

7 December 2006

Mr B Haratbar
Kent Highway Services
Mid-Kent Divisional Office
St. Michael's Close
Aylesford
Kent ME20 7BU.

Dear Mr Haratbar

**Meeting of the Swale Joint Transportation Board –
Monday 18 December 2006 – Agenda Item No. 13
Proposed Speed Limit Reduction – Conyer Road, Teynham.**

We note from Mr S Huckle's Report to the above meeting on the Parish Council's request for a proposed speed limit reduction for Conyer Road, Teynham that the decision required is "members are asked to recommend that no further action is taken in respect of this application and that the applicant is notified accordingly."

The Parish Council at its meeting this week were extremely unhappy about the Report to the Meeting and the "decision required."

Firstly this whole matter was raised with you as early as March 2005. A letter of general concern was sent together with an enquiry on how to proceed with obtaining a reduction in the speed currently allowed along Conyer Road. Several chase letters were sent before this matter was addressed.

Secondly, Mr Carl Read, an Officer at Kent Highway Services at that time, specifically asked the Parish Council where a good site would be for him to carry out the speed survey. He was asked to contact our Vice Chairman who gave him suggestions as to suitable sites i.e. those where speeding is seen at its highest (one even being on his own property). Mr Read subsequently chose to ignore the suggestions and took the survey in the vicinity of Oast Cottage where by virtue of parked vehicles; drivers tend to reduce their speed.

Thirdly the time that the survey was taken: i.e. 12.50 – 13.50 – is when a good many people are at lunch. Why could not a better time of day be chosen such as when people are travelling to or from work or taking their children to or from school? This would have given a truer picture of the speeds vehicles travel along this Road.

Fourthly Mr Huckle reports that the Conyer Road enjoys an excellent safety record. The Parish Council wishes it to remain so; hence its request for a reduction in the speed limit. This winding country road is used by HGVs, other commercial vehicles (buses etc.), private cars, cyclists and horse-riders and 60 mph is too high a speed to allow vehicles to travel. This is also the main route from Conyer to Teynham and the road is also used fairly extensively by walkers. As there is **no footway along the route**, walkers very often have to squeeze into the hedge to allow vehicles to pass.

The Parish Council therefore trusts that Mr Huckle's recommendation be disregarded by members of the Swale Joint Transportation Board and that action be agreed to obtain a reduction in speed limit for the derestricted areas along this Road.

Yours sincerely

Clerk to the Council

c.c. Cllr A Crowther
Cllr J Wright
Cllr A Bowles
Cllr J Disney
Mr M Radford.