
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 3 May 2017
Subject: A6 Bedford Road, Clophill – Petition requesting an extension of the existing 40mph speed limit

Report of: Paul Mason, Assistant Director Highways

Summary: This report is to note the receipt of a petition submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council and suggest a way forward.

Recommendation: It is recommended that a full investigation be undertaken during the 2017/18 financial year to determine whether an extension of the existing 40mph speed limit in Bedford Road is appropriate. The lead petitioner be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

Contact Officer: Paul Salmon
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Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: Silsoe and Shillington

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The petition is in relation to the safe and efficient use of the highway network.

Financial:

Work will be funded from the 2017/18 Integrated Works budget.

Legal:

None from this report.

Risk Management:

None from this report.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None from this report.

Equalities/Human Rights:

None from this report.

Community Safety:

None from this report.

Sustainability:

None from this report.

Budget and Delivery:	
Estimated cost: £5,000	Budget: LAMP Integrated Works programme
Expected delivery: During 2017/18 financial year	

Background and Information

1. A petition has been received, signed by 35 people, requesting the Council to move the national speed limit signs on the A6 at the junction of Old Silsoe Road to the beginning of the dual carriageway. Supporting documents state that this would deter drivers from accelerating at a vulnerable junction where several accidents have already occurred.
2. The existing 40mph speed limit on the A6 through Clophill terminates approximately 80 metres south of the A507 roundabout. This means that the junction of Old Silsoe Road and the frontage of the filling station are currently outside of the 40mph speed limit. There appears to be some merit in lowering the speed limit on this length of road, which may result in some road safety benefits.
3. However, the request needs to be properly assessed, taking into account the collision history, characteristics of the road, current traffic speeds, suitable sign locations and initial police consultation. It is recommended that this assessment be undertaken in conjunction with other speed limit requests during the 2017/18 financial year.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Petition

Appendix B – Location plan

