
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 20 June 2011
Subject: Various Schools in Sandy - Resolution of objections to the proposed 20mph Speed Limits and Zone
Report of: Basil Jackson, Assistant Director of Highways and Transportation.
Summary: To report to the Executive Member for Sustainable Communities Services the receipt of objections to proposals for 20mph speed limits and zones near schools in Sandy and seek approval for the implementation of this scheme.

Contact Officer: Adrian Clothier – Senior Engineer
Adrian.clothier@amey.co.uk
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Sandy
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

To improve highway safety and facilitate the free flow of traffic.

Financial:

The cost of introducing the speed limits will be approximately £8,000

Legal:

None as part of this report

Risk Management:

None as part of this report

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None as part of this report

Equalities/Human Rights:

None as part of this report

Community Safety:

The proposal will improve road safety in the vicinity of schools in Sandy and adjacent residential streets.

Sustainability:

By providing safer roads near to school entrances, it is hoped that the proposals will encourage more school trips to be carried out on foot or cycle, rather than by private car.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1.
 - (a) **That the proposal to introduce a 20mph Speed Limit near Laburnum Lower and Sandye Place Middle Schools in the Laburnum Road and Swansholme Gardens area be implemented as set out in this report.**
 - (b) **That the proposal to introduce a 20mph Speed Limit near Robert Peel Lower School in the Dapifer Drive and Berwick Way area be implemented as set out in this report.**
 - (c) **That the proposal to introduce a 20mph Speed Limit near Sandy Upper School in the Engayne Avenue area be implemented as set out in this report.**
 - (d) **That the proposal to introduce a 20mph Speed Limit near St Swithuns Lower School in the Ivel Road area be implemented as set out in this report.**
 - (e) **That the proposal to introduce a 20mph Speed Limit Zone near Maple Tree Lower School in the Fallowfield area be implemented as set out in this report.**

Background and Information

1. The Council has a policy of promoting safer routes to schools, which seeks to encourage more pupils to travel to school by sustainable modes of transport, such as walking and cycling. These 20mph speed limit proposals are part of a wider 'Safer Routes to Schools' scheme in Sandy.
2. In recent years, central Government has positively encouraged local authorities to introduce lower speed limits, including 20mph limits. There are already a number of 20mph speed limits and zones in Central Bedfordshire, some of which are in the vicinity of schools.
3. There is a slight difference between 20mph zones and 20mph speed limits. 20mph zones can only be introduced in streets where regular traffic calming measures, such as road humps, have been installed. 20mph speed limits are used where speeds are already relatively low, normally due to the width, alignment and/or character of the road, but traffic calming is not normally in place. The proposals in Sandy are all 20mph speed limits with the exception of the one near to Maple Tree Lower School in Fallowfield, where a 20mph zone is proposed because traffic calming features are in place throughout the whole area.

4. The proposals were formally advertised by public notice in February/March 2011. Consultations were also carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies, Sandy Town Council and Elected Members. The Schools' head teachers and local people were also consulted.
5. A total of 24 representations have been received. Some of these are objections to the advertised proposals, some offer counter proposals and others support the scheme. Copies of all of these are included in Appendix C and the comments received are summarised below on a school by school basis.
6. Laburnum Lower and Sandye Place Middle Schools (Laburnum Road and Swansholme Gardens). A total of 7 representations have been received, three of which are objections. The main points raised are as follows:-
 - a) There is an inconsistent and piecemeal application of speed limits in the town and this causes driver confusion. The entire built-up part of Sandy should have a 20mph speed limit.
 - b) All of Swansholme Gardens should be covered by the 20mph limit.
 - c) School gate parking is a higher priority for attention near to Laburnum Lower School.
7. Robert Peel Lower School (Dapifer Drive and Berwick Way). A total of 5 representations have been received, two of which are objections. The main points raised are as follows:-
 - a) The main problem with school trips is the volume of traffic and poor parking practises, so parking controls should be considered.
 - b) A 20 mph is not needed as vehicle speeds are already low.
 - c) There are concerns that road humps will be installed to ensure that speeds are kept low.
 - d) The 20mph speed limit should operate during school terms and times only.
8. Sandy Upper School (Engayne Avenue). 1 objection has been received. The main point raised is as follows:-
 - a) Waverley Avenue and its side roads should be included in the 20mph limit.
9. St Swithuns Lower School (Ivel Road). 2 objections have been received. The main point raised is as follows:-
 - a) It is impossible to drive at speeds above 20mph due to the width of the road and on-street parking at school travel times.
10. Maple Tree Lower School (Fallowfield). A total of 6 representations have been received, all of which are objections. The main points raised are as follows:-
 - a) The existing road humps already keep speeds low, so a 20mph speed limit is not needed.
 - b) Ivel Park and Goldfinch Drive should be included within the 20mph zone.

11. In addition, some additional general responses and comments have been received.
 - a) Bedfordshire Police accept the proposals and have raised no objection. They have a slight concern about compliance with the 20mph limit proposed in Engayne Avenue due to the character of the road.
 - b) Councillor Maudlin welcomes the proposals.
 - c) Sandy Town Council welcomes the proposals, but would like the 20mph limit on Swansholme Gardens to be extended to Bedford Road.
 - d) A number of respondents are concerned about the use of Council tax-payers money on this scheme in such a difficult financial climate.

Conclusion and the Way Forward

12. The 20mph speed limit proposals have been designed in accordance with central Government guidance. They have taken into account the character of the roads and individual circumstances near to each of the schools.
13. The following observations relate to the specific points that have been raised in respect to the proposals outside Laburnum Lower and Sandye Place Middle Schools:-
 - a) The existing and proposed speed limits cover self-contained areas of Sandy, which generally falls in line with Government advice. There is a long-term trend towards imposing lower speed limits and it is possible that future consideration could be given to 20mph limits in other areas of Sandy. However, it is important that they are largely self-enforcing and this would not be the case in some of Sandy's roads. Hence, it is unlikely to be feasible to impose a blanket 20mph limit across the whole town.
 - b) The speed limit proposals are centred on schools for obvious road safety reasons. In addition, they have been confined to relatively small zones where drivers will hopefully respect the need for a lower speed limit. If all of Swansholme Gardens was covered by a 20mph limit it would cover a significantly larger area and some roads would not be suitable due to existing traffic speeds, meaning that compliance with a 20mph limit would be poor.
 - c) As part of the Sandy 'Safer Routes to Schools' project an assessment of parking outside all schools was carried out and restrictions are due to be implemented shortly. At Laburnum Lower School this involves legalising the School Keep Clear markings only.
14. The following observations relate to the specific points that have been raised in respect to the proposals outside Robert Peel Lower School:-
 - a) As part of the aforementioned parking assessment, restrictions are due to be introduced near to the school in the very near future.
 - b) It is hoped that a 20 mph limit will lower speeds further and will emphasise to drivers that they are entering an area where extra care is needed.
 - c) There are currently no plans to install traffic calming measures.
 - d) It is possible to introduce a part-time 20mph limit, but because this is a residential area, where lower vehicle speeds are desirable, it was felt it should be operational at all times.

