



Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT, STOBWOOD

Cabinet Member: Councillor Glen Sanderson

Purpose of Report

To consider a proposal to provide a 20mph speed limit in Stobswood, near Widdrington Station.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed 20mph speed limit be implemented.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"
Enjoying - "We want you to love where you live"

Key Issues

1. Residents have raised concerns via the local ward member regarding the speed of traffic through Stobswood.

Delegated decisions

Background

- 1) The County Council has received concerns from residents of Stobswood via the local ward member over the speed of traffic in the village.
- 2) As a result of the residents' concerns, the local ward member submitted the issue as a priority for the 2018-19 Local Transport Plan Programme.
- 3) The roads in the village are all residential. They are generally narrow, often with parked vehicles present. There is also an adjacent childrens play area. The current speed limit is 30mph.
- 4) National guidance on speed limits states that, while 30mph should be the norm through villages, *"it may also be appropriate to consider 20mph limits or zones in built-up village streets which are primarily residential in nature."*
- 5) Residents and statutory consultees were therefore consulted on a proposal to provide a 20mph speed limit. A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A.
- 6) 30 responses were received. The results were:
 - a) 26 for (87%)
 - b) 3 Against (10%)
 - c) 1 Neutral (3%)

A copy of the comments received is shown in Appendix B.
- 7) The local ward member supports the proposal. The local Parish Council did not respond.
- 8) A number of the responses suggested that the proposed 20mph speed limit should cover a wider area. However, as stated above, guidance indicates that the 20mph limit should be associated with development which gives drivers an additional visual message to reduce speed. The wider areas mentioned are open in nature and therefore are not suitable for a 20mph limit, though they will remain part of the existing 30mph speed limit.
- 9) To help reduce approach speeds it is recommended that 'gateways' are considered at each end of the proposed 20mph speed limit, possibly including a village nameplate sign. This will be considered via the design process and in consultation with the local ward member.
- 10) In view of some of the comments received it is also recommended that playground warning signs are provided.

Delegated decisions

11) It is therefore recommended that:

- a) The proposed 20mph speed limit be implemented.
- b) Gateway treatment be considered to reinforce the message to drivers.
- c) Playground warning signs be provided.

Implications Arising out of the Report

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| Policy | |
| Finance and value for money | The proposal will be funded by the 20mph Speed Limits element of the LTP programme. The local ward Member has indicated small schemes funding may also be available. |
| Legal | None |
| Procurement | None |
| Human Resources | None |
| Property | None |
| Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> | None |
| Risk Assessment | None |
| Crime & Disorder | None |
| Customer Consideration | Local residents and statutory consultees have been consulted. |
| Carbon reduction | None |
| Wards | Pegswood |

Background papers:

Delegated decisions

File ref: HE185325

'Setting Local Speed Limits' DfT Circular 01/2013

Report sign off.

