

# ***Chiseldon Parish Council***

The Old Chapel, Butts Road, Chiseldon, Wilts SN4 0NW

☎ 01793 740744

email: [clerk@chiseldon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chiseldon-pc.gov.uk)

website: [www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk)



## **12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 full council meeting, additional information**

### **Item 13. Change Standing Orders.**

Proposed addition.

t. Meetings of Council or Committee's/Sub-Committees should aim to finish in a timely fashion for the well-being of the Cllrs, Staff and members of the public. If a meeting is still in session at 9.30pm then the Chairman of the meeting should ask Cllrs to vote on whether to continue the meeting until the last item of business has been transacted, or whether to defer items to the next applicable agenda, or convene an extra meeting with 3 days-notice to complete the items to be transacted. This rule will also apply for any meeting lasting longer than 2 hours. Usual voting procedures will apply.

### **Item 16. New Road Build Out.**

The September Planning, Highways and Transport Committee requested that the subject of the removal of the New Road Build Out be brought back to Full Council.

There is £6000 in the 2020/21 budget for the removal of the Build Out, which was subject to Council approval in 2017.

The Committee would like the following to be discussed:

- A. Remove the Build Out as originally voted.
- B. Remove the Build Out and replace with a more appropriate traffic Calming scheme
- C. Add a second Build Out to the Road in an appropriate location.
- D. Leave the Build Out in place – no further action.

Information from 2016/2017:

## 16/71 New Road Build Out traffic calming scheme - discussion and vote

Cllr Brady opened the discussion. Prior to the meeting a full report had been circulated to all Parish Cllrs and had been posted up on the Parish web site for review by residents. This report is a factual record of the responses provided by SBC highways to questions on the build-out put forward by CPC Cllrs. The report includes the analysis of speed following the installation and a summary of the residence feedback.

Cllr Brady invited the public to add any further comments to those received to date. Two members of residents were in attendance.

Mrs Claire Eggert wanted to comment that in her view the Build Out was not situated in the right location. There needs to be something to control speed in the whole village not just the one area.

Dave, who is a volunteer with speed watch team had the view that the prepared document was very one sided with nothing positive included about the Build Out. His view is that the council shouldn't be voting to remove or move it.

His view is that the Canney Close issue is just the driving habits of the residents living there. He doesn't think the document is a balanced document.

Cllr Brady advised that the discussion to follow would be fair and open so all views can be heard. She confirmed that questions within the document were raised to SBC to allow them to respond with facts and information.

Cllr McMurray asked for confirmation that a vote would be to either remove or move the build out if considered appropriate – it was confirmed this was the case

Cllr Harris confirmed that originally the Ward Cllrs said they would take our decision and campaign for it within SBC. April 2016 Parish Council minutes supports this statement.

SBC had provided data on the speed figures. The Parish Council then asked SBC a series of questions and have included the answers in the report.

We have listed facts only and not drawn any conclusions.

It was stated that speeding issues had been a concern for a long time and drivers simply ignore speed limits.

Parish Councilors then stated their views:

Cllr Sunners – Need a better consultation with members of the public if this happens again. SBC didn't communicate and CPC didn't do their own canvassing.

He is sure that the scheme was supposed to be a trial and that Ward Cllrs are not upholding this condition.

The evidence on the report shows the build out has reduced speed but the issue is with the location of it.

Cllr Brady read out emailed communication from Mr K Evans a resident of Canney close who could not attend the meeting who is not in favour of keeping the build out.

Cllr Hill – There is an increase in vehicle fumes from traffic to vehicles in Canney Close. When the scheme went it we were supposed to have speed limits painted on the roads also and arrows near the allotments on New Road to slow people down. He thinks vehicle activated speed signs would be better and that if the scheme has been completed by SBC it would have worked better.

Cllr Jefferies - Also remembers the scheme being approved as a trial. She believes its an accident waiting to happen and isn't sure how SBC can now say its permanent.

Cllr Walton – There are other traffic calming solutions that would be more appropriate however he thinks its dangerous to remove it now without having more appropriate traffic calming method in place.

Cllr McMurray – Believes the opposition was about safety issues when installed but there have been no accidents in 6 months and the traffic has slowed down. We need traffic control in the village and so doesn't think we should ask SBC to remove it without putting something back in its place . A more strategic view of traffic calming across the Parish should be considered engaging independent consultants

Cllr Mills – Has looked at the Highway Design guides in detail and this particular calming method is not listed. He would like to know where SBC got this design from. The design guides also state there should be ongoing public consultation. He thinks Highways should answer these questions.

Cllr Rawlings – Back in 2012/13 this was discussed at length. Speed was a problem on this road at this time. It went back to SBC to find a design to help. Civil Engineers and an external company assisted. Don't forget that on the 2016 Parish Plan the no.1 concern was speeding. When J15 works start Chiseldon Village will be used as a rat run to avoid the work.

Cllr Harris – SBC had advised that they wrote to Canney Close and New Road residents when the traffic calming scheme was first introduced. 3 residents replied, 2 were against and 1 was for it. He thinks there are better solutions to be had and agrees that the 40mph limit should have been left in place with better police intervention. The PC as received over 100 items of feedback and 119 people signed a petition against the Build Out and some of the problems were recorded on CCTV. He is concerned that if we tell SBC to take it out, nothing else will go back in its place.