15. The following observations relate to the specific points that have been raised in respect to the proposals outside Sandy Upper School:-
 - a) If the Waverly Avenue area was also covered by a 20mph limit it would cover a significantly larger area and some roads would not be suitable due to the existing speed of traffic on them, meaning that compliance with a 20mph limit would be poor. The Winchester Road area has been included within the 20mph limit because the roads naturally lead to lower vehicle speeds and are more likely to be used as walking routes to the school.
16. The following observations relate to the specific points that have been raised in respect to the proposals outside St Swithuns Lower School:-
 - a) It is acknowledged that this 20mph limit covers a small area where the character of the roads already results in low vehicle speeds. However, it is hoped that a 20mph limit will lower speeds further and will emphasise to drivers that they are entering an area where extra care is needed. In addition, it provides consistency of speed limits near to schools in Sandy.
17. The following observations relate to the specific points that have been raised in respect to the proposals outside Maple Tree Lower School:-
 - a) The original design of the Fallowfield estate included road humps and other traffic calming features and it was always anticipated that a 20mph zone would be introduced. This was delayed for various reasons, but it has been decided that this should be included in the current proposal. Regulations dictate that 20mph zones must have traffic calming measures in place at specified intervals and this is the case in Fallowfield.
 - b) Ivel Park and Goldfinch Drive are slightly remote from the proposed 20mph zone, so could not be included. In addition, the roads are not traffic-calmed and do not have a school.
18. In conclusion, it is felt that the proposed 20mph speed limit proposals are appropriate in the respect that they will promote road safety in the vicinity of schools and adjacent residential streets. The extents of the areas covered by the proposed 20mph limits have been kept to a reasonable level to ensure that they meet Government Regulations and advice. The roads have been carefully chosen to ensure a reasonable level of compliance without the need for extensive and costly physical traffic calming measures.
19. It is recommended that the proposed 20mpmh speed limits and zone at all five schools go ahead as advertised.

Appendices:

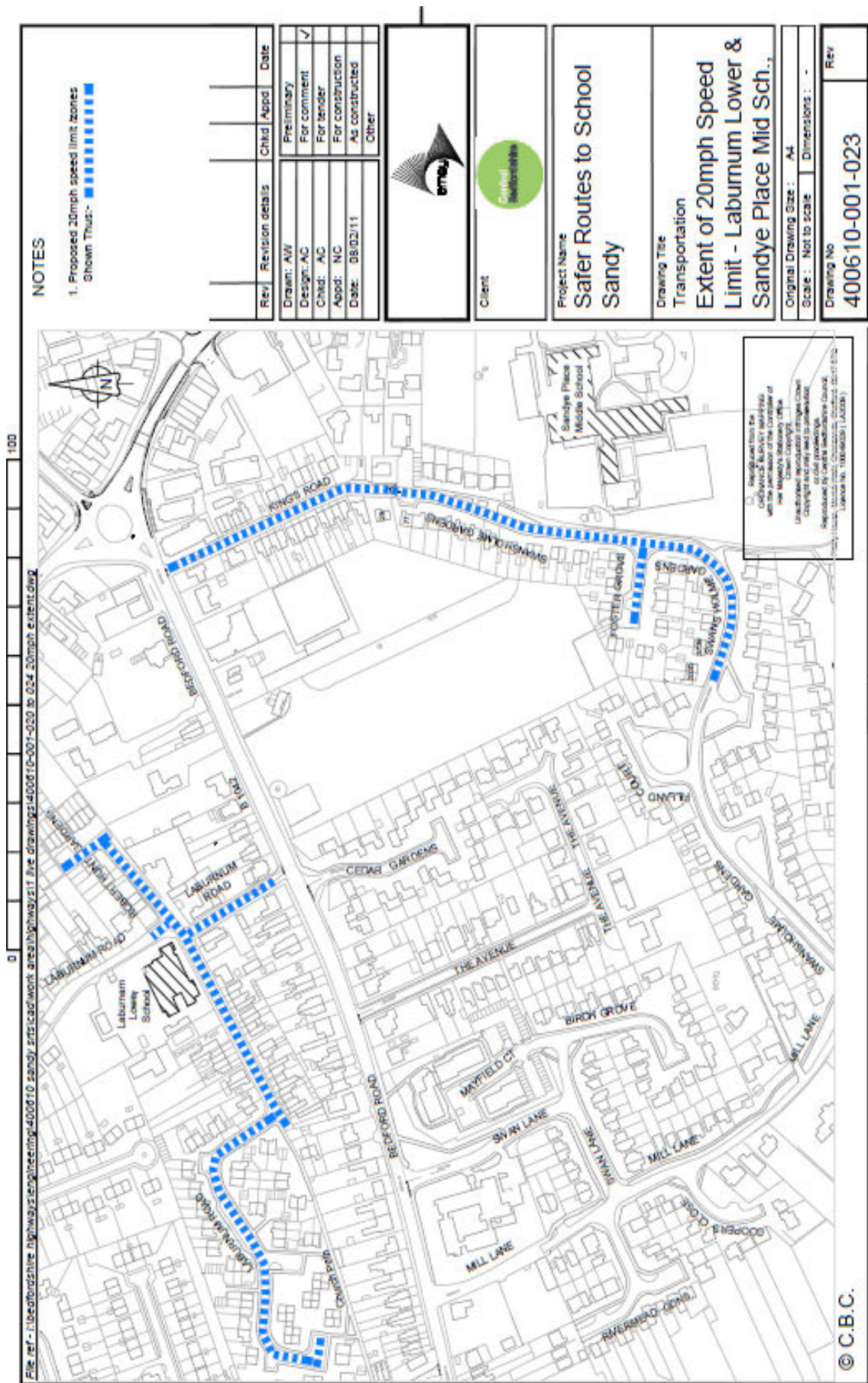
Appendix A – Location plans for all five schools

Appendix B – Combined public notices for all five schools

Appendix C – Representations on proposals

APPENDIX A

Laburnum Lower and Sandye Place Middle Schools



NOTES

- Proposed 20mph speed limit zones
Shown Thus: - ■■■■■■■■■■

Rev	Revision details	Chkd	Appd	Date
	Drawn: AM			
	Design: AC			
	Chkd: AC			
	Appd: NC			
	Date: 08/02/11			

Final	✓
For comment	
For tender	
For construction	
As constructed	
Other	



Client
Cavaliers Building Contractors

Project Name
**Safer Routes to School
Sandy**

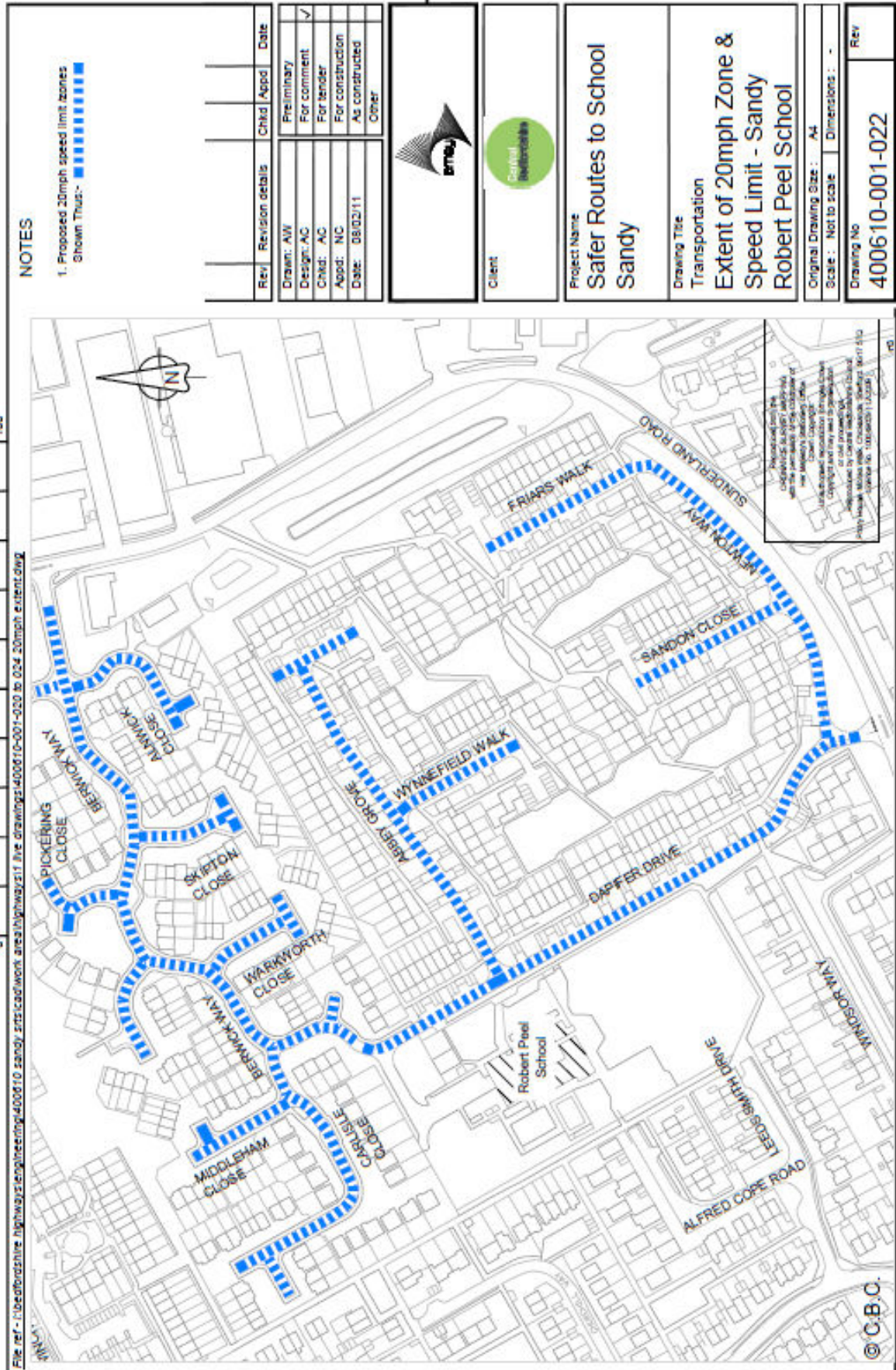
Drawing Title
**Transportation
Extent of 20mph Speed
Limit - Laburnum Lower &
Sandye Place Mid Sch.,**

