

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)****DATE:** 24th FEBRUARY 2014**LEAD OFFICER:** NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER**SUBJECT:** STOMPOND LANE, WALTON ON THAMES**DIVISION:** WALTON SOUTH & OATLANDS**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report updates members following a petition by Mr. Nick Harris, Vice Chairman of Stompond & Links Residents' Association at the November Committee 2013 highlighting safety concerns on the bend in Stompond Lane.

This report responds to the concerns raised.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

- (i) Await the outcome of the proposed development of the Stompond Lane Sports Ground.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The petitioners' concerns have been put to the developer of the Stompond Lane Sports Ground formally through the planning process. Officers anticipate that if the proposed development goes ahead, the measures requested by the petitioners would be implemented by the developer.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 A Petition was submitted to the 18 November 2013 meeting of the Local Committee, signed by 56 residents, concerning safety, and speed of traffic along Stompond Lane but in particular the bend.
- 1.2 Ms Jenny King, Chairman of Stompond and Links Residents Association spoke for three minutes in support of the petition requesting safety measures in Stompond Lane, Walton. Ms King explained how the bend in the road along with the current 30 mph speed limit and the lack of road markings on Stompond Lane make it difficult for vehicles to safely pass on the bend and presents a number of risks.

- 1.3 Ms King described the accident history in the road and other evidence of recent accidents. She proposed some solutions to the issue and also said other suggestions by SCC traffic engineers would be welcomed

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 The 3 year personal injury collision data has been investigated for Stompond Lane and is as follows:

Date	Nature	Factors
05/08/2013	Slight	Vehicle parked set off and is in collision with passing vehicle.

- 2.2 The Collision rate was investigated further to ascertain what previous accidents have occurred and this was carried out for all data since 1987 when records began, and is as follows:

31/05/2007	Slight	Loss of control on bend by 18 year old male driver. Speed related.
11/01/1991	Slight	Vehicle emerging from access, foot slips off clutch and is in collision with approaching vehicle, which in turn is in collision with another vehicle.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The only accident to occur on the bend was in 2007. The circumstances are such that this driver could have caused this accident on any road.
- 3.2 The accident statistics for Stompond Lane are very good which infers that the road is relatively safe. Officers would concur with the petitioners that a solution comprising of signs and road markings would be an appropriate response to the concerns raised.
- 3.3 A planning application has been submitted to the Planning Authority, Elmbridge Borough Council, for the redevelopment of the Stompond Lane Sports Ground. Surrey County Council as the Highway Authority, has been consulted on this application and raised the concerns of the residents highlighted in the petition.
- 3.4 Accordingly a response to the planning consultation has been submitted, requesting that before any works are commenced on site, that the applicant carries out highway improvement works to the Hersham Road /Stompond Lane junction and provide traffic management measures on Stompond Lane. This is to be in accordance with schemes to be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the Highway Authority.
- 3.5 Officers will work with the developer to take a holistic view of Stompond Lane ahead of any redevelopment. This would also ensure that an early resolution to residents' concerns could be sought.

3.6 Although Surrey County Council as the highway authority introduces highway schemes and speed limits, it does so in accordance with Government aims to reduce personal injury accidents. It is only fair and equitable that this is done where high numbers of personal injury accidents are occurring ahead of locations where there are few or even perceived, in order to best utilise its very limited funding.

3.7 Speeding is essentially a Police enforcement issue as driving in excess of the posted speed limit is a criminal offence, for which the Police as the sole highway enforcement agency, have powers to deal with offenders who unashamedly flout the law, quickly and effectively.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 Traffic management in the form of signing and lining would not require formal consultation.

4.2 Public consultation would only be required in the development of the traffic-calming scheme as raised devices such as road tables and cushions necessitate legal notices advising residents of the proposed locations of measures.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 None.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The solutions identified are in response to perceived concerns raised by the local community. The Divisional Member can prioritise funding to implement any measures identified, if these are considered to be local priorities.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder as well as improve people's perception of crime.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 A planning application has been submitted to the Planning Authority, Elmbridge Borough Council, for the redevelopment of the Stompond Lane Sports Ground.

9.2 Surrey County Council as the Highway Authority has been consulted on this application and raised the concerns of the residents highlighted in the petition.

- 9.3 It is recommended that Committee await the outcome of the development and any scheme in Stompond Lane that is implemented in the context of the said development.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Elmbridge Borough Council will now determine the application and consider the Highway Authority's comments.
- 10.2 If the application is approved and the comments are conditioned then a scheme will be included as part of the proposals.

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- **Contact Officer:** Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (NE)
 - **Consulted:** None.
 - **Annexes:** None
 - **Sources/background papers:** None.
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