REGULATORY COMMITTEE

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING 11.30 am WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, LEWES

MEMBERSHIP - Councillor Claire Dowling (Chair)

Councillors Barry Taylor (Vice Chair), Bob Bowdler, Godfrey Daniel,

Kathryn Field, Tom Liddiard and Philip Daniel

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2018 (Pages 3 8)
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Disclosures of interests

Disclosures by all members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

4 Urgent items

Notification of items which the Chair considers to be urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda. Any members who wish to raise urgent items are asked, wherever possible, to notify the Chair before the start of the meeting. In so doing, they must state the special circumstances which they consider justify the matter being considered urgent.

County Council Proposals - report(s) by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

Construction of a two storey extension to the south-west of the main School building to provide a new entrance lobby, teaching accommodation, kitchen and hall with associated hard and soft play areas, a Multi-Use Games Area and a new car parking area providing 8 additional spaces to the east of the School site entrance. Polegate Primary School, Oakleaf Drive, Polegate, BN26 6PT - WD/3388/CC (Pages 9 - 22) Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

Traffic Regulation Orders - report(s) by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

TRO - 20mph speed limit scheme - High Street and various roads in Uckfield (Pages 23 - 34)

Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

7 Any other items previously notified under agenda item 4

NOTES:

- (1) Members are reminded that copies of all representations received are available for inspection in the Members' Room
- (2) As part of the County Council's drive to increase accessibility to its public meetings, this meeting will be broadcast live on its website and the record archived for future viewing. The broadcast / record is accessible at: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/webcasts



PHILIP BAKER Assistant Chief Executive County Hall, St Anne's Crescent LEWES BN7 1UE

15 May 2018

Contact Simon Bailey, Democratic Services Officer, 01273 481935

Email: simon.bailey@eastsussex.gov.uk

Agenda Item 1

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Planning Committee held at County Hall, Lewes on 18 April 2018.

PRESENT Councillors Claire Dowling (Chair), Barry Taylor (Vice Chair), Bob Bowdler, Godfrey Daniel and Tom Liddiard

53 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 MARCH 2018

53.1 The Committee RESOLVED to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2018.

54 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 54.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rodohan.
- 54.2 It was noted that Councillor Grover had resigned from the Committee.

55 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

55.1 Councillors Dowling, Bowdler and Standley declared personal interests in item 5 as Members (and in Cllr Standley's case, the Leader) of Wealden District Council which had submitted a representation on the application, but none of the Members considered the interest to be prejudicial.

56 REPORTS

- 56.1 Reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.
- 57 DEMOLITION OF AN ACCOMMODATION BLOCK AND ERECTION OF NEW SPORTS HALL AND SINGLE STOREY ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION, NEW STUDENT ENTRANCE LOBBIES, FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR WITH OTHER INTERNAL ALTERATIONS AND SITE LANDSCAPING. REVISED CAR PARKING LAYOUT TO INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL 28 SPACES AND PARKING FOR 72 CYCLES. WILLINGDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL, BROAD ROAD, EASTBOURNE, BN20 9QX WD/3385/CC
- 57.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 57.2 Annie Atkins of Business Services, East Sussex County Council, spoke on behalf of the applicant in support of the recommendation.
- 57.3 Councillor Stephen Shing, the Local Member, spoke in support of the application and to raise the issue of parking.
- 57.4 Councillor Daniel proposed an additional condition regarding community use of the sports hall, which was seconded.

- 57.5 Members have considered the officer's report and comments of the public speaker and Local Member, and agree with the conclusion and reasons for recommendation, together with the additional condition.
- 57.6 RESOLVED unanimously to approve planning permission subject to the following conditions, including the condition referring to community use of the sports hall (condition 13):
- 1. The development hereby permitted shall be commenced before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the plans listed in the Schedule of Approved Plans.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 3. No works which include the creation of trenches or culverts or the presence of pipes shall commence until measures to protect badgers (and other animals) from being trapped in open excavation and/or pip culverts are submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. The measures should include:
 - a. creation of sloping escape ramps for badgers, achieved by edge profiling or trenches/excavations or by using planks placed into them at the end of each working day; and
 - b. open pipework greater than 150mm outside diameter being blanked off at the end of each working day.

Reason: to ensure badgers are not trapped and harmed on site and to prevent delays in site operation.

- 4. No development shall take place, including any ground works or works of demolition, until a Construction Management Plan, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Thereafter the approved Plan shall be implemented and adhered to in full throughout the entire construction period. The plan shall provide details as appropriate but not be restricted to the following matters;
 - the anticipated number, frequency and routeing of vehicles during construction
 - the method of access and egress and routeing of vehicles during construction,
 - the management of flood risk
 - the parking of vehicles by site operatives and visitors,
 - the loading and unloading of plant, materials and waste,
 - the storage of plant and materials used in construction of the development,
 - the erection and maintenance of security hoarding.
 - the provision and utilisation of wheel washing facilities and other works required to mitigate the impact of construction upon the public highway (including the provision of temporary Traffic Regulation Orders),
 - details of public engagement both prior to and during construction works.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety and amenity of the area.

5. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, including any demolition, a condition survey of the surrounding highway network is required to be undertaken and submitted and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Any damage caused to the highway as a direct consequence of the construction traffic shall be rectified at the applicant's expense.

