
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 20 October 2009
Subject: Northwood End Road
Petition – Speeding vehicles, volume of traffic, condition of road and footway, lack of signs and inadequate street lighting.
Report of: Basil Jackson
Summary: A petition signed by local residents was presented on the 14 April 2009 requesting for Northwood End Road, Haynes to be assessed regarding speeding issues with other issues listed above.

Contact Officer: Caroline Almond
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Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Haynes
Function of: Council
Reason for urgency (if appropriate)

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Reductions of speed lead to increased road safety and reduced emissions

Financial:

None as a result of this report.

Legal:

None as a result of this report.

Risk Management:

None as a result of this report.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

This report and recommendation does not have any implications under the Human Rights Act 1998.

Equalities/Human Rights:

None as a result of this report

Community Development/Safety:

None as a result of this report

Sustainability:

None as a result of this report

RECOMMENDATION:

that the portfolio holder for safer and stronger communities is requested to note the situation with regard to the speeding issues on Northwood End Road, Haynes, and to recommend that a budget for future speed limit review assessments is included within the forward programme of works.

Background and Information.

1. A petition signed by local residents was presented to the Council on the 14 April 2009.
2. Residents are requesting that Northwood End Road, Haynes should be assessed on grounds of road safety in respect of the following concerns.
 - Speed of traffic
 - Volume of traffic
 - Condition of carriageway and/or footway
 - Lack of footways
 - Inadequate signs for speed calming
 - Provision of road/ pedestrian safety
 - Street lighting

Speed and Volume of Traffic & Road Safety:

3. Northwood End Road is currently within a 30mph Speed Limit (see Appendix 1). There is currently no speed or volume data held for this site but this would form part of any initial assessment or feasibility study.
4. Traffic Management Police have received no recent speed complaints for this location.
5. Bedfordshire Highways have undertaken a speed limit review for the highway authority in line with Government objectives. This was intended to ensure that the speed limits and their extents were correct on all A and B class roads. This has now been carried out.
6. Additionally, a number of village speed limits were reviewed and changes to speed limits and extents recommended as a result. The location in question has not been reviewed.
7. The budget for reviewing speed limits has now been committed for the remainder of this financial year. Given that the statutory process of reviewing speed limits has now been completed all new requests for speed related reviews will be treated on an Ad-hoc basis.

8. In order to undertake this a budgetary provision will be required within the forward work programme and this will be included during the current budget setting round. Its ultimate inclusion will be a matter for members to decide.

Condition of the carriageway and footway:

9. The carriageway of Northwood End Road was assessed for possible patching work needed in March 2009, however after assessment it was found not to be in need of any patching at that time.

Carriageway and footway surface:

10. Northwood End Road was Patched & Surface Dressed Summer 2009.
11. All helpdesk enquiries will be reviewed as part of the annual assessment process and a draft programme will be published in December. The final content of next years programme will ultimately depend on available funding and the emerging priorities of Central Beds Council.

Lack of footway/ Provision of pedestrian safety:

12. This financial year (09/10), area teams have recommended that the parishes use their partnership budget towards footways, however, there is no history if requests for footway along Northwood End Road. No further action is therefore intended on this item at present.

Lack of Footways

13. The issue of additional lengths of footway will be considered as part of the forward planning process.

Street Lighting:

14. Northwood End Road is currently lit to parish lighting standards. This includes the lighting in Northwood End Road. There is currently no programme of upgrading Parish lighting in rural communities.

Conclusion and Next Steps

15. The speed limit assessment will need to be included in the forward work programme.

Appendices:

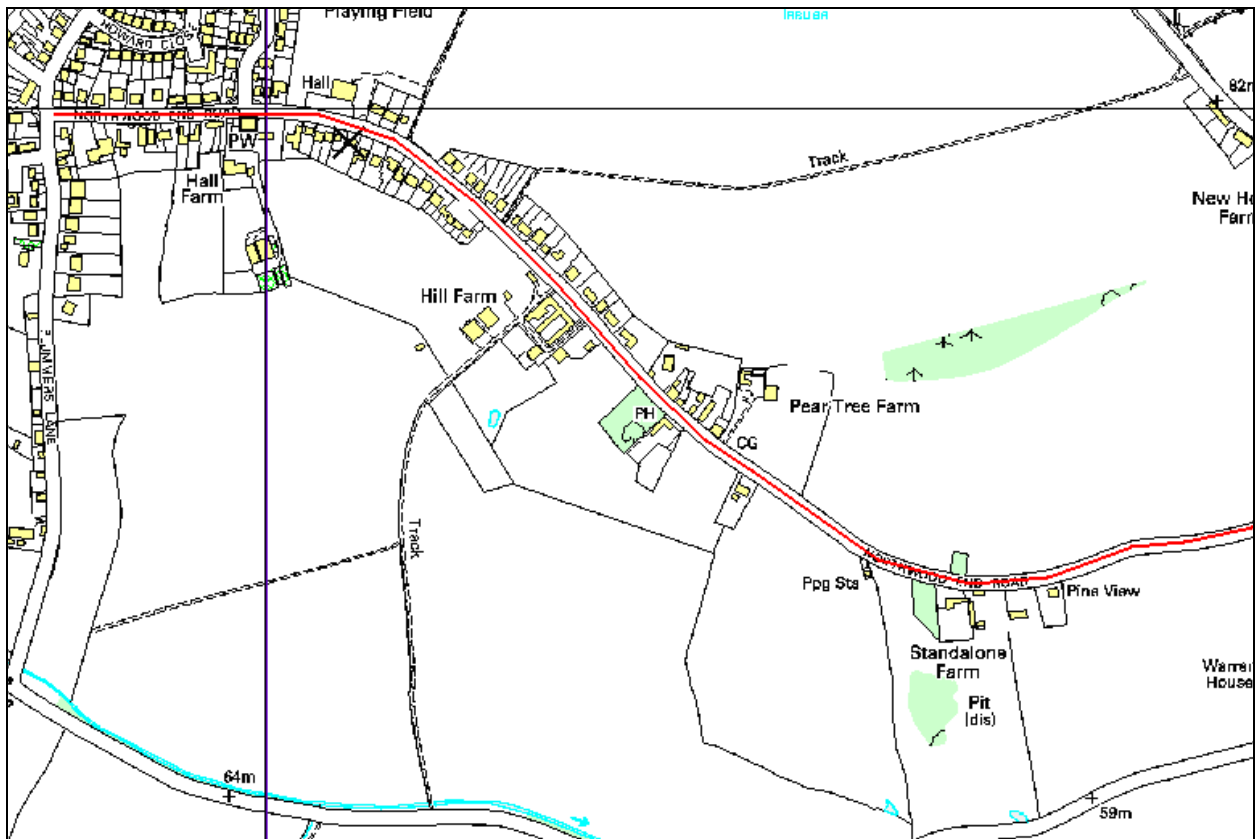
Appendix 1 – Location Plan/ existing street lighting plan.