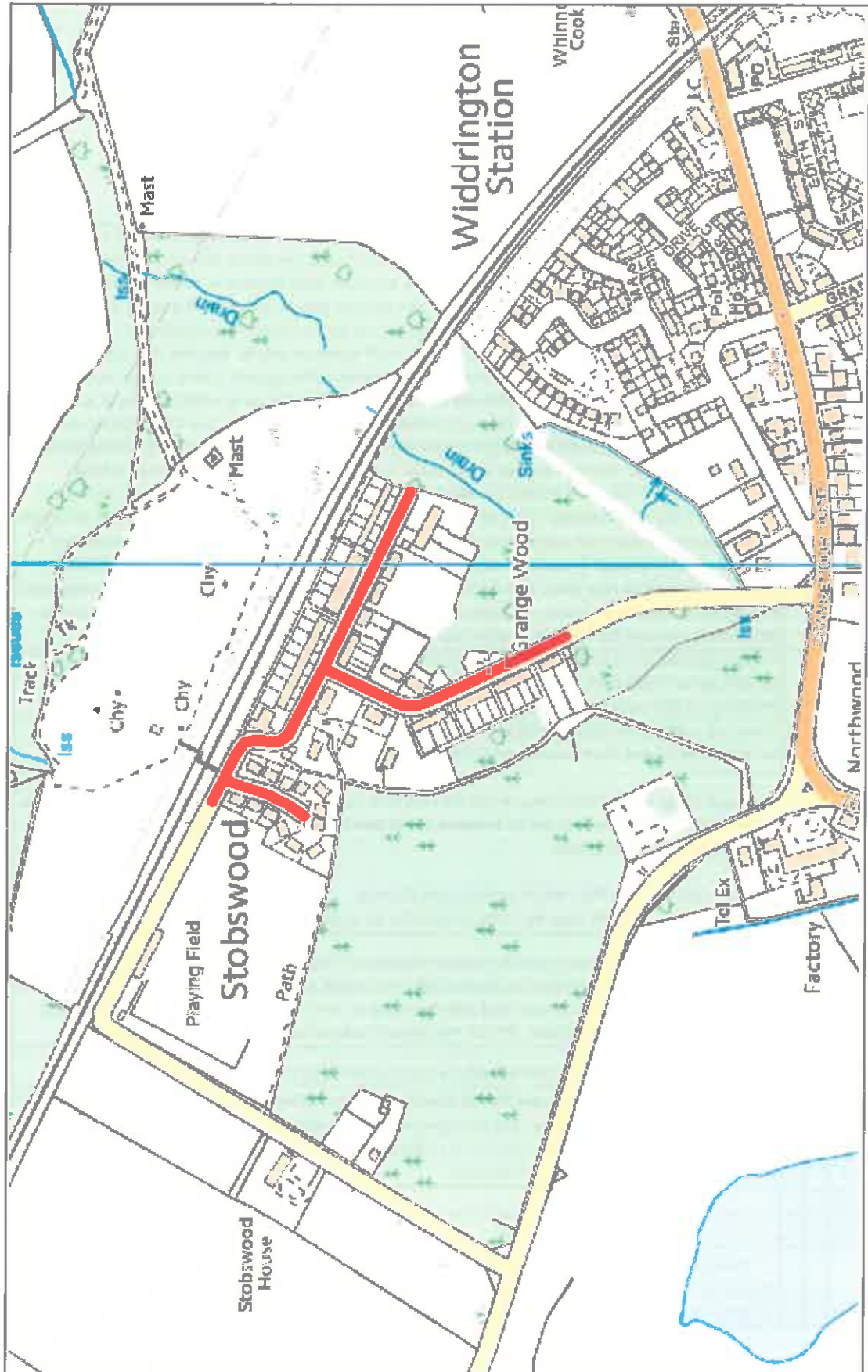
Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

| | initials |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Finance Officer | n/a |
| Monitoring Officer/Legal | n/a |
| Human Resources | n/a |
| Procurement | n/a |
| I.T. | n/a |
| Director | PJ |
| Portfolio Holder(s) | GS |

Author and Contact Details

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Appendix A - Consultation Plan



