

Highways Committee

12 February 2010



**C45 Bolam : Proposed 30mph Speed Limit
Traffic Regulation Order**

**Report of Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and
Economic Development**

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of an objection to the proposed speed limit on the C45, Bolam.
- 1.2 This report requests that Members endorse the proposal for the setting aside of the objection and allow the scheme to be introduced.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 To make a Traffic Regulation Order to provide a 30mph restriction on the C45 through Bolam village.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 Bolam Residents Association and Bolam Parish Council have contacted the County Council on a number of occasions to request that a 30mph speed limit be installed on the C45 through the village.
- 3.1 A new guidance document by the Department of Transport (DfT) known as Circular 1/06 'Setting Credible Speed Limits' was released in 2006.
- 3.2 The County Council has incorporated this DfT document into 'The County Durham and Darlington Speed Management Strategy 2006 -2011' ensuring good practice is maintained countywide.
- 3.3 Bolam is a rural village consisting of approximately 40 homes. The C45 is the main carriageway providing vehicular access to the village. Street lighting is present, and the village is bound by sharp bends at either end.

4.0 Statutory Consultation

- 4.1 The Traffic Regulation Order was drafted and advertised as per the requirements of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 with the objection period ending 11th December 2009.
- 4.2 The extent of the proposed speed limit was agreed with Durham Constabulary and identified so that it complied with the Durham and Darlington Speed Management Strategy 2006-2011.
- 4.3 The consultation exercise with the Statutory Authorities and other interested parties resulted in one objection being forthcoming from a resident of Bolam.

5.0 Objection

- 5.1 A resident of Bolam has objected to the positioning of the signs to the east of the village. They would prefer the signs to be located further out of the village, to the east of the relatively sharp left hand bend on Brownside Lane. The resident lives in a property called `Summersdale` which is located on the western side of the road near the boundary of the proposed speed restriction.
- 5.2 The objector feels that the inclusion of the bend within the proposed 30mph zone would reduce vehicular speeds before they entered the village.
- 5.3 The objector goes on to say that they are conscious of vehicles speeding around this bend and then braking suddenly to enter the car park of The Countryman Public House. They note that this has led to a number of near misses at this location. The objector also notes that during their 11 years of living at this address they have been witness to a number of vehicles leaving the road on the bend into the village.

6.0 Response

- 6.1 *The location of the proposed speed limit was agreed with Durham Constabulary in conjunction with the guidance given in DfT Circular 01/06 and 02/06. These circulars were introduced so that a uniform approach could be taken nationally on the setting of credible speed limits.*
- 6.2 *Consideration was made when determining the extent of the speed limit that the terminal signs were located so that they best met with the DfT advice. The signs were thus located at the start of the village frontage development. It was felt that locating the signage to the east of the bend where there are no buildings would send a confusing message to any motorists. As part of the physical works for the scheme we intend to lay 'Slow' markings on the approach to the bend to highlight the potential hazard to the motorist.*

6.3 *The accident database has been checked and there have been no recorded accidents at this location since 2001.*

7.0 Local Member Consultation

7.1 The Local Members, Councillors Richardson and Rowlandson, were both consulted and offered no objection to the proposal.

8.0 Recommendations and Reasons

8.1 It is recommended that the Committee endorse the proposal to set aside the objection and proceed with the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Order.

Background Papers

Southern Area office file

Copies of correspondence have been placed in the Members' Resource Centre.

Contact: Lee Mowbray

Telephone: (01388) 602028

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

Funding will be provided from Local Members' Highway allowance.

