



Westfield Road – Speed Limit Petition

June 2021





Previous Location

- The 30mph speed limit signs in their former location did not comply with regulations, as there was no Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in place to support them and the signs were also beyond the extent of the existing street lighting system, which would automatically impose a 30mph limit.
- As such the speed limit was not legally enforceable.
- The Council was therefore unable to adopt the road, as public highway, unless the speed limit signs were moved in order to comply with legislation.



Current Location

- The speed limit signs were therefore relocated to their current position, by Taylor Wimpey, to a point in line with the last street lighting column so as to provide a compliant and legal speed limit.

Options

- It was recognised that the relocated signs caused concern amongst the Parish Council and the local residents.
- As a result this has been reviewed by Thames Valley Police (TVP) and Transport for Buckinghamshire's Road Safety Team and the following options were considered;

Option One – TRO to retain the 30mph speed limit in it's original location.

- The introduction of a TRO to move the signs back out to their original position was discussed but not supported at the site meeting attended by TVP and Road Safety. The original position is considered to be too far away from the start of the built up area and therefore would not satisfy the Department for Transport (DfT) guidance for the placing of speed limit signs.

Option Two – Extend the street lighting to retain the 30mph speed limit in it's original location.

- The introduction of additional street lighting columns to move the signs back out to their original position was discussed but not supported at the site meeting attended by TVP and Road Safety. The original position is considered to be too far away from the start of the built up area and therefore would not satisfy the DfT guidance for the placing of speed limit signs.

Option Three – leave 30mph speed limit in it's current location.

- Whilst this would satisfy the requirements of legislation and guidance and was considered suitable by TVP and Road Safety, it was recognised that there was local concern with the signs being retained in their current location.

Compromise Scheme

Extending the 30mph by 70m from its current location by installation of 2 new street lighting columns:

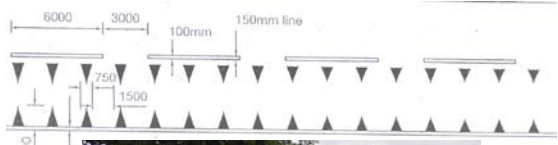
- Current guidance suggests that a road should be lit, 5 seconds of travelling time before a 'hazard' is encountered. The distance travelled in 5 seconds at 30mph is 67m, with the maximum permitted column spacing in these conditions being 37m with a standard maintenance LED lantern”.
- Therefore, from this (taking the Warwick Road junction as being the hazard), it was decided that the recommended course of action was that 2 new columns, at 35 metre spacing, should be installed.
- This will enable the start of the 30mph limit to be moved a distance of 70m. Giving an overall distance of approximately 80 to 85 metres from the centreline of the Warwick Road junction to the new location.
- Once complete, the difference between the new location and the original location is around 60m.
- This will provide an enforceable speed limit at a location that is supported by both TVP and Road Safety. It has been confirmed that anything beyond this point would not be supported, as this is considered to be too far away from the start of the built up area and therefore would not satisfy the DfT guidance for the placing of speed limit signs.
- The street lighting columns have been ordered and we will be looking to undertake the work as soon as practically possible in order to move the 30mph signs from their current location to the new location.
- Once the lamp columns and signs are in place, new road markings, in the form of ‘dragon’s teeth’ and speed limit roundels, will also be introduced.



30mph signs and road roundels



Dragons Teeth between the gateway feature and the 30mp signage



Gateway Feature with Pitstone nameplate retained in it's current location

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Update on Implementation

- The 2 new streetlight columns have been installed by Transport for Buckinghamshire on behalf of the Developer.
- The developer has ordered larger, replacement signs and is making arrangements for these to be erected as soon as they are received from the manufacturer. The suggested date for completion is 9th June.
- The Dragon's teeth markings and speed limit roundels will be installed over the summer period, during drier weather and when other remedial works will be taking place on the estate.
- The maintenance period for the development will end in November, following which the roads and footways on the estate will be adopted as public highway.

Community Board

- If, following the adoption of Westfield Road, the Parish Council or local community wish to pursue changes such as the introduction of traffic calming, then this is something that can be explored through the Community Board.
- Speed surveys will be undertaken by TfB once the road has been adopted and the new speed limit is in situ, along with its supporting infrastructure, dragons teeth etc. Results will then be fed back via a future meeting of the Community Board.
- Any scheme would be required to comply with the relevant guidance and legislation in place at that time.