

Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES
WEDNESDAY 2nd November 2022**

Present:

Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Naheed Mather

In Attendance:

Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer
Ken Major, Principal Engineer – Environment Services

John Proctor – Kirklees Motorcycle Action Group
Ian Thompson - Kirklees Motorcycle Action Group
Sallyanne Slater - Kirklees Motorcycle Action Group

Apologies: N/a

1. Membership of the Committee

No apologies were received

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 August 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 17 August 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3. Interests

There were no interests declared.

4. Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session

5. Deputations/Petitions

A deputation was received in relation to item 8 and was presented by Mr John Proctor representing the Kirklees Motorcycle Action Group (MAG). Mr Proctor addressed the committee in support of the current 50mph speed limit on Barnsley Road, Denby Dale, and the groups objection to this being changed to 40mph as proposed. It was highlighted that the A635 section of the road was more rural in comparison with its junction with the more urban A636. It was felt

that driving at 40mph would feel uncomfortable on this section of road and would be less likely to be adhered to by motorists or enforced. Given the nature of the area the MAG felt that there were no reasons to reduce the speed limit adding that there were no outstanding safety issues at the current 50mph scheme.

6. Public Question Time

No public questions were received.

7. Member Question Time

No member questions were asked.

8. Objections to Speed Limit Order No 116 Order 2022, Proposed 40mph speed limit Barnsley Road, Denby Dale.

The Committee considered a report in respect of the objections received in response to Speed Limit Order No 116 Order 2022, Proposed 40mph speed limit Barnsley Road, Denby Dale presented by Ken Major, Principal Engineer – Environment Services.

The Committee were informed that planning permission had been granted for a housing development at Inkerman Court, Denby Dale, and as part of that planning permission Section 106 monies were secured to reduce the speed limit on the A635 Barnsley Road, in the vicinity of the site. The speed limit order was formulated, consulted on and legally advertised between 27 July 2022 and 24 August 2022, during which time two objections were received, one requesting the speed limit be reduced further to 30mph and one requesting it remained at 50mph. It was also highlighted that there had been 2 recent accidents at the vicinity of the crossroads.

The Committee noted that it was important to balance the wants and needs of community groups and road users, alongside the need to consider the safety of both motorists and residents. The Committee recognised the urban and rural nature of the district and noted that in reducing the speed limit to 30mph would be a restriction on traffic in a rural setting, and contrast with the later increase to 50mph thereafter. The Committee highlighted that on balance it felt the reduction to 40mph as per the proposed approach was appropriate.

Considering the information presented both verbally and in writing the Committee expressed that it was satisfied that the objections had been responded to in highlighting that the schemes impact would be continually monitored. The Committee noted that 60% of residents, and all ward councillors support the scheme, and it was agreed that:

RESOLVED: That the objection be overruled, and that the proposals for Speed Limit Order No 116 Order 2022, Proposed 40mph speed limit Barnsley Road, Denby Dale be implemented as advertised.