

Traffic & Highways Working Party
Report to Eardisley Group Parish Council
July 2016

Speed Limit Change Requests:

Graham Hornsby at BBLP has given me this update:

At Whitney – this is a request that we are looking at internally here at BBLP and the current situation is that we gathered speed data at Whitney in mid May 16 and the next step is to produce a recommendation report taking all the relevant factors into consideration regarding the appropriateness of reducing the speed limit.

Whitney is one of six locations that we are currently looking at internally for the suitability for a speed limit reduction. We are working our way through the six with an intention of producing a report and recommendation for the local member and parish council. I would anticipate that the Whitney report is a few weeks away yet but as soon as it is finalised and approved I'm sure it will be made available.

At Eardisley and Winforton - BBLP are looking to outsource these requests for extensions to these speed limits to an external consultant. The current situation is that we have sent out enquiries to several consultants hoping to get indicative prices but still await their response. Once this situation becomes clearer and things proceed a bit further we will be in a position to give you more details.

Village Gates Project:

We now have approval to proceed subject to:

- Cable Avoidance Scans which have now been completed by Tarmac for us & submitted to BBLP
- Signature of a document by the Player family giving permission to put 2 of the gates on their land. We already have a formal letter from them giving this permission so do not foresee it being an issue.
- Alan Watkins and an authorised officer of HCC signing the Structure Licence.

At the last meeting we talked about making wooden sheaths for the gate posts. Another option has been developed using plastic tubes embedded in the ground

into which the posts slot. I will bring this up when we talk about the quotes for implementation.

Double White Lines in Winforton:

We have been given permission in principle for the double white line scheme in Winforton, subject to a final technical drawing.

We are now focussed on raising in the order of £4,500 to implement the scheme.

Hatching on Red & Traffic Islands in Whitney:

As you would expect this is more complex. We received the following response from BBLP to our formal requests:

Whitney Consultation

There is no objection in principle to the introduction of red surfacing and the possible installation of traffic islands in Whitney. However, approval would be wholly subject to an acceptable plan being submitted. We would need to ensure that any red surfacing going down would not represent a significant maintenance issue, that the installation of traffic islands/pedestrian islands would not cause traffic to overtake in unsafe locations either inside or either end of the calming measures (as there are already double white lines not far from both speed limit terminal locations so the remaining overtaking stretch is much smaller) nor be a potential risk to pedestrians. So if too much red surfacing or islands in inappropriate locations were suggested, this is would likely meet with objection. We would also need to ensure that the scheme was well supported by the variety of stakeholders that use the road. With regards to this last point, we would like to see a consultation with these stakeholders to show the support, including road users who are using the road. I suggest this be the next step to progress the scheme at this time. Once this is done, and assuming the scheme is supported, I suggest involving a suitable company to assist with progressing the design and giving advice on what is achievable in this location.

With regards to the consultation process, we would like to see a specific letter drop to all residents regarding the proposed measures along with a survey to assess parish resident support. This is especially important for residents involved in agriculture, which you have already indicated raised concerns about the scheme. Unfortunately, this means we will not be able to use the most recent Neighbourhood Plan surveys. Aside from parish residents, the other individuals that you will need to consult with are as follows:

- Local Members & Parish Councillors
- Police

- Emergency services (due to its proximity, you should consult with both Herefordshire and Powys emergency services)
- Freight Operators (including the Freight Transport Association and the Road Haulage Association)
- Any bus operators in the area using the route.

We are currently digesting all this and planning how to proceed. We will present our plans to the next meeting.

Improvements to Eardisley School Crossing:

As you know Amilia Burrage from our working party with the help of Judith Whately at HCC has been pushing and pushing for flashing lights to be installed where the school & crossing signs currently are.

The Safer Routes to School budget has been dropped so the issue was escalated to the HCC & BBLP 'control body'.

We have now been informed that a budget has now been secured and BBLP are planning the implementation into their schedule. We have in writing that it is going ahead and we should know in August exactly when we can expect the implementation.

Project Picture of GPRS Pulsa

We are now working on raising in the order of £3,000 to improve the Belisha crossing itself.

Project Picture of Modustar

Robinsons Pink Lorries:

Robinsons have come to an agreement with Pembridge Parish Council to impose a 20mph Geo-fence as they drive through the village. As you know from Tarmac hauliers can monitor the speed of their vehicles remotely. Robinsons have set their system to alert drivers if they exceed 20mph in Pembridge.

Yvonne King have liaised with Robinsons & they have agreed to do the same for Eardisley Group. We are awaiting to hear the details but expect the 3 Villages to have a geo-fence 10mph below the speed limit.

Community Speed Watch:

Seventeen volunteers ensure that there are 2 monitoring sessions each week. Since 4th April when we started this season some 98 motorists have received letters for the Police.