The Parish of Great & Little Bourton, Oxfordshire

Annual Parish Residents Meeting

Tuesday April 10th 2018 at The Village Hall, Great Bourton

Update on Great Bourton Traffic Calming

Following the agreed deferment of the decision about the relocation of the traffic calming at the top of Main Street, a meeting was held on February 28th with engineers from OCC Highways and representatives of Hayfield Homes to discuss alternative solutions. The meeting was attended by :Cllr Sally Leszczynski, Chairman BPC, Cllr Andrew Johnson, BPC, Mr Stephen Bowen, Clerk to the Council, Mr Richard Everest, Technical Director, Hayfield Homes, and Mr Mike Wasley, Principal Officer Traffic Schemes, Area Operations North, & Mr Adam Barrett, Road Agreements Engineer, both from OCC Highways.

The meeting agreed that the originally proposed relocation of the traffic calming build-out nearer to the junction with Southam Road was inappropriate and could cause traffic back-up and queuing on the Southam Road. Councillors explained that the current traffic calming build-out did achieve its desired aim of reducing the speed of vehicles going down Main Street, particularly beyond the Bell public house and down the hill. They expressed a view that perhaps a different type of calming feature, located nearer to the public house might achieve this.

Richard Everest expressed the opinion that this would then leave a long stretch of straight along which vehicles could build up a good speed and would be more dangerous. This was agreed by the OCC Highways engineers.

The revised proposal from OCC Highways was to leave the current traffic calming in its current location, effectively between the new entrance to Garners Field and the Community Hall entrance, where it was felt it would help provide a safe exit from the Community Hall. Additionally the feature would be tidied up and some of the road signs would be refreshed or removed, to improve visibility for emerging vehicles.

It was further proposed at the suggestion of Cllr Leszczynski ,that a ‘gateway’ feature could be created at the new location of the 30mph speed limit signs. It was felt by Councillors that this would make the start of the speed limit much more visible, and encourage drivers to realise that they were entering a built-up area and of the change in speed limit. Hayfield Homes offered to construct this feature at no cost to the Paris.

Cllr Mrs Leszczynski enquired about the possibility of an electronic speed sign that displayed vehicles actual speed, possibly located in the vicinity of the Church to help reduce speed down Main Street hill. Alternatively could speed cushions be considered. Mike Wasely from OCC Highways agreed to consider any suggestions formally put forward by the Parish Council.