



**PETITION FROM RESIDENTS  
OF JACOBS WELL, GUILDFORD**

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL  
LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)**

**21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2005**

**KEY ISSUE**

This report considers a petition by residents of Jacobs Well concerned about traffic conditions in their village

**SUMMARY**

Councillor Mike Nevins presented the petition with 429 signatures to the chairman of the Local Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2005. It cites specific issues of excessive traffic speed, maintenance and environmental impacts on the village and its residents and requesting attention to a number of matters as well as traffic calming measures in various roads. The report responds to the concerns raised.

**Report by**

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

**Surrey Atlas Ref.:**

P109, D6, D7, E7

**GUILDFORD B.C. WARD(S)**

WORPLESDON

**COUNTY ELECTORAL DIVISION(S)**

WORPLESDON

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to agree:

- (i) that the receipt of the petition of residents of Jacobs Well, Guildford be noted.
- (ii) that the recommendations in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the report be put forward to the Transportation Task Group for detailed consideration.

## **INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND**

- 1 Jacobs Well is a small residential area, which sits close to the boundary between Guildford & Woking boroughs. It consists of residential properties, some shops and a Post Office in Stringers Avenue. There is a community hall, which is situated on the eastern side of Jacobs Well Road. Clay Lane, Jacobs Well Road and Woking Road encompass the majority of properties. The majority of the roads are publicly maintainable with few private roads.
- 2 The main roads through Jacobs Well are C14 Clay Lane and D51 Jacobs Well Road. Clay Lane is the connecting route between A320 Woking Road and the A3 and Burpham. It has an environmental 7.5 tonne weight restriction imposed on it from the Woking Road to the A3 interchange. A location plan is shown below.



**THE PETITION**

- 3 In April of 2005, a petition coordinated by Councillor Mike Nevins from residents of Jacobs Well was submitted to the Chairman of the Local Committee. The petition read: *“We, the undersigned residents in Jacobs Well village, request Surrey County Council to make a full Highways Safety Assessment of Jacobs Well, in particular Clay lane & Jacobs Well Road which carry a large volume of traffic accessing the A3 and Slyfield Estate. Excessive speeds, accident levels and pedestrian safety are top of our list of concerns which must be addressed”*
- 4 Councillor Nevins’ covering letter raised 9 specific points, as follows:
- (i) *To inform Surrey Police and make them aware of residents’ views on the speed of HGVs, cars and motorcycles.*
  - (ii) *Investigate the use of quieter road surfaces as part of major maintenance of Jacobs Well Road & Clay Lane, when this becomes due.*
  - (iii) *To inspect the condition of road and footway surfaces. Any safety defects should be noted and rectified ASAP.*
  - (iv) *To investigate the use of speed cameras. Police speed detection and /or vehicle activated speed signs to increase awareness of speed.*
  - (v) *Road width restrictions or chicanes together with other traffic calming measures.*
  - (vi) *Red surfacing for speed reduction and pedestrian crossing points, in particular the areas closed to village hall and the children play areas along Jacobs Well Road.*
  - (vii) *Quieter road surface to all residential roads*
  - (viii) *Poor condition of roads, pavements, kerbs, white lining and reflectors*
  - (ix) *Introduction of 7.5 tonne weight Heavy Goods vehicles restriction on Jacobs Well Road to include coaches.*
- 5 A copy of the petition and the covering letter are attached as **ANNEXE 1**. The letter raises a number of related matters, including the future development of the Slyfield Industrial Estate, and the possibility of securing funding for the improvements requested. These are largely matters for Guildford Borough Council’s officers and Planning Committee.

**TRAFFIC SPEED SURVEYS**

- 6 New traffic hand held speed surveys have been carried out at the locations shown in **ANNEXE 2**. The results were as follows:

	Clay Lane West		Clay Lane East		Blanchards Hill		Jacobs Well Road	
MPH	e/b	w/b	e/b	w/b	e/b	w/b	e/b	w/b
<b>Speed Limit</b>	30	30	40	40	30	30	30	30
<b>85%tile speed</b>	38	35	43	41	35	35	36	37
<b>Mean speed</b>	33	31	36	38	32	32	32	31

