

Northumberland County Council

# RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

#### **Paul Jones**

# Proposal to introduce 30 mph speed limits B6342 Colwell, Hexham

### 9th May 2018

### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the introduction of a 30mph speed limit on the B6342, north and south of Colwell village, from its junction of B6342 / C221 Colwell, Hexham.

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that the following are introduced:

 The introduction of a 30 mph speed limit on the B6342, extending from its junction with the C221, north and south by approximately 150 metres, at Colwell, Hexham.

### **Key Issues**

- This area has been the subject of traffic safety concerns over the years, concerns have been raised by residents and the Parish Council via Councillor Gibson.
- 2. A derestricted speed limit is currently in place on the B6342.
- 3. Traffic is travelling at speed on the B6342 on the approach to the 30mph speed limit on the C221 at Colwell, this being the case, it is reported that vehicles fail to negotiate this junction safely, and continue to drive at excessive speeds through the village.
- 4. Vehicles exiting the C221 onto the B6342 are finding it difficult given the speed of southbound vehicles and blind summit to the north of the junction.
- 5. The Scheme is being funded by Councillor Gibson and is supported by the Parish Council.

### **Background**

- 1. Safety concerns have been identified to Councillor Gibson by residents on a number of occasions with regard to traffic safety in the area.
- 2. A derestricted speed limit is currently in place on the B6342 meaning that traffic is travelling at speed on the approach to the 30mph speed limit on the C221 at Colwell, this being the case, it is reported that vehicles fail to negotiate this junction safely, and continue to drive at excessive speeds through the village.
- 3. A safety audit was conducted by Northumberland County Council in December 2016, the report identified three options for consideration which would assist in alleviating the concerns.
- 4. After reviewing the report, Councillor Gibson has agreed to fund the introduction of an extended 30mph speed limit, together with the improvement of road markings in the area. The new 30mph signs will be incorporated into new village nameplate signs which will assist in reinforcing the fact that drivers are entering a village environment where they are more likely to come across vulnerable road users.
- 5. A speed survey (TS/16/94) which was commissioned in support of the safety audit was conducted between 14th March and 21st March 2018. The survey showed that on average motorists, were adhering to the 60mph limit passing Colwell road junction. An extract of the results is attached as Appendix D.

#### Consultation

- 1. A formal consultation did not take place as the speed limit is being reduced in order to improve road safety in the area.
- 2. Support for the proposal is provided by both Councillor Gibson and Chollerton Parish Council. (See Appendix B).
- 3. Residents and Statutory consultees have been notified by letter (See Appendix C).
- 4. Advertising of the scheme will be carried out via the legal process for the introduction of a new Traffic Regulation Order.

#### Recommendations

- 1. It is recommended to introduce the 30mph speed limit and associated road markings, signage and traffic regulation order, together with new village signage for Colwell as detailed in Appendix A.
- 2. The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any traffic regulation order. Such an inquiry might enable disputed evidence to be tested under cross-examination and the need for an order to be critically examined by an independent inspector. In this particular case,

officers believe that the involvement of interested parties, means that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.

### File References

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## **Appendix Index**

Appendix A - Scheme Plan

Appendix B - Supporting correspondence

Appendix C - Notification letter

Appendix D - Speed survey results

# Implications Arising out of the Report

None
Funded through the Member's Local Improvement Programme allocation for Councillor Rupert Gibson
Preparation of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)
None
None
None
Introduction of the 30mph speed limit and associated signage
Traffic safety concerns i.e. Speeding traffic
Scheme is anticipated to improve road safety for residents in the area
Humshaugh

# **Background papers:**

None

## Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

	initials
Finance Officer	
Monitoring Officer/Legal	
Human Resources	
Procurement	
I.T.	
Director	
Portfolio Holder(s)	

## **Author and Contact Details**

Report Author

Andy Walker - Technical Assistant (Member Schemes)

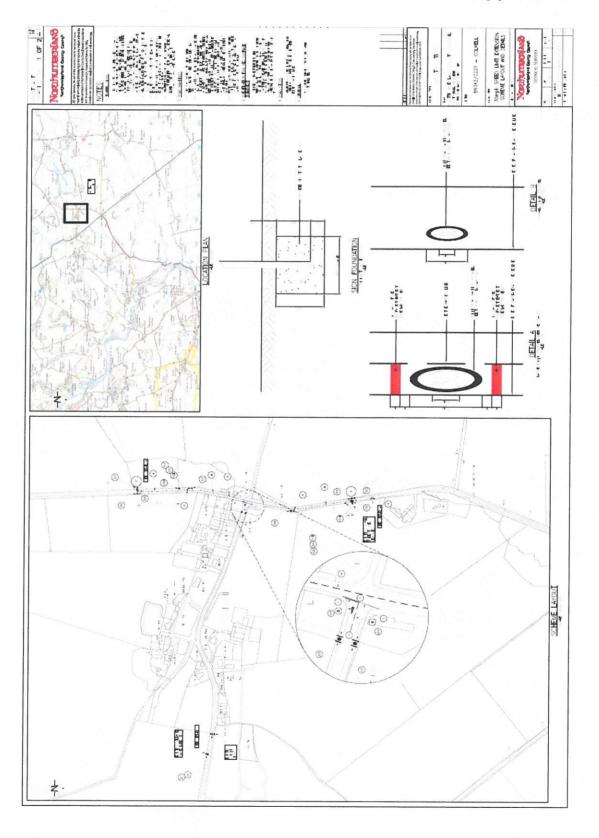
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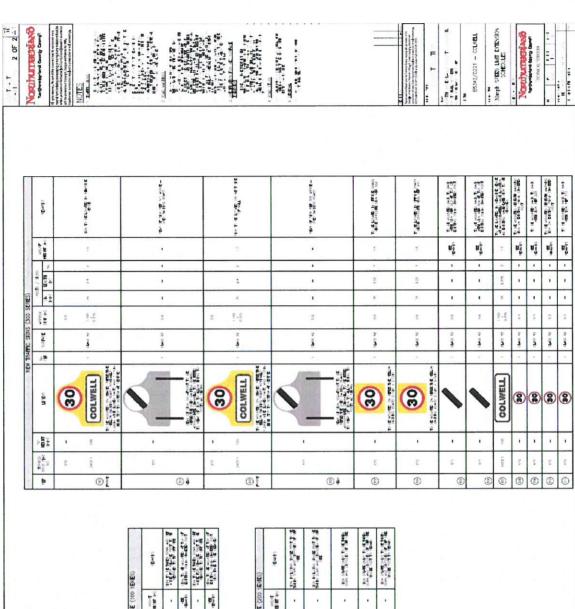
Andy.Walker@northumberland.gov.uk

