

20 mph limit in Cottenham

Is 20mph limit possible?

How much might it cost?

Would most residents pay if nec?

May 2019

Cottenham Parish Council Traffic and Transport Working Group

To clarify...

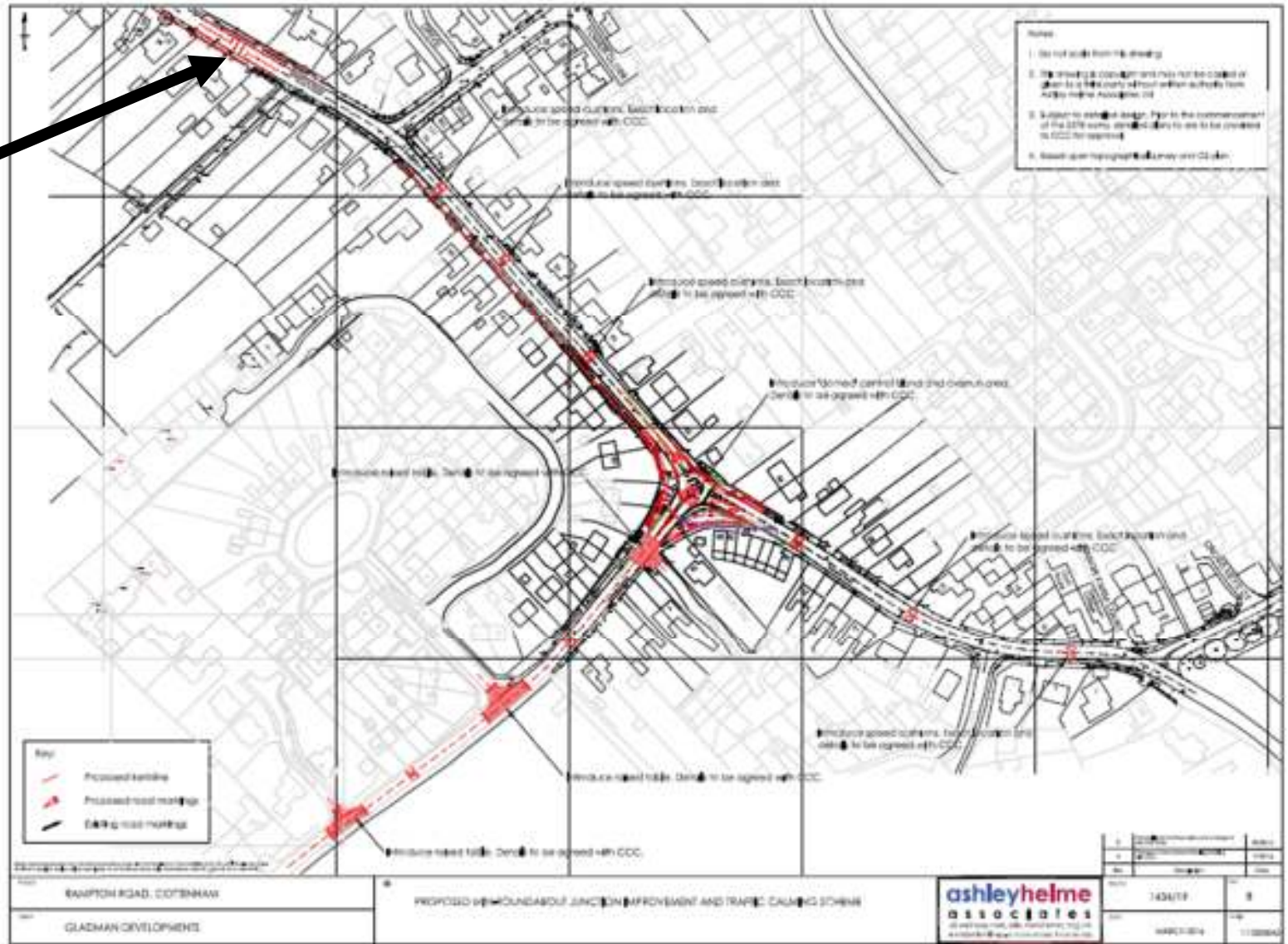
- Traffic management changes have to be approved by:
 - Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Highways
 - Cambridgeshire Police
- We have checked their latest views
- Cottenham Parish Council (CPC) can lobby & request
 - and, if necessary, fund
- CCC Highways have very limited budgets
 - improvements targeted where proven safety problems
- Cottenham PC has obtained CCC funding towards measures to reduce inbound speeding on Histon Rd
- There is likely to be a toucan crossing on Rampton Rd

