

Item 21

**Bellew Road & Blackdown Road, Deepcut
Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit**

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S
LOCAL COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)**

18th July 2006

KEY ISSUE:

To seek authority to advertise a Traffic Regulation Order for the introduction of a 30 mph speed limit along Bellew Road and Blackdown Road, Deepcut.

SUMMARY:

The Local Committee approved proposals for traffic calming in Deepcut Village in July 2004. The Committee were informed that the traffic calming was a condition of a new housing development in Deepcut.

The proposals for traffic calming and the closure of Bellew Road and Blackdown Road were advertised last year. Defence Estates, custodians of MOD land interests, objected to the closure. Continued discussion with them has not resulted in a withdrawn objection and the order cannot be made at this time.

Officers have discussed, with local residents, alternative options for assisting with traffic impact. This includes a proposal to introduce a 30mph speed limit on both Bellew Road and Blackdown Road. The proposal satisfies Surrey's Speed Management Policy and is supported by the Surrey Police.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Surrey Heath Local Committee approve that:

- (a) a permanent traffic order is advertised under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the purpose of which will be to implement a 30 mph speed limit in Bellew Road and Blackdown Road between Lake Road and Deepcut Bridge Road, Deepcut.

and subject to no objections being maintained, the traffic order be made,

- (b) the Local Transportation Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Members resolve any objections received in connection with the proposal.

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Local Committee approved proposals for traffic calming in Deepcut Village in July 2004. The Committee were informed that the traffic calming was a condition of a new housing development in Deepcut.

During preliminary consultations objections were received from residents of Bellew Road and Blackdown Road to the traffic calming. Both Bellew Road and Blackdown Road are privately maintained highways. The suggestion was that the traffic calming in the village would increase traffic flow on these two roads. Whilst this was likely to have minimal effect it was agreed and subsequently approved by the Local Committee to advertise a closure of Bellew Road and Blackdown Road to through traffic as part of the traffic calming proposals. The developer had agreed to fund this.

The proposals for traffic calming and the closure of Bellew Road and Blackdown Road were advertised last year. Defence Estates, custodians of MOD land interests, objected to the closure. This was on the grounds that it would be detrimental to the interest of the MOD as an adjacent landowner, that it would specifically restrict private rights to an MOD property and that a barrier would cause ongoing operational difficulties for military personnel. Continued discussion with Defence Estates has not resulted in a withdrawn objection and the order cannot be made at this time.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

Officers have discussed, with local residents, alternative options for assisting with traffic impact and the developer has agreed to allow the funding set aside for the barrier to be put toward other measures. This includes a possible change of priority at the junction of Blackdown Road and Woodend Road.

It is also suggested that a 30mph speed limit be applied to both Bellew Road and Blackdown Road. There is no system of street lighting in either road and it is likely they are both subject to the national limit for a single carriageway road. The roads are bounded by 30 mph speed limits at each end and whilst residential properties only occupy one side, the road would be more suited to a 30mph speed limit. This satisfies Surrey's Speed Management Policy and is supported by the Surrey Police. Annex A indicates the length of the proposed speed limit.

Terminal signs would not be required to indicate the new speed limit as both roads, either end of Bellew Road and Blackdown Road have existing 30mph speed limits. However, as no system of street lighting exists along the roads repeater signing would be required. These consist of 300mm diameter signs mounted on metal posts and approximately 6 posts and 11 signs are needed. These will be positioned in accordance with DfT requirements, which can sometimes conflict with residents' wishes. In such cases posts and signs will be positioned as sensitively as possible.

CONSULTATION

The statutory process of advertising a Traffic Regulation Order allows the general public to comment about an Order proposal. The proposal has obtained the support of the Surrey Police. Additionally, a number of local residents and a representative of Defence Estates have been involved in informal discussions about the proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated that the cost for implementing the speed limit would be £2,500 and this can be accommodated within the local allocation budget.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

The Surrey Heath Crime and Disorder strategy seeks to continually improve the safety of the community. A new speed limit would assist in doing so by seeking to help reduce vehicular speeds.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

Across the range of transportation issues and problems to be addressed the needs of all highway users require equal consideration. Proposals may benefit a particular group or individuals but it is important to consider and address how one impact may worsen others.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

Number of Annexes: 1