

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD
DATE: 18th December 2006
SUBJECT: Proposed speed limit reduction Bell Farm Lane, Minster
BY: Divisional Manager – Kent Highway Services Mid Kent Division
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: A report on the proposal to introduce a lower speed limit in Bell Farm Lane

Decision Required: Members are asked to recommend that no further action is taken in respect of this petition and that the applicant is notified accordingly

Introduction

1. Bell Farm Lane as shown in annexe A is classified the U12569 and is a rural no through road running from Chequers Road in a north easterly direction. The road is subject to the national speed limit for its whole length.

Discussion

2. A petition previously reported to the Board on the 19th December 2005 was received and has been signed by all the residents of the road requesting traffic calming or a lower speed limit. The request was added to the list of requests for investigation in the 2006/7 speed investigation programme.
3. A 24 hr/7 day automated speed survey commenced on the 17th July 2006 in the vicinity of Golden Lees Holiday Park. The average speed recorded was 18 mph and the 85%tile speed was 22 mph as shown in Table below:

Day	No of vehicles		Mean speed	85%tile
	North	South		
Monday	462	487	17.9	21.6
Tuesday	434	443	18.3	22.3
Wednesday	457	446	18.2	22.2
Thursday	439	447	18.5	22.7
Friday	574	520	17.8	22.0
Saturday	765	697	18.4	22.4
Sunday	573	696	17.8	21.8

4. Analysis of the last three year PIC up to June 2006 revealed that there have been two slight personal injury crashes. The criteria applied is that a cluster of six personal injury crashes should have occurred for a road to be considered for traffic calming.
5. Given the above and the recorded speed it would be difficult to argue for funding for a traffic calming scheme or a lower speed limit.

Decision required

6. Members are asked to recommend that no further action is taken in respect of this petition and that the applicant is notified accordingly.

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Background documents:
Annexe A: plan – Bell Farm Lane

Annexe A



Bell Farm Lane, Minster – proposed speed limit reduction



