**ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**A local council for the peoples of Icklesham, Winchelsea, Winchelsea Beach and Rye Harbour**

**WINCHELSEA TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME: REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK**

**The Parish Council seeks views on the introduction of a traffic calming scheme in Winchelsea town.**

**Proposal**

To introduce traffic calming measures to deter drivers leaving the A259 (and speeding through the centre of Winchelsea and the 30mph zone) in order to get ahead of slow moving traffic negotiating Ferry Hill.

**Background**

For over 10 years, a Speedwatch Group run by Winchelsea residents has been active to address the problem in the town caused by the significant volume of speeding through traffic. In 2017 the group approached the Parish Council for support. Since then, the Parish Council and Speedwatch members have worked in partnership with East Sussex (ES) Highways to investigate traffic calming measures. A speed survey, a feasibility study and an origin/destination survey have been carried out. From the resulting data, ES Highways has given support to the Parish Council implementing measures and put forward a proposal to: deter rat running; encourage slower vehicle speeds; improve road safety. As a town of special architectural and historic interest in a conservation area, any scheme in Winchelsea will have constraints and need to be sensitive to the local environment.

In December 2018, the Parish Council ran a local consultation in the town, the results of which were 99% in favour of the Parish Council promoting calming measures. We are now in a position to consult parish wide on the basis of the proposal put forward by ES Highways.

**Scheme**

The traffic calming scheme (subject to an independent safety audit) proposes incorporating the following three measures:

1. Introduction of a 20mph zone. See Fig 1 on the website.
2. Physical calming measures through German Street and High Street (and possibly through other roads such as Rookery Lane and Back Lane). The precise type and positioning of measures would be determined at the preliminary design stage. However, they are likely to be either vertical features such as speed tables or cushions, or horizontal features such as pinch-points or footway buildouts. See examples in Fig 2 on the website.
3. Reduce the current 40mph speed limit to 30mph from the A259 junction along Monks Walk up to the start of the 20mph zone. See Fig 3 on the website.

**Funding**

Funding is required in 2 stages. The first stage being to commission a design. This will cost in the region of £36,000 and will cover the development of the design from concept through to implementation of a scheme and post construction. Once a design is produced, wider consultation can take place with the parish and with statutory consultees, e.g. the emergency services - fire, police, ambulance - and bus operators. If consultation is positive and the scheme supported, stage two, construction, can go ahead. Until a design is produced, detailed construction costs cannot be known but are likely to be a minimum of £125,000.

The Parish Council has budgeted to finance the design (stage one) by means of a fixed rate low interest government loan. Based on the parish council’s current Band D tax base, repayments made through the precept will represent £1.76 per year/3 pence per week of the parish council element of council tax per household. For construction costs (the second stage), an application for Community Match funding, available from East Sussex County Council in partnership with its contractor, Costain, would be submitted along with approaches to other granting bodies if required.

Our parish comprises four diverse wards with very different needs. Looking to the future, our aim is to improve the quality of life in all wards in whatever way is appropriate to local circumstances and for residents’ wellbeing.

We would now like your view on the proposal to introduce traffic calming in Winchelsea.

**Ways to Respond**

Residents of the parish are invited to submit comments either via the parish council website [www.ickleshampc.org](http://www.ickleshampc.org.uk), by email to [ickleshampc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ickleshampc@hotmail.co.uk), or by completing the form overleaf and returning it to one of the survey drop boxes located in: Winchelsea Farm Kitchen, Winchelsea; Rye Harbour Stores, Rye Harbour; Co-op Supermarket, Winchelsea Beach; the Memorial Hall, Icklesham. Alternatively you can post the form to Icklesham Parish Council, P.O. Box 395, Hastings, TN34 9JU.

The consultation period runs from 1st September to 11th October 2019.

**Consultation and Precept Survey**

**ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Winchelsea Traffic Calming Project**

* **Are you in FAVOUR of the parish council going ahead with the project? YES / NO**
* **Are you in FAVOUR of the parish council going ahead with stage one of the project with annual expenditure representing 1.95% of the current precept, at a cost to the tax payer of £1.76 per annum/3 pence per week? YES / NO**

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| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Signed** |  |
| **Date** |  |

**Please detach and return this survey questionnaire to either one of the village drop boxes (see Ways to Respond overleaf) or by post to the parish council office at the address below by 11th October 2019. Thank You.**

**Any survey forms received after the deadline will be disregarded.**

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| **Icklesham Parish Council, P.O. Box 395, Hastings, TN34 9JU.** |