

New Road,Esher-Traffic Calming Proposal to SCC Local Committee1.

1.The issue.

New Road ,Esher is a private road of which New Road Esher Ltd is the registered owner.It is managed on behalf of the residents (shareholders) by its board of directors.

For a long period of time the road has been shown as affording the public a right of way though parking is not allowed.The status has been queried by NREL but is not at issue in this proposal.

Gates to the road were removed during the last war and (by default or not?) were never replaced.

The road is entirely maintained at the expense of residents who pay an annual levy to support that maintenance.This financial burden has increased steadily over the years and is now c£350 per annum per household.

Through traffic using the road has increased significantly and particularly in more recent times. The road is used as a “rat run” to circumvent nearby more major roads. This, as stated, at the residents’ expense. Hardly an equitable arrangement.

Of equal importance is that the road has no pavements or land water drainage.It is very narrow in places having been described by at least two Planning Inspectors as being semi-rural in nature. Pedestrians using the road have to do so by walking in the road itself. The danger to pedestrians and cyclists from speeding motorists is all too apparent and a cause of great anxiety to the residents. At times it looks like an accident waiting to happen.

2.The Proposal

In order to address both the inequality and perhaps of more immediate importance to improve the safety situation the board and residents propose to introduce some traffic calming measures. We are minded to implement a progressive programme of installation and measures. We would welcome the Committee’s advice on this.We aim to create a space which is more friendly to pedestrians and cyclists, encourage much greater safety consciousness in motorists and generally enhance the appearance of the road

The proposals are laid out in more detail in the attachments to this paper, but in summary these are as follows:

Detailed proposals

1.We seek an immediate formalisation of a 20mph (maximum) legally enforceable speed limit on the road. This is an urgent priority.

2.At stage 1 we propose to mark the entry to the private section of the road at both ends with a coloured marked section (e.g.in red or red tarmac)

3.Also at stage 1 we propose to install a set of suitably sized and constructed planters with garden features (and appropriate signage) at each end of the road so as to narrow the road to the the minimum permitted.

4.At subsequent stages we plan to install further planters on each half of the road up to a maximum of three sets on each half. This will depend upon their effectiveness and acceptance by residents and SCC.

5.At a later stage we will be seeking a Weight Restriction Order on the road. At present the road is constantly subject to heavy traffic, much of it from construction on nearby roads

We plan to implement the stage 1 proposals at the earliest opportunity.Time is not on our side to address this very long standing set of issues

ITEM 8

Action Requested

We seek the Committee's agreement to and endorsement of these proposals

NREL.