Original Drawing Size : A4
Scale : Not to scale
Dimensions : -

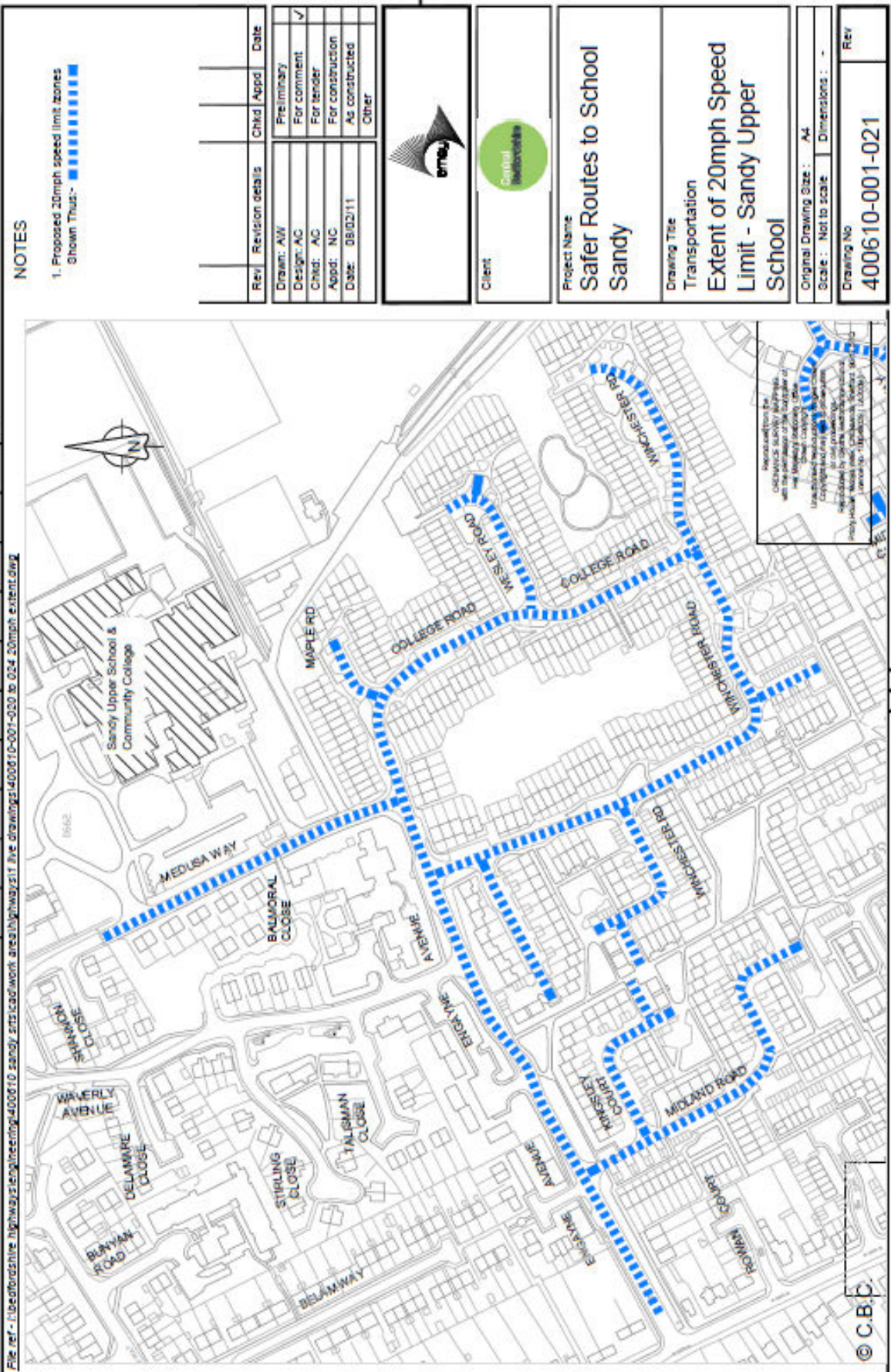
Drawing No
400610-001-023

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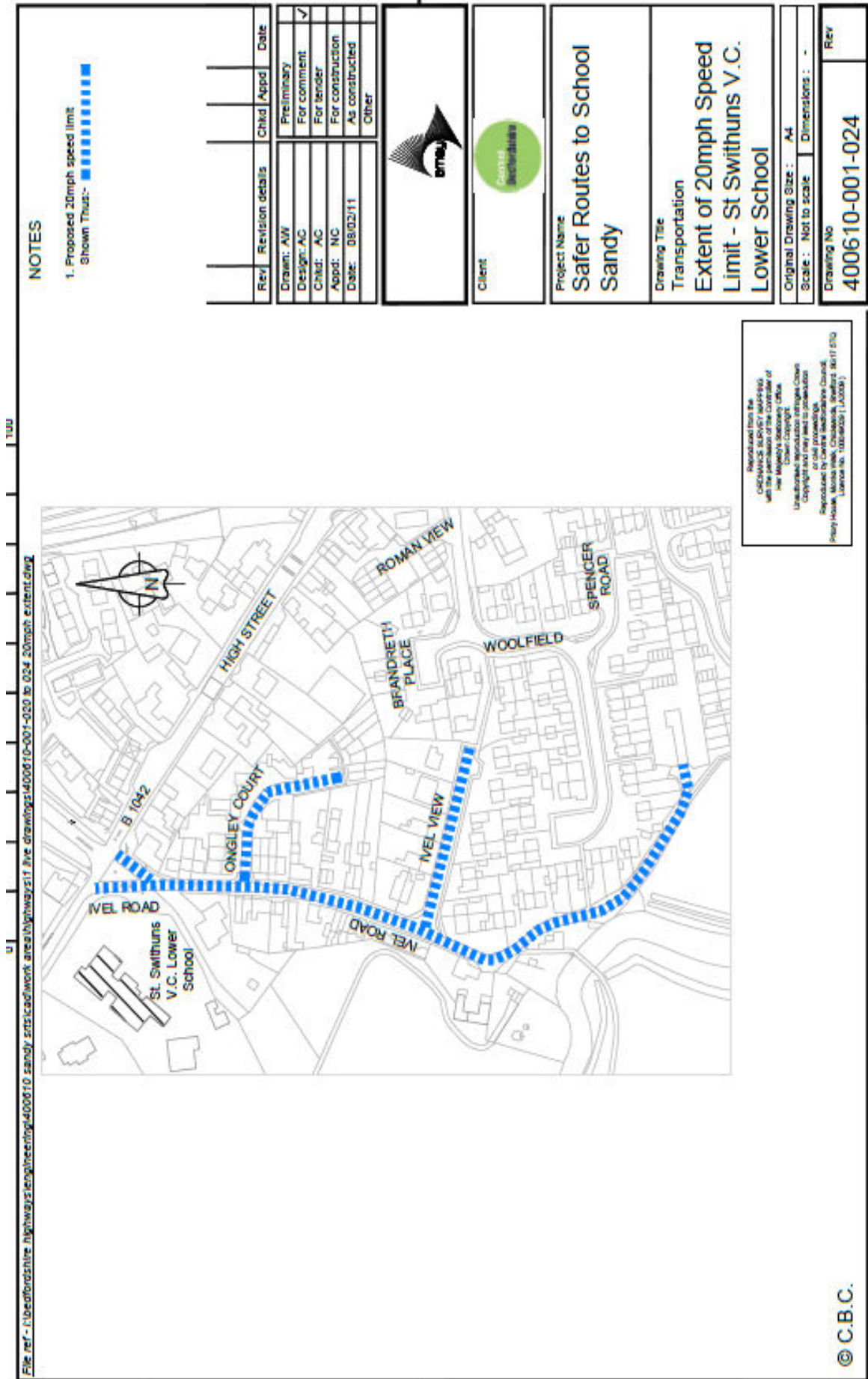
Robert Peel Lower School



