a site is suitable for 20mph limits (single or zone) is based on speed limit criteria contained within the County Council's Speed Management Strategy. If a site qualifies under speed and environment criteria then it is considered suitable for a 20mph limit or zone. If members wish to see the full assessment, a copy of the 20mph study can be requested from County Councillor Judi Billing or Lance Holman Lance.Holman@hertfordshire.gov.uk.
- 2.9 County Councillor Billing is funding the assessment of these roads through her Highways Locality Budget (HLB). Surveys of existing traffic speeds have now taken place and the assessment will be concluded and proposals finalised in the current financial year 2015/16.

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 As mentioned above in this information note many roads were looked at for inclusion in a 20mph zone. The finding from the 20mph speed limit study recommends to introduce 20mph limits / zones as follows;
- 3.2 Introduction of a 20mph zone which includes the following roads: Bearton Road, Lancaster Avenue, Lancaster Road, Balmoral Road, Brampton Park Road, York Road, Bunyan Road, Dukes Lanes, Ickleford Road, Periwinkle Lane, Water Lane, Stormont Road, Old Hale Way, Strathmore Avenue, Heathfield Road, Baliol Road, Whitehurst Avenue, Wilton Road, Bearton Avenue, Bessemer Close, Willow Tree Way and The Meads. It is also recommended that physical measures be introduced along Old Hale Way and Strathmore Avenue.
- 3.3 The study recommends introducing a 20mph zone which includes Florence Street, Alexandra road and Kings road.
- 3.4 The study recommends introducing a 20mph speed limit in Dacre Road and Radcliffe Road
- 3.5 To introduce 20mph limits (straight or zone) require: Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) in order that the 20mph limits are legally enforceable. This will involve public consultation and Police support. Hertfordshire County Council will be undertaking an informal public consultation in September 2015 with the results of the consultation being used to determine whether there will be a formal consultation on the Draft Traffic Regulation Order. It is intended to have the speed limits / zone enforceable by the end of this financial year 2015/16.

4. APPENDICES

4.1 None

5. CONTACT OFFICERS

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7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None