Appendix 2 – Aerial view

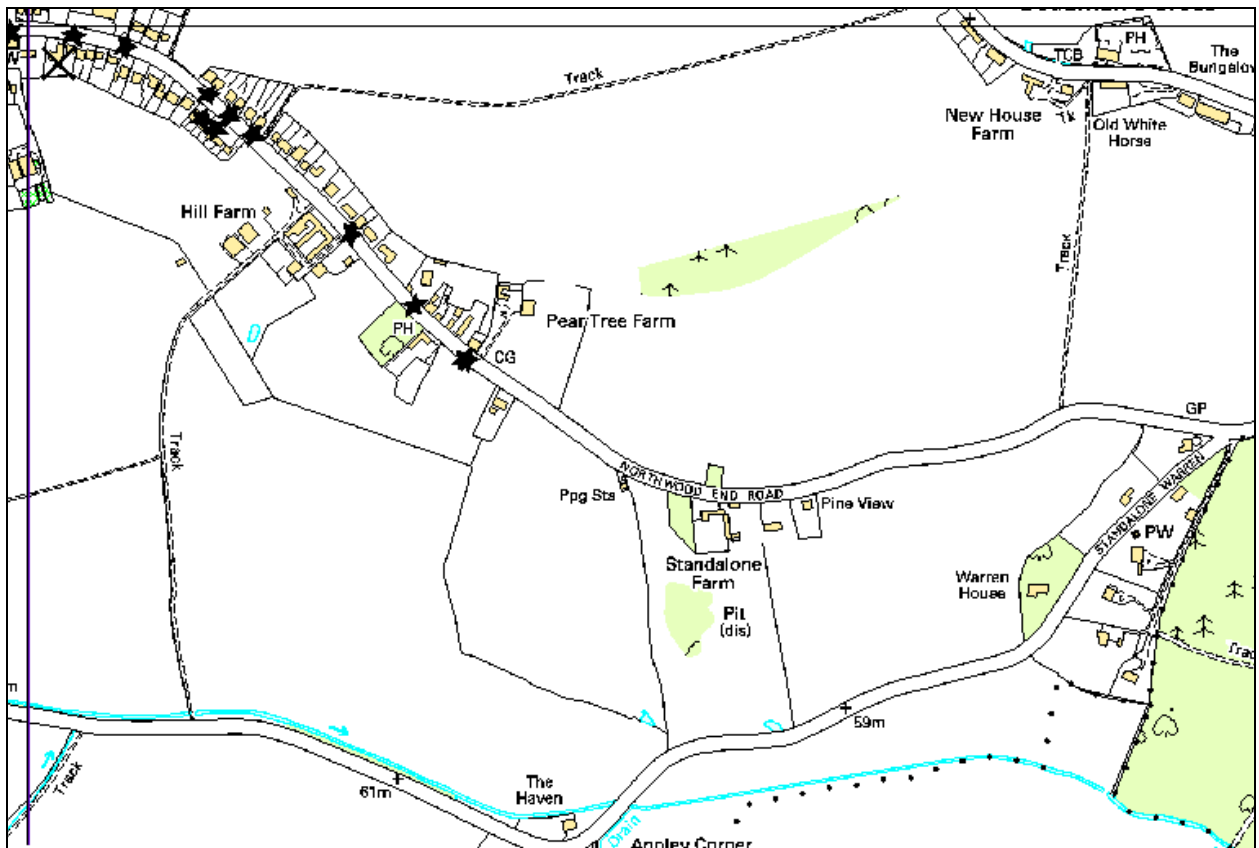
Background papers

Petition

Appendix 1 - Location Plan



Existing parish lighting locations (★)



Arial view