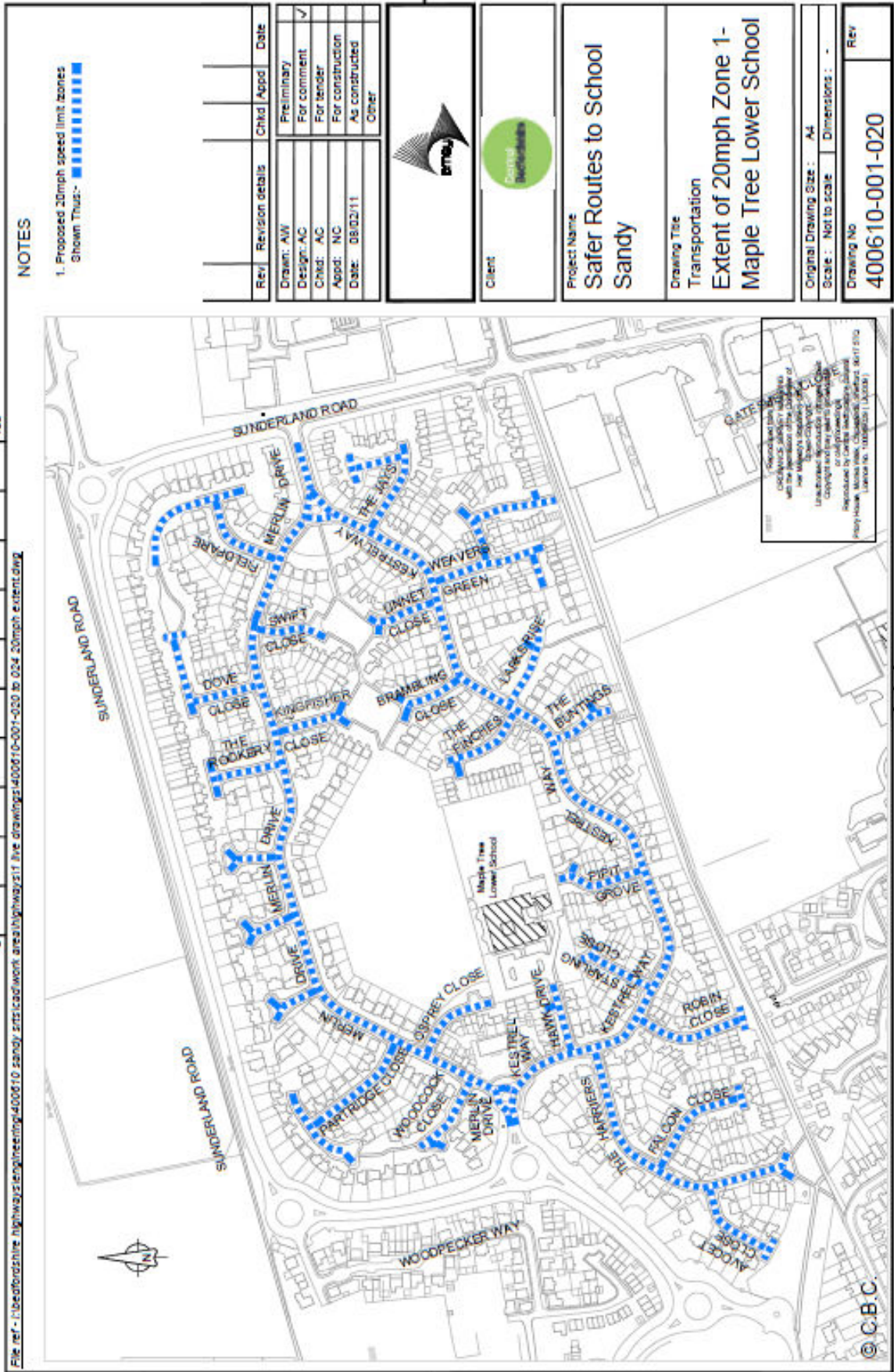
Sandy Upper School



St. Swithuns Lower School



Maple Tree Lower School



PUBLIC NOTICE

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE 20MPH SPEED LIMITS AND ZONES IN VARIOUS ROADS NEAR SCHOOLS IN SANDY

Reason for the proposal: The proposed Orders are considered necessary on the grounds of promoting road safety. The 20mph limits should lower vehicle speeds, which would create a safer environment for children and parents in the areas surrounding the school and on pedestrian routes. Therefore, Central Bedfordshire Council proposes to make Speed Limit Orders as follows:

To introduce a 20mph speed limit on the following lengths of road in the area of Laburnum Lower and Sandye Place Middle Schools in Sandy:-

Laburnum Road	For its entire length
Swansholme Gardens	From Kings Road to a point approximately 3 metres west of the boundary between nos.33 and 35 Swansholme Gardens.
Kings Road	For its entire length
Robert Hunt Gardens	For its entire length
Foster Grove	For its entire length

Order Title: if made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (20mph Speed Limit) (Laburnum Road and Swansholme Gardens Area, Sandy) Order 201**"

To introduce a 20mph speed limit zone on the following lengths of road in the Fallowfield area of Sandy:-

Merlin Drive	From a point approximately 24 metres west of the centre of its westerly roundabout junction with Kestrel Way to a point approximately 17 metres west of the western kerb line of Sunderland Road.
Kestrel Way	For its entire length
Woodcock Close	For its entire length
Osprey Close	For its entire length
Partridge Piece	For its entire length
The Rookery	For its entire length
Kingfisher Close	For its entire length
Dove Close	For its entire length
Swift Close	For its entire length
Fieldfare	For its entire length
Hawk Drive	For its entire length
The Harriers	For its entire length
Falcon Close	For its entire length
Avocet Close	For its entire length
Robin Close	For its entire length
Starling Close	For its entire length
Pipit Grove	For its entire length
The Buntings	For its entire length
The Finches	For its entire length
Larks Rise	For its entire length
Bramling Close	For its entire length
Linnet Close	For its entire length
Weavers Green	For its entire length
The Jays	For its entire length