Delegated decisions

Appendix B - Consultation Responses

| F O R | A G A I N S T R | N E I T H E Other Relevant Comments |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | | <p>if this is indeed an issue for this area, I have lived in Stobswood over 12 years now. During this time, the only vehicles I have witnessed driving too fast are those who are driving through Stobswood in order to get to the welfare club, more so this occurs on match days (football or cricket or event days). As residents of Stobswood are very aware their own children may be playing in the street and drive through slowly, personally I believe a better solution would be, to stop the thoroughfare of traffic bound for the cricket club and make them use the furthest north entrance only for the club, thus limiting traffic through Stobswood entirely, purely for visitors and residents of Stobswood, cutting out the vehicles going to or coming from a licenced establishment (enhancing the chance of accidents due to alcohol) and speeding through a small rural community scheme. Perhaps by placing 3 or 4 bollards across the road next to where the pedestrian bridge crosses the railway line and allows access for Grangewood estate and no further, this too I believe would assist in parking for the club as some days vehicles stretch the length of this road beside the railway line any how narrowing to a single lane, causing obstruction if any other vehicles using this road going in opposite directions, being as there is no where to pass due to overspill from cricket club patrons, leaving the only option to reverse to Grangewood entrance as wide enough to pass and can't be blocked or the other end of the road to the 90' bend. putting up signs wont stop those who don't obey the rules, but put something in their way? makes them change as have no other choice. As there are only 2 houses and allotments on the other entrance to Stobswood, can only but feel this would reduce risk with minimal impact and cost.</p> |
| 1 | | <p>I am so glad this being proposed. I live on Woodburn Street, opposite the play park. I have lost count of the time when I have seen young children run out or in to the park, over the road and cars who are travelling too fast have had to brake.</p> <p>There are toddlers and young children living or regularly visiting the street and g too the park. My side mirrors have been swiped and turned in 3 times.</p> <p>The worst areas are the first entrance into the lane from the Widdrington turn in - up the road with trees either side. Cars feel they can get up to speed at this part of the road and are obviously going too fast when they reach the play park.</p> <p>I feel so strongly about this I would support speed bumps.</p> <p>Thanks so much and I do hope the proposal gets the go ahead.</p> |
| 1 | | <p>The 20mph speed limit should continue passed Stobswood Welfare club, the jubilee allotments, 2 public footpath entrances across the playing fields and woods and up to the main road. The club has a number of clients who stand in road and park their cars on road. This is a busy area for cyclists, dog walkers, horse riders and children. The 20 mph should include the stretch to the main road.</p> |
| 1 | | <p>Not before time. I still think it could actually be lower on reaching the houses.</p> |
| 1 | | <p>It would be a good idea to have the 20mph speed limit started at the junction with Grangemoor road, which would alleviate acceleration and deceleration into the village. Living at No. 18, Woodburn St. We see many cars coming in and going out of the Village very fast. We are not in favour of the speed ramps. Thank you for thinking of Stobswood</p> |
| 1 | | |
| 1 | | |
| 1 | | <p>1. The speed limit should be introduced at the beginning of woodburn st. 2. Further measures of "speed bumps" should be added to aid compliance. 3. Monitoring via speed cameras would be useful. 4. Speed bump introductions could be completed at the same time as essential resurfacing.</p> |

Delegated decisions

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| 1 | | This is a step in the right direction but a sign stating 20mph will not deter the drivers that have no consideration for children using the park. I have lived opposite the park for over 10 years and am surprised that no one has been seriously hurt - there have been several near misses, but these drivers persist in speeding. |
| 1 | | I think this is a fantastic proposal. There is a minority of residents / visitors who think it is acceptable to drive at ridiculous speeds. There are children, elderly and disabled residents who deserve to be kept safe, as well as people's pets who are quite often in the street. I have been in the unfortunate position of my car being scratched quite badly by a panicked child on his bike trying to get away from a car driving toward him at excessive speed. I would like to see the 20mph speed limit extended to include the cricket field and the allotment area for the safety of the pedestrian residents using these facilities. It would be great to see a 20mph speed limit actually being enforced as other 20mph zones in the area are rarely adhered to. |
| 1 | | Playground Sign |
| 1 | | Extend 20mph up to cricket club. Then instead of 60 mph after cricket club make it 30mph |
| 1 | | On top of proposal, repairs to the pot holes and a relaying of the tarmac along all of road would make life better for the people living in Stobswood. Additionally double yellow lines on one side of these roads would aid access to properties by both ambulance and fire brigade. How will the speed limit be enforced? |
| 1 | | |
| 1 | | Seems a good idea but how do you intend to enforce it? Would not be in favour of speed bumps as they cause far too much damage to vehicles |
| 1 | | |
| 1 | | Fully support the idea as a resident as we have 2 small children. How will this be enforced? I think this speed limit should be extended all the way down woodburn street to the main road. As my children cycle a lot. |
| 1 | | But I don't think it will make much difference as the "Boy Racers" will still be in a hurry to get to the cricket club. On a separate note we are having issues with children playing football in the street. We have come home to find a football in our garden (Over an 8ft wall) it has landed in our small pond and killed our fish! Would the council please consider some No Ball Games Signs? I would happily pay for them myself. We also have damage to our cars. I am sure the council do not care and I will not get involved in this matter. |
| 1 | | |
| 1 | | We have lived here 12 years with my late husband, and the problem began for us immediately. I would like made into a one way street we have m/vehicle coming past here in two going down W street with loud music! Now we have a lot of m/vehicle parked on side of the road here Grangewood Tce is full m/vehicles; as people have moved here no room for them to park up. Very busy in the evenings too, in the winter m/vehicles in here sum up + down, Now in the light evenings it is from 9:30 they start sunday evening xxx a powerful m/xxxx here up & down terrace extremely fast a high speed from bottom of W. Street where started up (Dusk) if there had been a m/vehicle coming down it would have been fatal he was quick as a flash we are all in favour of the speed limited will these jobs take notice I doubt it , but it is a start of things to get better hopefully thank you for your letter it did make my day xxx better enclosed our remarks Sincerely J.Burn + Son |
| 1 | | I don't support the proposals. I have grown up in Stobswood, played on the street as a kid, and now 27 years old, I drive up it. There have never been any accidents in Stobswood and i'm disappointed that people have raised safety concerns. I would be interested to find out who raised these concerns and how long they have lived in our community. As a child, transport police use to train us about road safety. This doesn't appear to happen anymore. I think a bigger road issue in our community is parking. I have a nephew & niece who regularly visit us, and play in the street, but I see no need to change the speed limit. Please don't change it. |
| 1 | | The 20mph speed limit should continue passed Stobswood Welfare club, the jubilee allotments, 2 public footpath entrances across the playing fields and woods and up to the main road. The club has a number of clients who stand in road and park their cars on road. This is a busy area for cyclists, dog walkers, horse riders and children. The 20 mph should include the stretch to the main road. |
| 1 | | In response to the proposed 20mph speed limit for Stobswood - It would be beneficial to begin the 20mph limit from the Grangemoor Road/Woodburn Street junction as too many cars drive too fast along this initial wooded section - posing a risk to people and wildlife. As many people cross the road near our property (number 20), I feel that cars should already be travelling at 20mph by this point. |