Cllr Bowles – Doesn't think the speed limit should have been reduced to 30mph. She remembers that when the vote went through we were told if we didn't vote on that evening then the money would be taken away for the scheme. She doesn't think we were allowed time to consult with people. Cllr Bowles stated that she was always against this scheme

Cllr Harris clarified the accident stats before the build out were over 10 years (121 months) and there were 3 accidents with slight injury. None of them speed related.

Cllr Costigan - Believes the old data is irrelevant as traffic levels have increased since then. The stats now may say its working but his feeling is that it's in the wrong place. He also remembers that the build out was never supposed to be permanent.

The Clerk has an action to check old minutes to source the reference to a trial at the time of the build out vote. Feb 2015.

Cllr Bates – if you are driving at night into Chiseldon from the A346 towards the build-out installation you cannot always see the build out due to lights coming the other way. Suitable lighting was requested at the time of discussing the installation.

It was noted that Hodson Road hasn't seen any reduction in speed since the build out was built.

Cllr Brady then summarized:

Once the speed limit on New Road was reduced from 40mph to 30mph records of cars speeding showed a marked increase.

Question – should the speed limit have been reduced in the first place?

Traffic Calming solution has been recognised as necessary in light of increased traffic using New Road but could a more appropriate solution be installed

If we voted to remove the build-out would we retain SBC Highway support moving forward?

We need to plan how we move forward on speeding issues in the parish.

Is the current solution incomplete?

Is it in the wrong position?  
Is it dangerous for Canney Close?

The Build out is reducing speed but at a cost of alienating a significant minority of the residents . We need a more appropriate traffic calming solution.

The vote was then held: it was not requested as a named vote

The first motion was:

Do we completely remove the New Road Build out? 2 Councilors were in favour, 12 against, no-one abstained. The motion was not passed

The second motion was:

Do we ask SBC to remove it and instead replace it with something more suitable? 13 councilors in favour and 1 against. At the time there were no abstentions recorded. The motion was passed

It was requested that we should engage independent consultants to help advise the Parish Council with regard to strategic approach to traffic calming across the Parish to work alongside SBC. A new solution for New Road should therefore be considered alongside this review.

Cllr Rawlings post the meeting requested that he would like an amendment to the minutes that during the 2<sup>nd</sup> vote he was against the motion due to the expenditure for the parish, and felt he was not given the chance to vote against the proposition or abstain. It should be noted however that during the meeting Cllr Rawlings was recorded as voting against the motion however he did not make it known that he wished to abstain.

It was then agreed to add an item agenda to the next Finance meeting to budget in hiring a professional firm to review the situation.

Also confirmed that any future proposed scheme would be fully communicated to residents and their views sought prior to agree on a specific scheme

Cllr Rawlings had some advice on a firm we should hire to do this, based at Burderop Park.

It was also noted we should ensure residents of Canney Close are made aware of the proposal by the parish council that we voted to remove but replace with a more appropriate traffic calming solution

A letter will be prepared by the Chair for the approval by the full Parish Council prior to release to our Ward Cllrs and residents..

**Chiseldon Parish Council meeting 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016**  
**Outcome of the vote taken by the Parish Council regarding the future of**  
**the**  
**'build-out' on New Road ,Chiseldon**

It was agreed at the June 2016 meeting of the Chiseldon Parish Council that a review of the traffic calming solution, the 'build-out' in New Road would take place 6 months following its installation by Swindon Borough Council.

The decision to carry out a review was in keeping with the original agreement by the Chiseldon Parish Council to support the installation of the 'build-out' on a trial basis only.

The post 'build-out' review took place at the meeting of the Chiseldon Parish Council on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

The Parish Council recognised that as a traffic calming solution the 'build-out' did in fact reduce speed on New Road, however, at a cost.

The Parish Council believes that the 'build-out' solution was positioned too close to the junction with Canney Close and as such created an inconvenience and potential hazard for residents emerging from and entering Canney Close.

A petition with over 100 Resident signatures supported the removal of the 'build-out'. Whilst the majority of these responses were from residents of Canney Close and New Road it also represented a cross section of the Parish residents.

The Parish Council however expressed strong support in retaining a form of traffic calming in New Road particularly as the weight of traffic through the village is increasing and resulting in Chiseldon Village being used as a rat run to avoid difficulties that are being created by the congestion on the A346 and J15 of the M4.

The majority of the Parish Council however agreed that a better traffic calming solution for New Road was needed.

A motion in favour of removing the existing 'build-out' and replacing it with a more appropriate traffic calming solution for New Road was passed by a majority vote at the Chiseldon Parish Council meeting Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

The revised solution for New Road will need to be considered in relation to the wider traffic calming needs for Chiseldon Village and the Parish as a whole.

The Parish Council agreed we should therefore commission and fund an independent assessment of the traffic calming requirements for our Parish.

Future proposals for traffic calming solutions will be subject to a full consultation process with the Residents of the Parish.

The Ward Cllrs will be advised of the decision of the Chiseldon Parish Council and request that SBC Highways dept are informed and a joint way forward can be agreed.

17<sup>th</sup> November 2016