Order Title: if made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (20mph Speed Limit Zone) (Fallowfield Area, Sandy) Order 201**"

To introduce a 20mph speed limit on the following lengths of road in the area of Robert Peel Lower School in Sandy:-

Berwick Way	For its entire length
Dapifer Drive	For its entire length
Carlisle Close	For its entire length
Middleham Close	For its entire length
Warkworth Close	For its entire length
Lindisfarne Close	For its entire length
Skipton Close	For its entire length
Pickering Close	For its entire length
Alnwick Close	For its entire length
Abbey Grove	For its entire length
Wynnefield Walk	For its entire length
Newton Way	For its entire length
Friars Walk	For its entire length
Sandon Close	For its entire length

Order Title: if made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (20mph Speed Limit) (Berwick Way and Dapifer Drive Area, Sandy) Order 201**"

To introduce a 20mph speed limit on the following lengths of road in the area of Sandy Upper School in Sandy:-

Engayne Avenue	For its entire length
Medusa Way	From its junction with Engayne Avenue to a point in line with the rear property of nos.1 and 2 Shannon Close.
College Road	For its entire length
Midland Road	For its entire length
Kingsley Court	For its entire length
Winchester Road	For its entire length
Maple Road	For its entire length
Wesley Road	For its entire length

Order Title: if made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (20mph Speed Limit) (Engayne Avenue Area, Sandy) Order 201**"

To introduce a 20mph speed limit on the following lengths of road in the area of St. Swithuns Lower School in Sandy:-

Ivel Road	For its entire length
Ivel View	For its entire length
Ongley Court	For its entire length

Order Title: if made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (20mph Speed Limit) (Ivel Road Area, Sandy) Order 201**"

Objections: should be sent in writing to the Transportation Manager, Bedfordshire Highways, Woodlands Annexe, Manton Lane, Bedford, MK41 7NU, or email centralbedsconsultation@amey.co.uk, stating the grounds on which they are made by 8th March 2011.

Technology House
239 Ampthill Road
Bedford MK42 9QQ

Basil Jackson
Assistant Director for Highways

11th February 2011

APPENDIX C

Representations on Laburnum Lower and Sandye Place Middle Schools proposal

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX

Sent: 24 February 2011 09:41

To: Central Beds Consultation

Cc:

Subject: Re: Public Notice CBC 20mph Speed Limit - various roads

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Public Notice "Central Bedfordshire Council 20mph Speed Limit - Laburnham Rd & Swansholme Gardens Order 2011"

Firstly let me to commend the speed restrictions Zone on Sandy High Street. I believe that the High Street Zone is now a much safer people friendly place to be for adults, and parents & children on their way to school or generally walking around and shopping in that area. I think it works and the average speed of traffic has reduced to well below 30mph in that part of the town. However I do think a high proportion of vehicles are travelling above the current 20mph speed limit; but to be frank I don't think that is an issue at all to worry about.

But I wish to object to the proliferation of different road speeds within Sandy. I think such a move is inconsistent leading to confusion, it's unnecessarily costly for the small areas being addressed and doesn't go far enough if child road safety is truly the issue that needs to be addressed.

It seems as if Central Bedfordshire Council - possibly the whole country - are addressing the issue of road safety in a piecemeal way rather than looking at the holistic bigger picture. I object to the piecemeal approach because it results in a dollops of potentially "safer areas" that result in confusion for motorists - offering them more things to look at when they should be concentrating on looking out for children. I also think the proliferation of the number of street signs will have a knock on the operating cost (i.e. increase the costs to the taxpayer on an ongoing basis) whilst offering no significant gain. The approach being proposed is wasteful of funds at a time when the whole country should seek to carefully consider where it needs to spend money most effectively and attempt to minimise ongoing costs.

I hear the discussions and it's almost like the hearing the story of Emperors and his new clothes". We hear the experts quoting "safety of our children getting to school is paramount" and is anyone prepared to put their pension on a guarantee that these measures will ensure the safety of every child? I think not. I have lived in Swansholme Gardens since 1983 (almost 30 years) and I am very confident that there have been no accidents, as a result of speeding traffic, in the part of the street where the speed limit is being proposed. However, I know there have been significant damage done to a number children who have been maimed for life because of inappropriate surfaces being put on the pavements and roads during this time and do I see you doing anything about that on safety grounds? No - but that's a slightly different issue you have money to spend here.

So why do you believe its good value for money to invest in this - especially at a time when the country has so little money to spend?

When I drive home to my house in xx Swansholme I see the children who walk out of Sandye Place School along Swansholme Gardens towards Kings Road and more often than not a group of them will walk along the road, and so the cars have to slow down to a walking pace in any case. The only time there is a chance that people can speed in cars is when the children are in school or have gone home. Seems perversely odd but it's true.

Additionally the majority of children leaving the school will walk along the street to areas where the speed limits are above 20mph and it is in those areas that the children are more likely to suffer serious injury; (i.e. at the end of Kings Road, or down Swansholme Gardens towards Mill lane). So I think putting these speed limits in a restricted area is unlikely to make a jot of difference.

I'd also ask why would we want to only seek their safety in those limited places? Why not make sure that wherever they walk in Sandy they can only ever be badly injured by someone exceeding the speed limits - or driving carelessly and be more certain to be able to prosecute the person for doing such?

I learnt today that the Sandy Town council discussed recently the possibility of having the whole of Sandy set at 20mph zone. I understand that was po-pooed as being naïve - because of the resistance put up by CBC planners to such a proposal. It may be naïve but I would very much support this idea. I think that it could be achieved quite easily with minimum cost. By simply putting up big signs to indicate traffic was entering (and exiting) a 20mph Zone on the five main entrances to the town where the signs don't exist currently. Namely: 1) Bedford Road, 2) St Neots Road, 3) London Road, 4) the first Fallowfield roundabout, off the A1 south bound, toward the Fallowfield estate and 5) a further sign post might be

placed on New Road to make it safer for people generally around the Station area too. Note that I have purposely included the industrial estate too as I think children and adults could be at risk there too.

Such a 20 mph Zone proposal for Sandy would involve the minimum of new signs and thus reduce cost of implementing and the ongoing cost of replacements, It would have many benefits for all of the residents of Sandy too; it would

- undoubtedly reduce the average speed of traffic on our streets,
- in doing so make the whole town more child friendly.
- It should also make it certain that police can and will prosecute people who were travelling slightly above 30mph ie the danger speed for hitting children.
- The general reduction of speed through the town would deter people using Sandy as a rat-run - should the A1 run slow.
- It would even encourage people who were travelling to and from the Potton/Everton area from to by-pass Sandy Town center either through Tempsford/Everton or via New Road.

All in all a great result for the town I'd reducing both the amount of traffic and their speed in one single swoop.

This is the sort of proposal I would like to see being made by CBC throughout CB to demonstrate you have our towns' folk safety at heart and that you are finding ways to optimise the limited investment funds the country has. I'd even question if there would be a need for speed humps as travelling at 20mph in towns and villages would become the norm.

I look forward to your reply.

Xxxxxx Xxxxxx

From: XX XXXXXX

Sent: 07 March 2011 13:53

To: Central Beds Consultation

Subject: Central Bedfordshire Council (20 mph speed limit) (Laburnham Road and Swansholme Gardens Area, Sandy) Order 2011

Objection:

We would like to see the proposed 20 mph speed limit applied to the whole of Swansholme Gardens, Sandy, not just from 33/35 Swansholme Gardens to Kings Road, Sandy only. Several school children walk the entire length of Swansholme Gardens to get to school and there is a greater risk to children crossing this road along the straight part (between 1 - 33 Swansholme Gardens) where the speed of cars frequently reach 30 mph+.

If this change is to promote road safety, especially for children, we believe this would be a beneficial amendment to your plans.

