

Central Bedfordshire Council

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEETING

18 DECEMBER 2018

Petition - Clarence Road, Leighton Buzzard

Report of:	Paul Mason, Assistant Director, Highways (Paul.Mason@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)
Responsible Officer(s):	Paul Salmon, Team Leader, Traffic Management, Highways (Paul.Salmon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Purpose of this report

To report on the petition to implement traffic calming measures to reduce vehicle speeds along Clarence Road, Leighton Buzzard.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Traffic Management Meeting is asked to:

1. **Note the Petition**
2. **Commission ATC surveys in Clarence Road and investigate the feasibility of implementing traffic calming measures.**

Overview and Scrutiny Comments/Recommendations

1. This is not to be presented at Overview and Scrutiny.

Issues

Background Information

1. Clarence Road is a predominantly residential 20mph road, linking Vandyke Road to Heath Road. There are currently three mini-roundabouts along Clarence Road and a

raised zebra crossing adjacent to the retail area.

2. New housing estates have recently been constructed in this area, resulting in increased traffic volumes using this road.
3. Central Bedfordshire Council received in October 2018 a petition to implement traffic calming measures in order to reduce traffic speeds and improve pedestrian safety along the road.

Options for consideration

4. The petition proposal is to implement traffic calming measures to reduce traffic speeds and improve pedestrian safety.
5. The highways officer proposal is to commission ATC surveys for Clarence Road and investigate the feasibility of implementing traffic calming measures.

Reason/s for decision

6. Currently, there is insufficient speed data available for this road. As such, ATC surveys will be necessary to confirm the requirement for traffic calming measures along Clarence Road and to inform any future decision on the type, extent and layout of these measures.

Corporate Implications

7. There are no corporate implications with this particular scheme.

Legal Implications

8. There are no legal implications with this particular scheme.

Financial and Risk Implications

9. Financial implications to be confirmed.

Equalities Implications

10. None.

Conclusion and next Steps

11. It is recommended to commission ATC surveys in Clarence Road and investigate the feasibility of implementing traffic calming measures.

Appendix A: Petition & Signatures

Report Author:

Paul Salmon – Team Leader, Traffic Management, Highways

Paul.Salmon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Stephen Rix, Monitoring Officer
Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford
Bedfordshire
SG17 5TQ



22nd October 2018

Dear Mr Rix,

I am writing to you with regard to a serious issue that needs addressing with our residential road in Leighton Buzzard.

For too many years our road has been blighted with speeding vehicles at all times of the day and night, a few years ago the speed limit was reduced to 20mph with signage and road markings but alas this has done absolutely nothing to slow vehicles down.

Clarence Road is a small residential road with many vehicles parked on either side leaving not many gaps for pedestrians to cross from one side to the other. Our road is used by many pedestrians including children who attend the local schools. The new housing estate built just off Churchill Road has also added to the increase in vehicles using Clarence Road plus currently there is another large housing estate being built just round the corner in Heath Road which will inevitably add even more vehicles to Clarence Road. We have 2 large schools at the top along Vandyke Road plus a smaller school, St Georges, in Garden Hedge. Upper Clarence Road also has a small parade of very busy shops.

There is currently 1 speed bump outside the parade of shops in the upper part of Clarence Road and 2 speed bumps in Garden Hedge (an adjoining road) but none along the lower part of Clarence Road and this is where the issue of speeding vehicles lies.

The residents of Lower Clarence Road are very concerned a fatality could occur. The latest incident happened only a few months ago involving a speeding car hitting a parked car, the driver was taken away in an ambulance and both vehicles involved taken away on a lowloader as they were undrivable. We desperately need some calming measures put in place and very soon before a fatality does occur. You can ask any resident of Lower Clarence Road and they will all say speeding vehicles is a massive problem.

Please find enclosed a Petition that myself and a close neighbour put together, we have personally spoken to every household of Lower Clarence Road and apart from x4 unoccupied properties, all have signed it. We have also spoken to our local councillor, Mr Brian J Spurr, and he has given us his full backing for this petition. His contact details are below:
Cllr Brian J Spurr

Email: brian.spurr@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

I look forward to hearing from you in the not too distant future with regard to this very important issue of speeding vehicles.

Kind regards,

PETITION

Topic: Speeding Vehicles along lower end of Clarence Road

What do you want the council to do:

The residents of Clarence Road would like traffic calming measures

put in place to stop the constant speeding vehicles

Lead Petitioner: Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

We, the undersigned, want Central Bedfordshire Council to: install Speed Bumps

[illegible]