Delegated decisions

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| 1 | | |
| 1 | | There is no disabled access to pavement next to the Welfare Club or out of Grangewood. You can't even walk down the path as the cars all park on the pavement when the Welfare Club has football or cricket matches on. I hope the 20mph speed limit works. |
| 1 | | We have children that play out on these roads! |
| 1 | | I feel that while this is a commendable idea which should be passed I think the 20mph zone should start just off the Grangemoor road through village and up past allotments also the signage which was painted on the road many years ago should be redone. I also feel that it's NOT locals who speed but visiting people. |
| 1 | | I do not support this proposal because there is no school or other reason for having a 20mph in place. Road safety for all would be improved by having a traffic warden patrol to ensure parked cars do not fully obstruct the pavements or the junctions and this would be a better use of funds than implementing a 20mph zone. |
| 1 | | We applaud and welcome the plan for a 20 mph with the following additional comments. we would like to see it extended to the Grangemoor Road entrance and beyond the Stobswood Sports Club our reasons are as follows:- The road from Grangemoor is quite narrow and as you approach Stobswood the left hand side verge is quite uneven and there are potholes to the left of the road. There are a lot of people walking dogs along this area and children going to and from the play park. So we think the slower speed would be helpful. We live opposite the lovely small p[lay park and there are a number of toddlers and parent walking there and getting in and out of cars, so we hope there will be no speed bumps of traffic calming measures that reduce the width of the road. Vehicles have to be parked on the road usually beside the pavement in front of houses this narrows the road and when people park opposite on the grass it reduces the width of the road considerably. We have been having building materials delivered to this house and it is limiting for the other users, we would be very concerned if there were more limitations caused by traffic calming measures.. We are not able to have heavy delivery wagons along the access to the front of our houses as there is no made up road and the ground is too soft for heavy vehicles. We hope the 20mph is approved and in place as soon as possible. |
| 1 | | Thank you for your letter dated 30th May 2018 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. I would inform you that as Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for outpatient appointments. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the ongoing road safety programme. |
| 26 | 3 | 1 |

DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Officer(s) and Portfolio
Holder (where appropriate):**

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

Subject:

PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT, STOBWOOD

Consultation

26 for (87%)

3 Against (10%)

1 Neutral (3%)

Decision Taken:

The proposed 20mph speed limit be implemented.

Gateway treatment be considered to reinforce the message to drivers.

Playground warning signs be provided.

Signature of Director/
officer/Portfolio Holder where
appropriate)*

Date



5/10/18

* delete as appropriate