Yours sincerely,

Mr & Mrs X Xxxxx

xx Swansholme Gardens

Sandy

18 February 2011

Transport Manager
Highways & Transport
Woodlands Annex
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7NU

Proposed 20mph Speed Limit Laburnum Road

Dear Mr Chapman,

I am in complete agreement with the speed limit being introduced, ironically it is mainly the parents delivering their children to school that are the biggest speed offenders. Can I suggest that also in the interest of safety a white line should be painted on the road at the T junction approaching the school, to enforce the highway code no parking, within 32 feet of a road junction, again it is mainly parents who insist on parking right up the junction within a few feet of the road junction, this has led to several collisions and near collisions, as traffic approaching the school, have to travel on the wrong side of the road, and are completely blind to any traffic turning into Laburnum Road from Robert Hunt Gardens. Outside of school starting and finishing times there is a very low flow of traffic in the road.

I would also point out that adjacent to the side of my property there is a strip of land that I believe belongs to a Charity Housing association that developed the site behind my property, the approved plan for the development of flats to the rear of my property, included the landscaping and planting of small trees and shrubs on this strip, that has not been complied with, despite the development having been finished and flats fully occupied several years ago. Consequently this strip is being used for casual parking, again vehicles driving off this strip are completely blind to a driver approaching the school.

Yours faithfully,

From: Xxxxx & Xxxxx
Sent: 27 February 2011 14:02
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: Safer routes to school in Sandy consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the safer routes to schools in Sandy consultation.

We do not object to the proposals.

However, we would like to see the extent of the proposed 20mph zone in Swansholme Gardens increased to the whole length of the road. We cannot see any sensible reason for ending the 20mph zone between nos 33 and 35. We are concerned that in doing so will simply encourage people to accelerate beyond the 30mph limit on leaving the 20mph zone to the end of the road which is an otherwise quiet residential street. Locating the change from 20mph to 30mph at the junction between Swansholme Gardens and Mill Lane would prevent this from happening as vehicles would need to slow for the junction anyway.

Regards

Xxxxx Xxxxxx
Xxxxx Xxxxxx
Swansholme Gardens

From: Xxxxxx Xxxxx
Sent: 22 February 2011 09:56
To: Central Beds Consultation
Cc: Clothier, Adrian
Subject: Proposed Introduction of 20mph Speed Limit in parts of Sandy

Safer Routes to School, Sandy - Proposed 20mph Speed Limits / Zones

I am responding first as a resident living at xx Swandsholme Gardens, Sandy SG19 1HI to the letter sent to all residents specific to Laburnham Lower and Sandye Place Middle School and second as a member of Sandy Town Council to comment on all of the schemes in Sandy as outlined in your letter with enclosures dated 9 February addressed to Mrs Foster, Clerk to the Council.

In principal and broadly speaking I am in support of all the proposed schemes which are aimed at slowing traffic in what are predominately residential areas and potentially making roads not only safer for pupils and others going to and from schools but for all pedestrians, cyclists and other road users.

Let me deal first with the Laburnham Lower and Sandye Place Middle School scheme and I refer to the Drawing No. 400610-001-023. The zone approaching Laburnham Road Lower School and incorporating Robert Hunt Gardens seems logical and sensible and I really have no other comment to make.

So far as the Sandye Place Middle School scheme is concerned however I do have one fundamental suggestion to make. Please note that there is only one access for vehicles onto and off the estate through which Mill Lane and Swansholme Gardens are really the main roads. **That is along Swan Lane at the junction with Bedford Road.** It is possible for motor cycles to enter and leave the estate via a gap in bollards in Mill Lane 100 yards south of it's junction with Bedford Road and also via Kings Road and finally from Beeston over the river Ivel Bridges at the south end of Mill Lane. My wife and I have lived at our present house for more than 30 years and during that time the number of vehicles using all the roads on the estate has steadily increased both because there are on average more cars per household but also because in recent years more and more parents drive their children to Sandye Place School using the school entrance in Swansholme Gardens just north of Foster Grove. This same pedestrian entrance is also used by those working in the Youth Service office located on the school campus while their cars are left parked on the road in the close vicinity often creating an obstruction close to the aforesaid junction.

It is quite obvious just by regular observation that a large proportion of the vehicles which travel along Swan Lane, Mill Lane and the entire length of Swansholme Gardens do so in excess of 30pmh. To begin the 20mph zone only 50yards from the bend in Swansholme Gardens (between Nos 33 and 35) is pretty pointless. Drivers who have been travelling at well in excess of 30mph along Mill Lane and Swansholme Gardens have by necessity to brake in anticipation of this bend anyway and although some may accelerate again out of the bend only a small number are likely to reach their previous speed again since most will be stopping no more than 50 yards or so further north or will turn left into Foster Grove. Similarly very few if any vehicles can or do reach a speed of more than 20mph in any of the other roads on the estate, for example, Birch Grove, Coopers Close etc. etc. Therefore why not consider imposing a 20mph limit on the **whole estate** (including I suppose Kings Road)? This would apply to all drivers when entering Swan Lane from Bedford Road and although doubtless some tidying up would be necessary by placing 20mph signs at the end of Mill Lane off Bedford Road and again at the south end of Mill Lane close to the junction with Park Court (not shown on Drawing No. 400610-001-023) to take account of motor cyclists who unfortunately use that as their route from Beeston and maybe beyond the result would be to make all of the nearby roads safer.

Taking the wider view now and wearing my STC hat I supported the resolution that was passed at the meeting of Sandy Town Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee last night details of which I am sure will be communicated to you in due course. I would emphasize that with regard to Maple Tree Lower School I would urge that the scheme is extended to include Ivel Park including Goldfinch Drive and adjacent roads and that a pedestrian crossing is provided to assist pupils and others walking between Ivel Park and Maple Tree School (and elsewhere) to safely cross Sunderland Road.

I look forward to hearing in due course both as a resident and Town Councillor the outcome of the consultation and of course would welcome the opportunity of discussing the proposed schemes and my views as set out above further if it was felt potentially useful to do so.

Cllr Xxxxx Xxxxx

Ivel Ward, Sandy Town Council
xx Swansholme Gardens
Sandy
SG19 1HL

From: Xxxxx
Sent: 27 February 2011 20:33
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: Speed Restrictions Laburnum Road Order 2011

Dear Sir

I am writing to formally object to the speed limit being reduced in the Laburnum Road area of Sandy on the following grounds:

1. The speed limit reduction would not stop parents/ guardians illegally parking during the drop off and pick up times of the schools. Which is the most crucial time when the traffic system requirements management.
2. The main Bedford road where parent and guardians cross the road is a 30MPH, however, Vehicles still travel well in excess of this. Thus this should be where the main reduction in speed is concentrated, as well as the smaller side roads.
3. The money spent installing new signage could be better allocated in educating the groups of parent and or guardians who uses the areas for a short period of time. Or in addition making onside of the road a "no parking or waiting" which would increase a safer highway for all. Allowing motorist to see children and avoiding possible accidents where children are crossing between park vehicles.
4. Also it should be well noted that cars parked in Laburnum Road do so illegally, which in event of an emergency would stop fire appliance attending the cul-de-sac at the bottom of the road system due.
5. Please also could you confirm how this new speed restriction would be monitor and enforced as point number two of this email show that the main road is not monitored or any type of enforcement is used.

I would welcome a more open and frank discussion before some person / committee on the bases of a desktop study, carries out these works / proposals.

I await your response.

Regards

Xxxxx Xxxxxx
xx Laburnum Road.

From: Xxxx Xxxxxx
Sent: 20 February 2011 14:19
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: swanholmegardens speed limit

I read with interest the proposed speed limit to swansholmegardens, but am concerned why it stops at no 33, if you look at the road map outside house numbers 19 to 27 inclusive the long sweeping bend has at times seen some near misses, as parents turn in the cull de sac opposite no 21 wear I live to drop off the little treasures and turn round at same time, this area is completely blind if coming from school area. May I ask why all the other proposals of speed limits are the full length of road but we only get half? I do hope this highlights an overlooked issue as one day damage or injury will happen, regards X X Xxxxx number xx swansholmegardens.