Staffing

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Sustainability

None

Human Rights

None

Localities and Rurality

As described in the report

Young People

None

Consultation

Completed in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Health

None



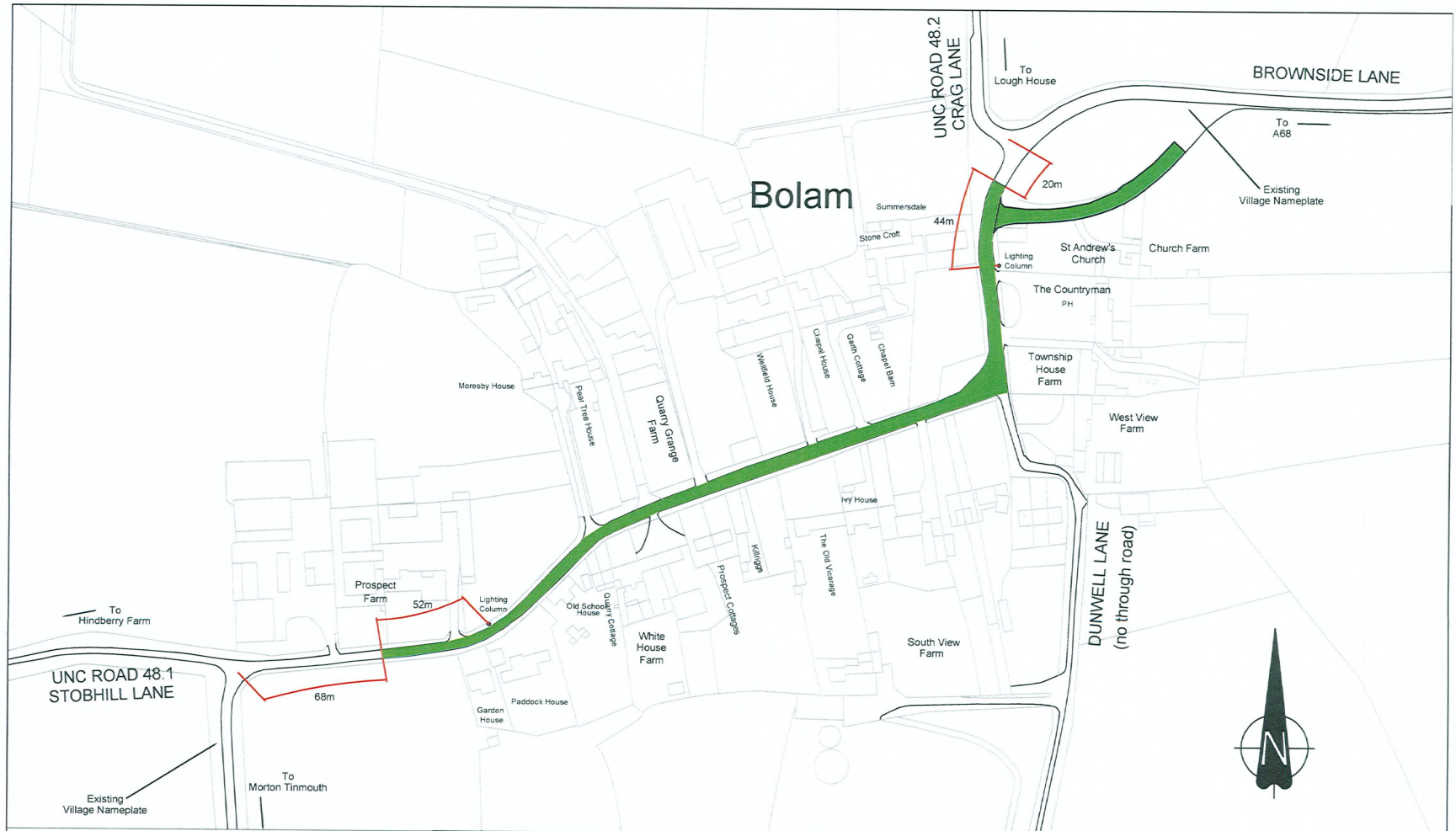
C45 entering Bolam (westbound).

Objector would like 30mph speed limit signage to be adjacent to village nameplate sign.



C45 entering Bolam (westbound).

Proposed location of 30mph speed limit signage is approximately adjacent to the hazard marker post shown in this picture.