**ACCIDENT RECORDS**

- 7 The Personal Injury Accident (PIA) records were also investigated for the period from April 2002 to March 2005. The total numbers of recorded PIA's were 15, (11 slight, 2 serious and 2 fatalities) through the entire area encompassed by the A3, A320 Woking Road and to Woking Borough Boundary.
- 8 Following two recent fatal collisions in Clay Lane, a comprehensive signing and road marking was carried out and a section of national speed limit (60 mph) was also reduced to 40 mph was introduced in late March 2005 (prior to the submission of the petition). It should also be noted that the Surrey Coroner has now released his findings which in both instances rule out the highway as a contributory factor.
- 9 The breakdown of collisions on the section of the road from the existing 30 mph limit to just east of Burpham Court Farm by severity and causation factors shown below:

Road name	Total	Severity	Causation factors
<b>Clay Lane</b>	12	9 Slight 1 Serious 2 Fatal	Inexperienced driver & wet road
			Wrong course / positioning
			Inexperienced driver/rider
			No apparent cause
			Turning right injudiciously / Inexperienced driver/rider
			Misjudged the speed and distance of other vehicle
			Driving too close
			Too fast for the prevailing conditions
			Alcohol / Drugs
			Loss of control
<b>Jacobs Well Road</b>	2	2 Slight	Too fast for the prevailing conditions
			Alcohol / Drugs
<b>Blanchards Hill</b>	1	1 Serious	Driver blinded by the torch of casualty's husband when crossing the road

- 10 As previously noted, the change in speed limit in Clay Lane took place at the end of March 2005. There have been no recorded accidents on this stretch of road in the brief period since.
- 11 From the analysis of personal injury accidents and speed, it can be reasonably concluded that there is no one dominant cause of the accidents, and that speed for traffic in particular is not a major factor.

**THE PROPOSED WAY FORWARD**

- 12 Item (i) can be dealt with swiftly, and Surrey Police will be made aware of residents view on the speed of HGVs, cars and motorcycles at the first opportunity.
- 13 Regarding routine maintenance issues (items (iii) and (viii)), the condition of road and footway surfaces will be inspected and if there any safety defects are noted these will be rectified. It should be noted that due to budgetary constraints it is not always possible to rectify all defects noted, as works are prioritised strictly on safety and the funds available are often insufficient to cover every item noted.
- 14 In accordance with County policy, whenever roads are the subject of major maintenance (i.e. complete replacement of the road surface – items (ii) and (vii)), quieter road surface materials are used. Major maintenance is prioritised only on the basis of the residual life of the carriageway.
- 15 Regarding the requested improvements, it is recommended that a scheme incorporating the following items be put to the Transportation Task Group to be considered for inclusion in the Minor Schemes programme:
- (iv) To investigate the use of speed cameras. Police speed detection and /or vehicle activated speed signs to increase awareness of speed.
  - (v) Road width restrictions or chicanes together with other traffic calming measures.
  - (vi) Red surfacing for speed reduction and pedestrian crossing points, in particular the areas closed to village hall and the children play areas along Jacobs Well Road.
  - (ix) Introduction of 7.5 tonne weight Heavy Goods vehicles restriction on Jacobs Well Road to include coaches.
- 16 It is further recommended that the following additional items be included in the report to the Task Group. Although nor specifically requested by the petitioners, these are likely to contribute to improved road safety in the village:
- Existing signing to be investigated with a view that where it was found to be necessary, enhanced without detracting from the rural setting.
  - Investigate Road markings with a view of enhancements or additional marking as necessary.
  - To investigate the provision of Gateways on Jacobs well approaches subject to funding being made available from outside source. i.e. Parish Council, County Member allocation

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

17 This report has no immediate financial implications.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

18 Should a scheme be approved, developed and constructed, significant benefits to residential amenity may result through any reduction in actual or perceived speed and volume of traffic using Jacobs Well village.

**CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

19 While the traffic problems of Jacobs Well may not be as great as those experienced in some other parts of the borough, it is hoped that approval of the above recommendations and their implementation will in the long term provide some relief to the concerns expressed by the petitioners.

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**CONTACT OFFICER** KAZ BANISAIED, PRINCIPAL ENGINEER  
GUILDFORD TRAFFIC & IMPROVEMENTS

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 01483 517523

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** Petition from residents of Jacobs Well

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Received 18/4/05  
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GUILDFORD  
B O R O U G H

**Councillor Mike Nevins**

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E-Mail: nevinsm@guildford.gov.uk

**Councillor Bill Barker**  
**Chairman Guildford Local Committee**

Dear Mr. Barker

18<sup>th</sup> April 2005

**Re: Petition for a Safety Assessment of Jacobs Well Village.**

Would you kindly hand the attached petition with <sup>429</sup>~~396~~ Signatures by the residents of Jacobs Well Village to the Transportation Director Guildford Local Committee.