B1049 Cottenham – Histon Road: Inbound 30mph reinforcement measures



- Additional virtual island after entry to village
- New / relocated (M)VAS mounting post within 30m to 100m of 30mph signage
- New white gates reinforce visibility of 30mph inbound 30mph entry point
- Dragon's teeth road markings on approach to 30mph boundary
- Advance 40mph buffer zone

Proposed location
Toucan crossing
Rampton Road



20mph limits come in 2 forms

- 20mph limit (along a road)
 - indicated by speed limit and repeater signs
 - supported by CCC where average speed already below 24mph
(2018 Histon Rd traffic survey: average speed 30 – 32mph)
(2015 Rampton Rd traffic survey: average speed 31 - 35mph)
- 20mph zone (across an area/multiple roads)
 - designed to be self-enforcing due to traffic calming measures
 - half tend to be near schools

Enforcement and police view

- Police stance on 20 mph confirmed to be:
 - *20 mph zones/limits are not supported unless the current mean speeds are 24mph or less OR there is traffic calming to render the restriction self-enforcing... there should not be reliance on police for enforcement to achieve compliance*
 - *Simply changing a number in a round sign is not going to achieve compliance if 'it doesn't look and feel like it'*
 - *...it is not the case that police will not enforce legislation..., [however] commitments, resources and other priorities may not allow for the routine, specific or targeted enforcement of a particular restriction*

Options for 20mph

- Limit along (part of) High St
- Zone(s) in residential area(s)
 - where?
 - CCC indicated this might be feasible, depending on speed profiles
- Limit on 1 - 5 approach road(s) e.g. Rampton Rd
 - almost certainly would require significant traffic calming
 - NB some options not acceptable on High St (B1049 – high traffic volume compared with many other B roads)

Main types of traffic calming

see <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-your-local-highway/speeding/>

- Vertical: humps, bumps & cushions
 - not favoured by CCC because of high traffic volume on B1049
 - vibrations and noise are a nuisance to nearby residents
 - (history of removals in Cottenham & Rampton)
- Horizontal: narrowing & priority features
 - need good visibility & balanced traffic flows
 - waiting traffic could adversely affect air quality
- Already some traffic calming in High St from 1990s
 - effectiveness is questionable

Consultations required

- 'Informal'/residents
 - to demonstrate local support for project
 - important to show residents close to traffic calming support it
 - if approval would lead to significant cost to residents, this consultation should be large-scale/vigorous
- Statutory:
 - CCC & police consultation
 - take into account e.g. buses, emergency & agricultural vehicles
 - includes other road users e.g. hauliers

Approx. costs

Speed surveys at 5 – 10 locations	£2.5k
Village-wide consultation	£1k - £10k
Statutory consultation	£4.5 - £16k
Project design, safety audit	£5k - £7k
Implementation	£130k - £280k
TOTAL	£146k - £312k

- Costs vary according to extent of zone
- CCC funding via LHI grant £15k max
- Potential additional cost via precept: £50 - £120 for 1 year for band D house (current precept £122/year)

Experiences of some other parishes

- Rampton
 - speed bumps installed and then removed
- Sawston
 - considering village wide 20mph zone (conducting feasibility study)
- Gamlingay
 - 20mph zone near school. Battle to get in place (funded by S106). Speeding still a problem – looking at other measures to improve traffic safety near school.
- Whittlesey
 - 20mph + speed humps near school. Still speeding in 20mph area where there are no speed humps.

Possible next steps

- Traffic surveys to measure average speeds
 - ⇒ whether traffic calming required to support 20mph
 - ⇒ traffic expert's advice on location and type of acceptable traffic calming
 - ⇒ rough estimate of costs
 - ⇒ potential cost to residents
- Village-wide consultation to assess support

Community Speedwatch

- There is already a way to raise motorists' awareness of their speeds in Cottenham:
- And it doesn't cost anything!
- **COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**
 - speeding drivers receive letters (& PC visit after multiple & TIC)
 - shows drivers that community cares about their speed
 - gathers evidence of traffic & speeding
 - => police speed checks
- We have a group in Cottenham
- Needs more volunteers – please sign up
- **IF ONLY WE COULD RUN DAILY SPEEDWATCH EVENTS!**

Your thoughts?
What do you want?
How best to achieve it?