Representations on Robert Peel Lower School proposal

Sandy
Beds
SQ19 1QJ.
18.2.11.
Transportation Manager
Bedfordshire Highways.
Woodlands Avenue,
Morton Vale, Bedford.

Dear Sir,

We wish to register our opinion about the proposed 20mph speed limit for our area. We have no objection to 20mph limit but do not feel it is necessary to be 24hrs - it should only be during school times and terms.

Yours faithfully,

From: Xxxx Xxxxxx
Sent: 14 February 2011 14:16
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: Sandy Schools - 20mph Zone & speedlimit - Sandy Robert Peel School

To Whom It May Concern:

As a long term (37 years) resident of Dapifer Drive it would seem to be more beneficial and in my opinion promote a safer environment for **all** that a resident only parking scheme be created rather than the draconian measure of restricting speed limits most probably through the installation of either costly speed bumps or kerb-kerb speed ramps.

The fact of the matter is that the parents of the children/ visitors to this school actually cause the unsafe environment due to both the sheer volume of traffic in a non through road area and inconsiderate parking practices. So it seem obvious that a parking restriction would both create a safer environment for parents walking their children to school and for the actual residents of the area many of whom have lived in these streets since the 1970's who yet again seem to be overlooked. For instance since the last "improvement" works carried out I personally have no where to actually park my car unless I garage it, which at times is impossible due to visitors to the school.

The actual residents of the area are tax payers and are at least equally deserving of a duty of care from Central Bedfordshire Authority and in my opinion more so as we will be permanently affected by this proposed change.

Thursday, 17 February 2011.

Arney
Nick Chapman – Transport Manager
Woodlands Annex
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7NU



Dear Sirs,

RE: ROBERT PEEL SCHOOL – SANDY

I have received your letter regarding the 20 mph area around the above school.

Firstly nearly all the roads are cul-de-sacs and it is difficult to get above 20 mph to travel the length of any of them.

Secondly the Dapifer Drive & Berwick Way adjoinment has a barrier so no cars can travel through it.

The only roads that might need a 20mph, or humps, would be Dapifer Drive & Abbey Road as they have direct access to the front of school. Also Windsor Way, which is not included in your highlighted area has many cars that drop children off at the corner by the footpath to the school, as also in Leeds Smith Drive & Alfred Cope Road.

Maybe Berwick Way, being the main road should also be considered as it stops right by the school, but none of the others as they are ALL small Cal de Sacs & you cannot get speed on these roads anyway.

Why waste money – eg, like the widening of the pavement at the Roundabout top of Sunderland Road & St Neots Road, that will cause no end of problems when completed.

Anyway, I have made my point, of course you have made your minds up and what you want to do will be done regardless. The balls in your court.

Sincerely

Sandy,
Beds SG19 1QT

From: Xxxx Xxxxx
Sent: 27 February 2011 11:16
To: Central Beds Consultation
Cc: Phill Smith
Subject: Regarding the proposed 20mph speed limit in Sandy

Dear Nick Chapman, Transportation Manager,

I am writing in response to your letter reference GPB/46331/3.12 Dated 10 February 2011 regarding the Proposed 20mph Speed Limit / Zones.

I would like to take this opportunity to object to the plans for the following reasons: I am a resident on Berwick way and have been living here for 6 years with a house facing the road directly. In the six years of being a resident here I have not observed any fast drivers. I believe the reason for not seeing cars drive fast is because all of the current speed restrictions and cars that randomly park on the curbside acting as chicanes. As a result it seems like enforcing a 20mph limit will make little/no difference. From personal experience of driving along Berwick Way I am certainly not able to exceed 20mph.

After observing other 20mph zones it appears that speed bumps tend to be installed - this would be the main problem as they increase noise pollution with cars braking, accelerating and hitting them. They also increase wear and tear on cars (clutches, brakes, fuel consumption, suspension, shock absorbers, exhaust collisions plus many other factors) which is really not the way to go with today's 'Green' thinking. They also cost a large amount of money to install and I am sure the local council can think of better things to spend their limited funds on during this financial crisis - perhaps a few potholes.

It may also be worth noting that most of today's modern vehicles have very advanced suspension making speed bumps felt less at high speed which may have the adverse effect of speeding traffic up. As for the smaller cars that do feel speed bumps, they don't have the power to go over 20mph with Berwick Ways current speed restrictions.

If the 20mph zone just consists of a few 20mph sign posts then feel free and go ahead (it's only tax payers money at the end of the day), but speed bumps would cause more disturbance than they would solve on Berwick Way.

Yours faithfully,
Xxxxx Xxxxx
xxx Berwick Way,
Sandy,
Beds SG19 1TR

From: Xxxxx Xxxx
Sent: 12 February 2011 12:20
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: order to introduce 20 mph speed limit - Dapifer Drive area - reference AC/46331/3.12

Whilst fully supporting the intent to improve road safety and possibly the need for a limited application of a reduced speed limit in this area, we nonetheless feel as residents that the proposals to introduce a blanket 20 mph speed limit in the roads indicated is unnecessary, excessive and unlikely to achieve its aims.

We would point out that:

- None of the roads indicated on the plan are through roads and are therefore, except for school hours, only used by residents or their visitors.
- Abbey Grove and Dapifer Drive have paved foot paths with broad verges on both sides of the roads leading to the school therefore parents and pupils are well separated from vehicles.
- There is also limited requirement for parents/pupils to cross Abbey Grove as two marked crossing points have been installed in Dapifer Drive (where the school is located)

- Imposing a blanket 20 mph speed limit could actually be detrimental that to maintain such a slow constant speed requires almost constant attention to the speedometer rather than watching the road.

'Safer Routes to Schools' is an admirable aim but please let us look at the whole picture. Residents need access 24/7 whilst the parents and pupils only need to access the school during 'opening' hours therefore why not impose the limit during school hours or peak school times? It is often overlooked that once imposed, drivers would face not insignificant penalties for even marginally exceeding a 20 mph limit, even if this were say at Midnight in July - a time hardly likely to be busy with visitors to the school.

Xxxx Xxx Xxxx
xx Abbey Grove

Representations on Sandy Upper School proposal

From: Xxxx Xxxx
Sent: 28 February 2011 14:31
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: Central Beds Council(20mph Speed Limit)(Engayne Avenue Area,Sandy)Order 201

Objection to Central Bedfordshire Council (20mph Speed Limit)(Engayne Avenue Area,Sandy)Order 201

My objection to this order is that it does not include Waverley Avenue which as far as footfall goes is used by students of Sandy Upper, Sandy Middle, Robert Peel and Maple Tree, basically a continuation of Robin Close.

Looking at the orders for other estates especially Fallowfield where every cul-de-sac would appear to be contained within the order I am surprised and disappointed that Waverley and its offshoots are not contained in a similar manner.

Waverley is also used by a number of residents of Hanley Court and Quince Court.

Although a small estate we do seem to have a number of vehicle movements through out the day with some struggling to keep speed within the limit, a 20mph may well slow them a little.

Xxxx Xxxx
xx Delamare Close
Sandy
SG19 1TA

Representations on St Swithuns Lower School proposal

From: Xxxx and Xxxx
Sent: 22 February 2011 16:34
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: speed limit on Ivel road.

I can see no sense in any kind of speed limit on the above road for the following reasons.

- 1 The road is so narrow no-one speeds anyway.
- 2 Parking is so bad. Cars are left all day while the occupants catch trains.,and parents taking and collecting children from school fill the road.
- 3 There is never anyone there to police the road. The High street is an example of this.
- 4 Cannot justify the cost.

