

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: 7th September 2009

SUBJECT: Tunstall Road, Bredgar

BY: Divisional Manager Mid Kent

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: Report on a petition received requesting a reduction in speed limit

Decision Required: To consider report.

Introduction

1. A petition has been received from Bredgar Parish Council requesting a review of the speed limit to the north of the village.
2. Tunstall Road as shown in annexe A is classified the C603 in the inter-urban route hierarchy and is a rural road, running between Tunstall and Bredgar. The road is subject to the national speed limit from its junction with Hearts Delight Road up to the boundary of the village of Bredgar, and subject to a 30mph limit through Bredgar village.

Discussion

3. In June 2007 Bredgar Parish Council wrote to KHS concerning high vehicle speeds along the de-restricted section of Tunstall Road between Policemans Corner and Bredgar village requesting a reduction of the speed limit.
4. A 24 hr/7 day automated speed survey was carried out between Gordon Cottages and the start of the 30 mph speed limit in Bredgar. The average speed recorded was 34.6 mph and the 85%tile speed was 41.2 mph.
5. Subsequently a further review of the speed limit was undertaken by the Speed Limit Review team. Their conclusion was that the speed limit should be 50 mph in line with the guidance provided within DfT Circular 1/2006 Setting Local Speed Limits.
6. The petition now received objects to the findings of the Review Team.
7. Analysis of the last three year PIC up to 31st March 2009 revealed that this section of Tunstall Road enjoys an excellent safety record with only one recorded personal injury crash over this period of time.
8. The proposal to introduce lower speed limits along Tunstall Road and Swanton Street to the south of Bredgar was entered into the Scheme Prioritisation System for inclusion in the programme for 2010/11. An initial draft list has identified that the scheme has a very low score and priority ranking.

Decision Required

Those schemes that score few points are deemed 'non virtuous' and cannot be resubmitted for three years unless there is a fundamental change in the scheme proposal, the need for the scheme, or the assessment process.

Kent Highways will continue to monitor the situation through the annual assessment programme.

Contact Officer:
Stephen Huckle 01233 614097
Stephen.huckle@kent.gov.uk

Annexe A