I and the residents of Jacobs Well Village request Surrey County Council Highways to make a full Highways Safety Assessment of Jacobs Well Village, in particular Clay Lane & Jacobs Well Road which carry a large volume of traffic accessing the A3 and Slyfield Estate. Excessive speeds, accident levels and pedestrian safety are top of our list of concerns, which must be addressed. The identity of Jacob Well Village is being quickly eroded by the quantity and speed of passing traffic.

We would like the officers at SCC Highways to conduct a speed and classified traffic survey along Jacobs Well Road & Clay Lane and present the results of the survey with a detailed analysis together with Personal Injury Accident (PIA) records for the past 5 years in a report to the Guildford Local Committee.

We would like officers to attend a site visit to determine the condition of the road surfaces, signs and road markings in Jacobs Well Village with a view of formulating a way forward on how these items could be improved with timescales

We would like the officers at SCC Highways to conduct a feasibility study and action the following points:

- To inform Surrey Police and make them aware of residents' views on the speed of hgv's, cars and motorcycles.



- Investigate the use of quieter road surfaces as part of major maintenance of Jacobs Well Road & Clay Lane, when this becomes due.
- To inspect the condition of road and footway surfaces. Any safety defects should be noted and rectified ASAP.
- To investigate the use of speed cameras, Police speed detection and/or vehicle-activated speed signs to increase awareness of speed.
- Road width restrictions or chicanes together with other traffic calming measures.
- Red surfacing for speed reduction and pedestrian crossing points, in particular the areas close to the Village Hall and the children play areas along Jacobs Well Road.
- Quieter road surface to all residential roads.
- Poor condition of roads, pavements, kerbs, white lining and reflectors
- Introduction of 7.5 tonne weight Heavy Goods Vehicle restriction on Jacobs Well Road to include coaches.

Clearly the new speed limit of 40 MPH is having very little effect on slowing the drivers down passing through the village along Clay Lane. We request that you consider a speed limit of 30 MPH along Clay Lane.

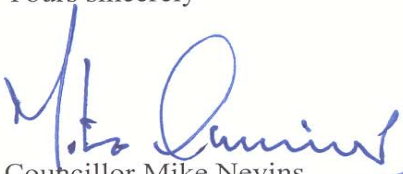
Should the idea for future development on part of the Slyfield Estate be considered for 1,000 – 1,500 domestic dwellings, then we must be proactive and secure funding to hopefully restrict much of the traffic that use Clay Lane and Jacobs Well Road through Jacobs Well village as “rat runs”. These are just a few of the many safety measures the residents have suggested to me.

Would the Director of Transportation please consider and action the above concerns of the residents of Jacobs Well Village and bring a detailed report to the GLC together with estimated timescales.

The local residents would also like to know the process of obtaining funding with timescales, and how the residents can help with this process.

**The sustainable development implications are, it will improve road safety and quality of life for residents and will have the effect of increasing local walking, children playing in safer areas and safer cycling journeys.**

Yours sincerely



Councillor Mike Nevins

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**Petition Co-ordinator: Councillor Mike Nevins  
Prospective Surrey County Councillor for Worplesdon  
The Mill House, Mill Lane, Pirbright. Surrey GU24 0BN  
Telephone: 01483 472386 e-mail: nevinsm@guildford.gov.uk**

**PETITION**

**TO SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT**

We, the undersigned residents in Jacobs Well Village, request Surrey County Council to make a full Highways Safety Assessment of Jacobs Well Village, in particular Clay Lane & Jacobs Well Road which carry a large volume of traffic accessing the A3 and Slyfield Estate. Excessive speeds, accident levels and pedestrian safety are top of our list of concerns which must be addressed: -

NAME	ADDRESS

Please forward completed forms to the local campaign contact. Robin Sculthorp, The Moat House, Jacobs Well Road, GU4 7PA. Tel. 01483 306014. e-mail; [robinsculthorp@aol.com](mailto:robinsculthorp@aol.com)



# Jacobs Well Location of Speed Surveys

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