

Update from Highways, Transport and Road Safety Working Group

1. Background

The purpose of this paper is to provide background and context to a series of items on the Agenda for the Parish Council Meeting of 10th February 2025.

2. A4 Studley Crossroads Speed Limit Reduction – approval of increase to Parish Contribution

The speed limits on the A4 were reduced on 14th October 2024 to 40mph through Studley Crossroads and to 50mph eastwards as far as the junction with Norley Lane.

The Council's contribution towards this was authorised at £3,750 (30% of £12,500) in September 2024 (minute 451.3/24 A4). Final costs have been confirmed at £12,737.70, requiring an increase in authorisation from £3,750 to £3,821.31.

3. A4 Studley Crossroads – request for Speed Survey

Following the implementation of the speed limit reduction through Studley Crossroads, reports have been received of continuing issues with speeding.

The Council is therefore asked to request that Wiltshire Council conduct a speed survey on the 40mph section to provide quantitative evidence, which could then be used to support the deployment of a Speed Indicator Device, the establishment of a Community Speedwatch Scheme or a request for Speed Enforcement.

4. Studley 20mph Speed Limit Consultation

In response to a request from Calne Without Parish Council, Wiltshire Council has developed a scheme for a 20mph speed limit to be implemented in Studley, including Norley Lane. This scheme was considered and supported by the Council in October 2024 (minute 468.3/24).

The proposed Road Traffic Regulation Order was advertised on 23rd January, with a public consultation running through to 17th February 2024. The consultation documents, including the draft Order and Indicative Plans can be viewed at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/11528/TRO-Consultation-for-Various-Roads-Studley-Calne-Without-20mph-Speed-Limit>.

The Council is asked to reconfirm its support for the scheme, given the residential nature of settlement, lack of footways or streetlighting, reports of accidents and near-misses involving pedestrians and representation received from residents. The Council is also asked to formally express its support in the consultation.

5. Calstone A4 Junction

This issue relates to visibility for residents turning onto the A4 from Calstone. It was considered by Council in September (minute 451.4/24) and the Highway Improvement Request form endorsed and submitted to LHFIG. The background paper can be found here: <https://calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Calstone-A4-Junction-Highway-Improvement-Request-Form-draft.pdf>.

Cllrs Price, Rees and Barnes attended a site visit with Wiltshire Council on 17th January. The proposal to revise the lane markings right-hand-turn filter road markings on the A4, to bring the give-way lines further out, was agreed at LHFIG on 31st January, to be undertaken in conjunction with the next surface maintenance works at no cost to LHFIG or the Council.

The part of the A4 is currently at the national speed limit, but is bracketed by 40mph speed limits through Cherhill and Quemerford. The Council's request for a Speed Limit Review on this section of the A4 was approved by LHFIG on 31st January and the Council is requested to authorise its contribution of £930 (representing 30% of £3,100).

6. Stockley (and Heddington) Speed Limit Review

In February 2024, the Council authorised its contribution of £870 (representing 30% of £2,900) for a Speed Limit Review of the roads around Stockley, Broads Green and to the west of Heddington (minute 331.3/24). An interim desk top study was reviewed by Council in November and noted: <https://calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Stockley-and-Heddington-Briefing-Note.pdf>.

The Council's contribution needs to be updated to from £870 to £930 (representing 30% of the now expected cost of £3,100).

7. Blackland Crossroads to Stockley Lane

A Highway Improvement Request form was received in 2023 raising concerns about speeding traffic on the minor road between Blackland Crossroads and Stockley Lane. This was further considered by Council in June 2024 (minute 404/24) and a request submitted to LHFIG to review and consider measures. The background paper can be found here: <https://calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Blackland-Highway-Improvement-Request-Form-1.pdf>.

Cllrs Price, Rees and Barnes attended a site visit with Wiltshire Council on 17th January, together with a local resident. Appropriate measures have been identified, comprising a pair of horse & rider warning signs, SLOW markings and a pair of new village nameplates. The ball park estimate to undertake these works is £2,000.

This scheme was reviewed at LHFIG on 31st January, but a decision deferred as LHFIG's budget for 2024/25 is now fully committed. This scheme will therefore need to be implemented by the Successor Council.

8. A4 Chilvester Hill

The Council received three Highway Improvement Request Forms in August and September 2024, raising concerns about road safety hazards arising from the access to the new Alexandra Gate housing development, currently under construction on the approach to Calne.