Yours X X Xxxx
xx Ivel road

From: Xxxx Xxxxxx
Sent: 17 February 2011 14:55
To: Central Beds Consultation
Cc: basil.jackson@centralbeds.gov.uk
Subject: 20 mph Speed Limit, Ivel Road, Sandy

For the attention of Adam Clothier

Sir

I was under the impression that money was tight and cutbacks were the order of the day. Who, if that's the case, has been able to find the money for this unnecessary scheme?

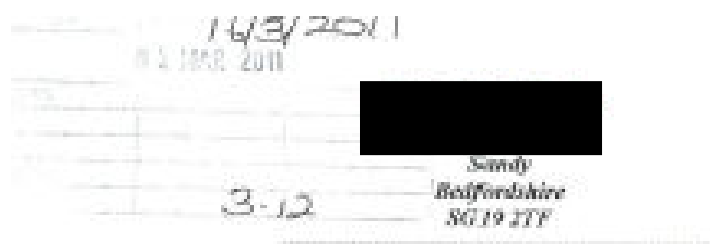
A visit to the Ivel Road area of Sandy, particularly at school start and finish times, will see that it is physically impossible for any vehicle to exceed 20 mph!!

Of course we all wish for children to be safe but the totally irresponsible parking by those delivering children to school, which continually goes unchecked, is of far more danger to children, those taking the children to school, those taking children responsibly by foot, other pedestrians and all road users, than is any suggestion of excess speed being a problem.

Until you in authority address this parking problem **I object most strongly to my money being wasted on this unnecessary and unenforceable scheme.**

Yours
X X Xxxxx
xx Ivel View
Sandy

Representations on Maple Tree Lower School proposal



Transportation Manager
Bedfordshire Highways

Monday, February 28, 2011

Dear Sir,

I am in my late 60s and live on the Fallow Field estate. In the current austerity climate is this not a project that should be shelved. I consider it almost impossible to drive at speeds in excess of 20 mph on the estate with numerous parked vehicles and speed humps, but those that do, the delivery drivers and parents racing to and from schools, will not reduce their speed just because of an almost unenforceable 20 mph restriction. I have seen no evidence that a lower speed limit enforcement is necessary. I.e. could you advise me how many pedestrian children have been injured in speeding vehicle related incidents in the lifetime of the estate. So I ask for this to be reconsidered as I believe it is a complete waste of council taxes and will create even MORE UNWANTED street furniture.

Yours sincerely,

From: XXXXX XXXXXX

Sent: 24 February 2011 10:58

To: Central Beds Consultation

Subject: Safer Routes to School, Sandy. Proposed 20mph Speed Limit on Fallowfield Estate

Dear Sir or Madam

We wish you to note **our three individual objections** to the above proposal detailed in your letter to us dated 10 February 2011 (your reference GPB/46331/3.12) regarding 20mph speed restrictions to be introduced around various schools in Sandy.

We have lived on Fallowfield for nearly 13 years and, to our knowledge, speeding traffic has not been a problem for the residents of the estate, either of school age or older. More than sufficient speed humps were put in place by Twigdens when the houses were being built and these, along with the numerous cars parked on the roadsides, prevent any vehicle from going at anything more than 20 mph already.

At a time of spending cuts across the country, we are mystified as to why Central Bedfordshire is spending what must be significant amounts of money on signage for schemes of this type, along with notices across the county "welcoming" us to Central Beds. No one needs to know they are in Central Beds - just the old "Bedfordshire" county signs are sufficient. These funds would be much better spent on the schools themselves, keeping open Sandy Library and Sports Centre, but particularly paying for a "Lollipop" man or woman to be in the vicinity of the schools at the appropriate times of the day. This also helps to foster more of a community spirit linking the older and younger generations together.

Please acknowledge receipt of these three, separate objections.

If bureaucracy provides no alternative other than to spend money on road safety regardless of the county's and country's current economic plight, we would suggest that there are many other schemes which might have greater potential for accident prevention. For example, the part of Georgetown Road and Sunderland Road in Sandy which runs from the A1 to the industrial estate currently has no footpaths (even though there are buses stopping, children crossing to go to school, and many pedestrians exercising throughout the day) with lorries and cars travelling at speed having come from the A1.

(Also please note there is no such school in Sandy as "Laburnham Lower School". It is Laburnum, like the tree.)

Yours faithfully

Xxxxx Xxxxx

Xxxxx Xxxxx

Xxxxx Xxxxx

From: Xxxxx Xxxxxx
Sent: 17 February 2011 17:24
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: Objection

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to object to the 20mph speed limits being introduced in Fallowfield, Sandy.

I object on the grounds that the school is situated on only one road and that outside of this road, the children should be with their parents.

The roads on Fallowfield already carry speed restrictions and so there are, to my knowledge, no cars travelling too fast anyway.

The national speed limit for roads such as these is 30mph and, as far as I am aware, no case has been made to reduce this, consequently, the 20mph is lower than the legal requirement.

I believe that the good and conscientious motorist in Sandy has already been penalised enough by the constant wear and tear on his/her vehicle with speed bumps all over the place and the excessively low speed limit through the centre of town and I can think of no good reason why they should now be subjected to a lower speed limit in Fallowfield. The money spent on this campaign would be better targetted by teaching the children road safety, which will benefit them throughout their lives.

Yours faithfully
Xxxx Xxxxx

General Representations

From: Xxxx Xxxx
Sent: 16 February 2011 20:11
To: Central Beds Consultation
Subject: 20 mph speed limits

Whilst I support this move, it's not just for children and their parents.

I am a pedestrian and a cyclist and would like safer routes too.

Dear Adrian

Please could you copy me in to all correspondence with regards to the Sandy safer routes to schools as I am the Ward member for Fallowfield.

I welcome the 20mph speed limits

I look forward to further info.

Kind regards
Caroline

Cllr Caroline Maudlin
Conservative Councillor for
Northhill & Blunham Ward
☎ 0300 300 8544
✉ caroline.maudlin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



PROPOSAL

Your Reference. Safer routes to school, Sandy Proposed 20mph speed limits/zones

<p>This Authority has considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order as outlined in your letter and offer the following comments for further consideration.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>I have driven the routes and found the calming that is already in place to work on the Birds estate(all the cars that I followed travelled at about 20mph)</p> <p>Most of the other roads are narrow enough with parked vehicles to be self enforcing my only concern (not objection) is Engayne Avenue as it is a fairly long straight and the calming can be straddled, but we will see how it works.</p>	
<p>This Authority has considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order as outlined in your letter, together with the reason(s) given, is accepted by this authority, therefore no objection with be offered.</p>	<p>X</p>

Name: - John Loughlin.....

Address Bedfordshire Police.....

..... Traffic Management.....

Signed:- John Loughlin.....

Sandy Town Council



Town Clerk: Susan M Foster

Your ref:

Our ref: STC/CBC/C1

Date: 28th February 2011

Mr N Chapman
Transportation Manager
Amey
Woodlands Annex
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7NU

T 1608	
PROJECT	NC
DATE	15/3/11
BY	02 MAR 2011
COST	
TOTAL	3.08

Dear Mr Chapman,

Re: Safer Routes to School, Sandy.

Town Council considered the proposed 20mph speed limit zones for Sandy at its meeting this week. Members welcomed their introduction but wanted to make some points.

- The zone leading to the rear of Sandye Place School should begin at the junction of Swan Lane with Bedford Road.
- The pupils of Maple Tree Lower School who live on the Ivel Park estate should be provided with a pedestrian crossing across the busy Sunderland Road.
- The roads leading to the rear of Robert Peel School, Glebe Road, Alfred Cope Road and Leeds Smith Drive, should be monitored in order to ensure these restrictions plus the no waiting restrictions introduced at the front of the school, do not increase the already heavy traffic in this area around school times.

Yours sincerely

Town Clerk

QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL

Council Offices, 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, SG19 1JE

Telephone: (01767 681491) Fax: (01767) 692527

e-mail: admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk