

Date:	05 December 2024
Title:	Report Item 11 – Road Traffic Order
By:	Paul Seeley (Chair)
Purpose:	To consider implementation of a 20 mph speed limit on certain roads in the Parish of East Dean and Friston and for the Parish Council to agree to apply for a Road Traffic Order to implement this work in due course

Recommendations: To consider the report and agree next steps

Proposal

The introduction of a 20mph speed limit on certain roads in the Parish of East Dean and Friston and for the Parish Council to apply for a Road Traffic Order to implement this work in due course.

Background

The Parish Council has been working towards the introduction of a 20mph speed limit on the private estate to the north of the A259 and also Upper Street, Lower Street and Went Way to the south of the A259 in conjunction with East Sussex County Council.

Traffic surveys have been undertaken by East Sussex Highways and a consultation held with both Sussex Police and ESCC Road Safety who have accepted the proposal in principle.

Action required

The next stage is to apply for a Road Traffic Order via East Sussex County Council which is a legal undertaking. The process will take between six to twelve months as it involves statutory and public consultation which takes time. There is a requirement for land ownership on the private estate to be clarified and agreement reached with landowners to the siting of street furniture on their verges prior to making the application.

One Road Traffic Order will cover the entire works, and the Parish Council will be able to use its own contractors to undertake the work which will be undertaken in conjunction with the Roads Company on the private estate.

Provided the RTO is approved, works to the south of the A259 – Upper Street, Lower Street and Went Way will necessitate the removal of all 30 mph signs and replacement with 20mph. There will also be a requirement for 2 additional posts and 20mph signs at the entrance to Upper Street from the A259.

Works to the north of the A259 (currently subject to national speed limit of 60mph) will cover the private estate and include the following roads for signage – Windmill Lane, The Ridgeway, The Brow, Warren Lane, Hillside, Dene Side, Peakdean Lane, Michel Dene Road, Summerdown Lane, Elven Lane, Wenthill Close and Downs View Lane. The requirement here is for 20mph roundels painted on the highway and 20mph signs at the side of the road alternating every 200 metres. Initial view of ESCC Highways is that approximately 25 signs / roundels will be required as well as clear signage on entering and leaving the estate on Windmill Lane and Michel Dene Road.

There will be a need for the PC to work with the Roads Company and residents to ensure we secure the legal right to install signage / roundels on the private estate. This will need to be completed prior to making the RTO application which may mean no funding is required this financial year for the RTO.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Parish Council approve the next phase of work and once land ownership has been agreed and the siting of roundels and street furniture agreed, the Council will then be asked to approve the detailed expenditure for the Road Traffic Order. At this time, expenditure for the RTO is anticipated at £5,400, and the cost of equipment and installation, about £2000.

Paul Seeley.

12th November 2024