This was considered by Council in October 2024 (minute 468.1/24) and a request submitted to LHFIG to review and consider measures to mitigate the risk. The background paper can be found here: <https://calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Chilvester-Hill-Highway-Improvement-Request-Forms-14Oct24.pdf>.

Highways have considered the Council’s proposals and have provided ball park estimates of £8,000 to implement a right-turn prohibition (including legal fees) and £2,900 for a pair of white gates to reinforce the start of the 40mph speed limit.

This scheme was reviewed at LHFIG on 31st January, but a decision deferred as LHFIG’s budget for 2024/25 is now fully committed. This scheme will therefore need to be implemented by the Successor Council.

9. Old Derry Hill Request for White Gates

In November, the Council received a Highway Improvement Request Form requesting the provision of white gates on either side of the settlement, with the aim of slowing traffic, but also providing recognition to the settlement’s name.

This was considered by Council in December 2024 (minute 503.3/24) and a request submitted to LHFIG for white gates and “Old Derry Hill” settlement signage on the A342 Old Derry Hill, and for white gates to be installed on the A4 London Road to reinforce the existing “Pewsham” settlement gateways and 40mph terminal points. The background paper can be found here: <https://calnewwithout-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Old-Derry-Hill-Highway-Improvement-Form-09Dec24.pdf>.

This scheme was reviewed at LHFIG on 31st January, but a decision deferred as LHFIG’s budget for 2024/25 is now fully committed. This scheme will therefore need to be implemented by the Successor Council.

10. Outstanding Schemes

The following Highways and Road Safety Schemes are outstanding and will need to be completed by the future Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council or one of the successor councils as noted below:

Scheme	Status	Current Authorisation	Successor Council
A4 Junction with Calstone Road	Awaiting Speed limit review	Currently £0; recommend £930, representing 30% of fee of £3,100)	Cherhill PC
Blackland Crossroads to Stockley Lane	Scope determined with ball-park estimate of £2,000	Currently £0; LHFIG decision deferred to next financial year.	Cherhill PC
Blackland Crossroads	Under review; scope to be determined	Currently £0	Cherhill PC
Stockley, Broads Green & Heddington Speed Limits	Awaiting Speed limit review	£870 (recommended to be increased to £930, representing 30% of fee of £3,100)	Heddington PC
A4 Chilvester Hill traffic issues	Scope determined with ball-park estimate £10,900	Currently £0; LHFIG decision deferred to next financial year.	Calne TC & Bremhill PC

Scheme	Status	Current Authorisation	Successor Council
A4 Chilvester Hill bus stops	Scope determined with estimated cost of £11,000	Currently £0; LHFIG decision deferred to next financial year.	Calne TC & Bremhill PC
A4 Studley Crossroads Speed Limit	Complete; awaiting invoicing	£3,750 (recommended to be increased to £3,821.31, representing 30% of final cost of £12,737.70.)	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Sandy Lane village gates and warning signs	Complete; awaiting invoicing	£1,350 @ 30% of ball park estimate of £4,500.	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Old Derry Hill Barrier extension	Complete; awaiting invoicing	£4,821.34 (representing the estimate cost of the extension part)	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Sockets & posts for SID deployment	Order placed; awaiting installation	£540 @ 30% of £1,800 ball park estimate	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Deer Warning Signs	Order placed; awaiting installation	£840 @ 30% of £2,800 ball park estimate	Derry Hill & Studley PC
A342 south of Sandy Lane speed limit reduction	TRO consultation completed	£500 contribution to scheme being undertaken by Devizes LHFIG	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Studley Village 20mph zone	Out for public consultation	£2,700 @ 30% of £9,000 ball park estimate	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Derry Hill & Studley shared use path	Designed; awaiting assessment of bid for substantive scheme funding	£16,488 out of estimated cost of £71,625.45.	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Derry Hill Church Road & Studley Lane traffic calming	Designed; awaiting assessment of bid for substantive scheme funding	£25,679 out of estimated cost of £61,357.94	Derry Hill & Studley PC
Old Derry Hill White Gates	Scope determined with ball-park estimate £7,000	Currently £0	Derry Hill & Studley PC

11. Recommendation

That the report is noted.

Cllrs John Barnes
Highways, Transport & Road Safety Working Group