

## Highways Committee

12 June 2009

### Proposed Traffic Calming Scheme Unc. Kingston Avenue, Bearpark



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### Report of Terry Collins, Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services

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#### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of representations received with regard to a traffic calming scheme on Unclassified Kingston Avenue, Bearpark.
- 1.2 This report requests that Members consider the representations received in relation to the proposals and endorse the recommendations.

#### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Public concern regarding speeding on Kingston Avenue was highlighted by the Local Member. As a result, Councillors Mark Wilkes and Rev Crooks requested that a traffic calming scheme be proposed and to proceed with the usual consultation exercise for schemes of this nature.
- 2.2 A draft scheme comprising of 2 No. speed tables was prepared.
- 2.3 A total of 127 properties received a letter, a plan of the scheme and a pre-paid reply card and residents were invited to respond with their comments.
- 2.4 A total of 3 cards were returned, one respondent chose to reply via email. Of these, 3 indicated support for the scheme and 1 raised at least one representation.
- 2.5 The formal advertisement of the proposal, in the press and on-site, started on 2 April 2009 and ended on 23 April 2009. During this period, no formal objections were received.
- 2.6 Residencies from which representations were received are shown on attached drawing no. N83511/02.
- 2.7 A speed survey carried out on Kingston Avenue showed that 0% of vehicles exceeded the 30mph speed limit. 66% of vehicles were recorded travelling up to 15mph, 31% travelled at 16 to 20mph and 2% between 21 and 25mph. However these results relate to the main Kingston Avenue road and not the side road leading from the main road where speeds are reported to be higher.

- 2.8 The Police are in support of the scheme.
- 2.9 The Local Members, Councillors Mark Wilkes and Rev Crooks, support this scheme.

### **3.0 Current Position**

- 3.1 Each topic of objection is reported together with the County Council's response.

#### 3.2 Representation 1

"In the past 30 years I have lived there no accidents have ever happened."

*Response: In the last 10 years there has been one recorded injury accident on Cook Avenue and 5 accidents on the C17 at the junctions with Cook Avenue and Kingston Avenue. There have been no accidents on Ritson Avenue or Kingston Avenue in the last 10 years.*

#### 3.3 Representation 2

"Every responsible driver treats this as an unmarked crossroads and slows to a halt."

*Response: The speed survey results justify this comment. The omission of give way markings at junctions in residential areas encourage vehicles to approach with caution. The provision of the tables will raise the profile of the junctions and assist in maintaining lower vehicle speeds.*

#### 3.3 Representation 3

"During winter months this is an untreated junction and having the added hazard of a hump the cars travelling on the up slope will have great difficulty not to slide or skid while negotiating this."

*Response: Estate roads, which are not bus routes, are not currently included in our salting routes. At present we salt 42% of our network which is in excess of the 30%, recommended by the Audit Commission. The expected cost of this years winter service is about £2.4m. Similar schemes have been installed without any substantiated complaints regarding the worsening of winter conditions.*

### **4.0 Recommendations and Reasons**

- 4.1 Members are recommended to endorse the proposal to set aside the representations and proceed with the scheme.

## **Background Papers**

Correspondence on Office File

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

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**Contact: David Battensby Tel: 0191 332 4404**

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**Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance**

Funding will be provided by Local Member from the Local Area Measures Allowance.

**Staffing**

None

**Equality and Diversity**

None

**Accommodation**

None

**Crime and Disorder**

The measures will reduce the chance of issues arising from inappropriate driving along Kingston Avenue.

**Sustainability**

None

**Human Rights**

None

**Localities and Rurality**

As detailed in the report.

**Young People**

Possible safer highway environment due to a further reduction in traffic speeds.

**Consultation**

Consultation was carried out with residents on 6 January 2009.

**Health**

None