

**THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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Paper submitted on behalf of Cllr. Fawcett – meeting of 03.06.20

## **Introduction of a village wide 20mph Speed Limit**

### **Background:**

- **Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport – 23.05.2020**

“We recognise this moment for what it is: a once in a generation opportunity to deliver a lasting transformative change in how we make short journeys in our towns and cities. According to the [National Travel Survey](#), in 2017-18 over 40% of urban journeys were under 2 miles – perfectly suited to walking and cycling”

- “Reducing speed limits: 20mph speed limits are being more widely adopted as an appropriate speed limit for residential roads, and many through streets in built-up areas. 20mph limits alone will not be sufficient to meet the needs of active travel, but in association with other measures, reducing the speed limit can provide a more attractive and safer environment for walking and cycling”

*Reference:* the Traffic Management Act 2004: network management in response to COVID 19 document <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reallocating-road-space-in-response-to-covid-19-statutory-guidance-for-local-authorities/traffic-management-act-2004-network-management-in-response-to-covid-19>

### **Comments:**

- The Parish Council should be mindful that measures to continue the use of alternative modes of transport should be taken as swiftly as possible, and in any event within weeks, given the urgent need to change travel habits before the restart takes full effect.
- Given the scale of growth in Thurston from applications submitted under recent and future local plans, should the Parish Council look to explore all measures to reduce the impact of the increase in vehicle movements on the health and wellbeing of its residents?
- The Parish Council should also note that none of the measures being proposed in the above document are new – they are interventions that are a standard part of the traffic management toolkit, but it should be mindful that a step-change in their roll-out is needed to ensure a green restart.
- The Parish Council should however be mindful that 20mph limits alone will not be sufficient to meet the needs of active travel, but in association with other measures, reducing the speed limit can provide a more attractive and safer environment for walking and cycling.
- **ROSPA (November 2017)** - 20mph zones use traffic calming measures to reduce the adverse impact of motor vehicles on built up areas. The principle is that the traffic calming slows vehicles down to speeds below the limit, and in this way the zone becomes ‘self-enforcing’. Speed humps, chicanes, road narrowing, planting and other measures can be introduced to both physically and visually reinforce the nature of the road.

**Proposal: The Parish Council resolves to undertake a feasibility study on the implementation of a 20mph throughout Thurston as a part of a new framework in recognition of the enormity of change doubling the size of Thurston and doubling the amount of car traffic will have on the safety and wellbeing of its residents and visitors.**

## Appendix A

Case Studies for Reference:

Both these places have B Roads running through them and both have an extensive 20mph section

1. Croughton, Northants on the B4031  
<https://www.google.com.au/maps/@51.9971134,-1.188535,3a,75y,270h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sF7M7oLPKv-vAQ1OQMaFh3Q!2e0!7i13312!8i6656>
2. Norton St Philip, between Frome and Bath on the B3110  
<https://www.google.com.au/maps/@51.304936,-2.3272492,3a,75y,180h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1s8mS3jpVTYUeQSfFz8aHRxg!2e0!7i13312!8i6656>
3. Case Study - Buckden village, Cambridge:  
[http://www.20splenty.org/case\\_studies](http://www.20splenty.org/case_studies)

### Other background information

- Living streets:  
<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/policy-and-resources/our-policy/20mph>
- Lancashire's position:  
<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/roads-parking-and-travel/20mph-areas/>
- A report:  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/757302/20mph-technical-report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/757302/20mph-technical-report.pdf)

p201 However, consideration should be given to encouraging traffic authorities to work with relevant partners from the police, health, environment, urban planning, education, and the local community to deliver 20mph limits as part of an integrated approach to addressing transport, community, environment and health objectives.