KEY



- Extent of 30mph Zone



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HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

JOHN RICHARDSON
CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT
COUNTY HALL
DURHAM DH1 5UG

Project

C45 Bolam Speed Limit

Drawing

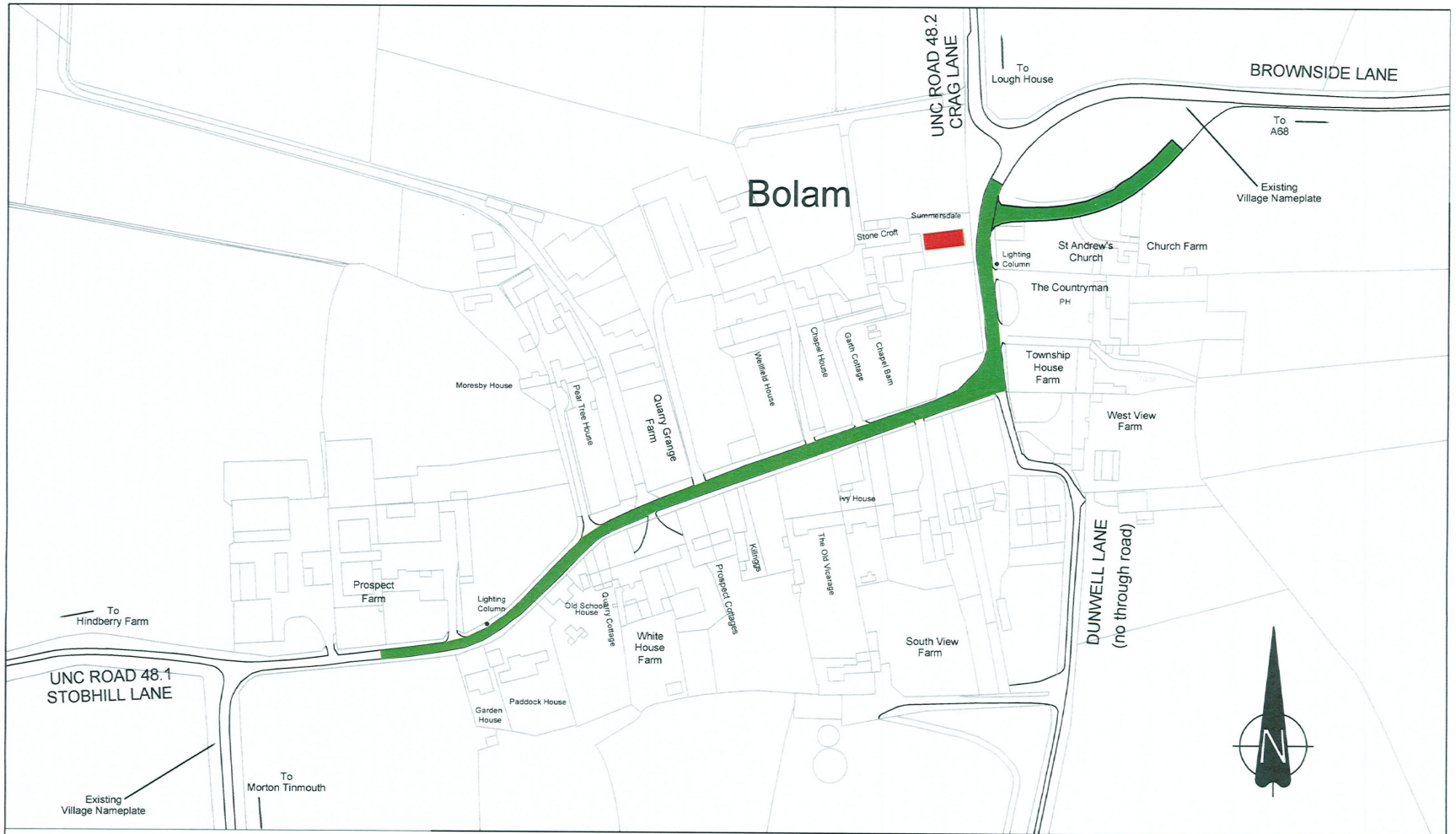
30mph Speed Limit

Scales

1:2500

Project/Drawing No.

LTM/BoI30/01



KEY

- Proposed Extent of 30mph Zone
- Objector


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HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT SERVICES
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Project C45 Bolam Speed Limit	
Drawing Objection to Proposal	
Scale 1:2500	Project/Drawing No. LTM/Bol30/02