

Speed Curbing Measures in Newton

15.09.14

Application for a Grant From Cambridge County Council (CCC)

Firstly I would like to thank all of you for the support that you have given to our campaign for measures to reduce the speed of vehicles through our village. I would like to particularly thank those of you that have attended the Newton Parish Council (NPC) meetings and also the special meeting we held in the village hall to formulate what measures we would ideally like to see in place.

Following the Traffic Census carried out by volunteers, I filled in the application form for the Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Grant and consulted the Cambridge Traffic Control Manager, Derek Crosby, prior to our submission to CCC. A summary of his opinion as to what the Police would favour and, conversely, would be against were as follows:

- * The police are in general against the moving of existing 30 MPH signs to outside the actual perimeter of the village residences.
- * The Police would favour and in most cases agree with creating a 40 MPH buffer zone which will pre-warn entering traffic of a reduction in speed and would allow Speed Pads to be placed before the existing 30 MPH signs.
- * The Police would not oppose the movement of a 30 MPH sign if it was only for a maximum of 100 yards.
- * 20mph limits and zones are only supported if accompanied by engineering measures that result in 'self-enforcement' on the part of the motor vehicle.

In the light of these comments and taking into account the budget constraints of NPC, the LHI Grant Application was modified and a copy of our submission is now attached. The main changes to what we discussed at our meeting are as follows..

1. Instead of moving the 30 MPH signs on the Cambridge, Harston and Whittlesford Roads, we are requesting 40 MPH buffer zones are created for the same distances that we proposed the 30 MPH signs be moved.
2. The existing 30 MPH sign be moved out by 100 yards on the Fowlmere Road.
3. Our proposal to create a 20 MPH zone in Town Street has been dropped for this application due to funding constraints.

This application for a grant of £10,000 (with NPC paying a further £4,000 making a total of £14,000) has been limited to creating 40 MPH buffer zones, the movement of the 30 MPH sign on the Whittlesford Road, Speed Pads installed on Harston and Cambridge Rd just before the existing 30 MPH signs and the repainting of road signs in Whittlesford Rd.

CCC will do a technical appraisal of the proposals in late September followed by Members Panels

meetings in October/November which Joe Oakes and I will attend.

In February 2015 we will be informed as to whether we have been successful in getting the grant.

For budget reasons I have not been able to include many of the suggestions made at our meeting but there is no reason that we cannot apply in subsequent years for further grants for other speed reduction measures.

Clive Bradbury