# **DECISION TAKEN**

Title of Officer(s) and Portfolio Holder	Service Director - Local Services
Subject:	Proposed Introduction of the 30 mph speed limit restriction B6342 Colwell, Hexham
Consultation	Not required – proposal supported by Local County Councillor and Parish Council
Decision Taken:	Introduce speed restrictions as proposed.
Signature of Director	MM
Date	30/5/18
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# Appendix A





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## Appendix B

1/16/2018

Northumberland County Council Mail - COLWELL TRAFFIC CALMING



Andy Walker <andy.walker@northumberland.gov.uk>

### **COLWELL TRAFFIC CALMING**

1 message

Rupert Gibson <a href="mailto:rupert.gibson@northumberland.gov.uk">rupert.gibson@northumberland.gov.uk</a> To: Andy Walker <a href="mailto:andy.walker@northumberland.gov.uk">andy.walker@northumberland.gov.uk</a>

16 January 2018 at 11:50

This project has been talked about for quite some time at Parish Council (Chollerton) level. The Parish Council likes the project as it is designed and requires no changes.

It is therefore reasonable to say that the village is enthusiastic about the project and wish it to be implemented as soon as possible, as they are aware that the current situation is dangerous.

Many thanks,

Rupert Gibson

Humshaugh Ward County Councillor

# Northumberland

### Northumberland County Council

County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EF Web: <u>www.northumberland.qov.uk</u>

Our Ref: HO176267

Your Ref:

Contact: Andy Walker Direct Line: 01670 620420

E-mail: Andy.Walker@northumberland.gov.uk

16th January 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

#### Proposed Extension of 30mph speed limit, Colwell Junction

Residents raised safety concerns with County Councillor Gibson, regarding the road junction at Colwell. Following a safety review and discussions with the Parish Council, Councillor Gibson has agreed to fund a number of traffic calming measures.

It is proposed to extend the 30mph limit on the B6342 north and south of the junction, with new road markings and signs throughout the village in order to resolve these concerns.

I am therefore writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 (as amended) to formally advise you on the proposed extension of the 30 mph speed limit, additional signage and road markings at the junction of the B6342 and C221 Colwell, Northumberland, as shown on the attached plans.

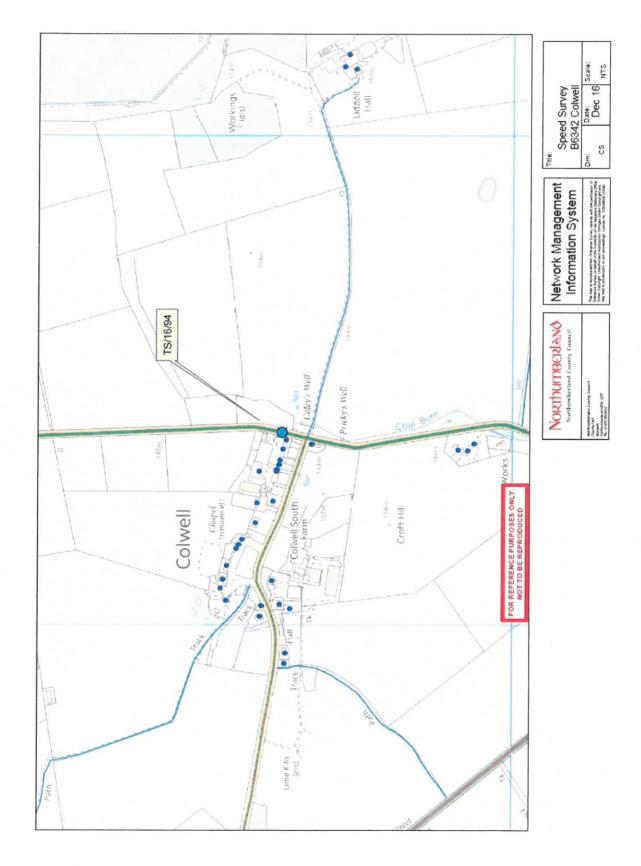
Yours faithfully

Andy Walker

Technical Assistant (Members Small Schemes)

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# Appendix D



Speed Summary (M	B6342 Colwell Speed Summary (Mon to Fri)-Limit 30 Mph	From 1	From 14/03/2018 To 21/03/2018	33/2018	Channel:	Channel: Northbound										
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