Reason: In the interest of Highway safety and amenity of the area.

6. Prior to commencement of development a detailed surface water management design shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. The design shall include hydraulic calculations which take account of connectivity with different surface water drainage features together with details of maintenance and management. Before the development is occupied the approved drainage system shall be made available for use and written confirmation provided to the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

Reason: To ensure appropriate management of surface water in accordance with Saved Policy EN27 in the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

7. All ecological measures and/or works shall be carried out in accordance with the details contained in the Ecological Design Strategy and Landscape Management Plan (Lizard Landscape and Ecology, December 2017).

Reason: To ensure that the measures considered necessary as part of the ecological impact assessment are carried out as specified.

8. No part of the development hereby approved shall be occupied until the car parking has been constructed and provided in accordance with the approved plans. The areas shall thereafter be retained for that use and shall not be used other than for the parking of motor vehicles.

Reason: To provide car-parking space for the development in accordance with Saved Policy TR3 in the Wealden Local Plan 2003.

9. No part of the development hereby approved shall be occupied until the bicycle parking has been constructed and provided in accordance with the approved plans. The areas shall thereafter be retained for that use and shall not be used other than for the parking of bicycles.

Reason: To provide bicycle parking for the development in accordance with Saved Policy TR3 in the Wealden Local Plan 2003.

10. No part of the development shall be occupied until a Draft Framework Travel Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Thereafter the approved Travel Plan shall be implemented and reviewed as specified within the approved document.

Reason: To encourage and promote sustainable transport options in accordance with Saved Policy TR3 in the Wealden Local Plan 2003.

11. Prior to occupation of development the applicant will be required to carry out off site highway works as agreed with the Highway Authority.

Reason: To ensure works in the public highway are properly carried out.

12. Prior to construction above ground samples of the materials to be used in the construction of the extension hereby permitted shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure the appropriate appearance of the development in the area in accordance with Saved Policy EN27 in the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

13. Prior to first use of the sports hall details of community use shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport and community use carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure the sports hall is made available for use by the wider community.

INFORMATIVES

- 1. The applicant is reminded that, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended (section 1), it is an offence to remove, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built. Planning consent for a development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this Act. Trees and scrub are likely to contain nesting birds between 01 March and 31 August inclusive. Trees and scrub are present on the application site and are to be assumed to contain nesting bird activity on site during this period and shown it is absolutely certain that nesting birds are not present.
- 2. The applicant is requested to contact the Transport Development Control Team (01273 482254) to commence the process of implementing off-site highway works. The applicant is advised that it is an offence to undertake any works within the highway prior to the agreement being in place.

Schedule of Approved Plans

Detailed Plant Schedule and Specification, Ecological Design Strategy and Landscape Management Plan, 8918/P100 - Existing Location Plan, 8918/P101 - Existing Block Plan, 8918/P102 - Existing Ground Floor Plan of the School, 8918/P103 - Existing First Floor Plan of the School, 8918/P104 - Proposed Site Plan, 8918/P105 - Proposed External Works - Car Park 1, 8918/P106 - Proposed External Works - Car Park 2, 8918/P107 - Proposed Ground Floor Plan with External Work - Sports Hall, 8918/P108 - Proposed Roof Plan, 8918/P112 - Cross Sections, 8918/P113 - Longitudinal Section, 8918/P115 - First Floor Gym Alterations, 8918/P116 - Proposed Inclusion Suite, 8918/P117 - Proposed new Pupils Entrance, 8918/P118 - Proposed new pupils entrance - North East, 8918/P119 - Proposed Corridor Extension - First Floor Plan1/2, 8918/P120 - Proposed Corridor Extension - First Floor Plan 2/2, 002 - Tree Retention and Protection Plan, 004 - Tree Retention and Protection Plan, 100 Rev01 - Soft Landscape Layout, 200 Rev01 - Detailed Planting Plan, 201 Rev01 - Detailed Planting

Plan, Detailed Planting Plan (Habitat Creation), M15/06/502 Rev A - Lower Car Park Lighting Layout, M15/05/504 Rev A - Upper Car Park Lighting Layout, Existing School Refurbishment External Works Sheet 1 of 2, Existing School Refurbishment Site Drainage Sheet 1 of 2, Existing School Refurbishment External Works Sheet 2 of 2, Existing School Refurbishment External Works Sheet 2 of 2

58 <u>DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT</u>

- 58.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 58.2 The Committee RESOLVED to note the report.



Agenda Item 5

Agenda Item No.

Committee: Regulatory

Planning Committee

Date: 23 May 2018

Report by: **Director of Communities, Economy and Transport**

Proposal: Construction of a two storey extension to the south-west of the

main School building to provide a new entrance lobby, teaching accommodation, kitchen and hall with associated hard and soft play areas, a Multi-Use Games Area and a new car parking area providing 8 additional spaces to the east of

the School site entrance.

Site Address: Polegate Primary School, Oakleaf Drive, Polegate, BN26 6PT

Applicant: Chief Operating Officer

Application No. WD/3388/CC

Key Issues: 1. Need

2. Design and Siting (including impact on residential amenity)

3. Loss of playing field

4. Surface Water Management

5. Impact on local highway (including impact on the Ashdown

Forest)

Contact Officer: David Vickers, Tel. 01273 481629

Local Member: Councillor Daniel Shing

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Subject to consultation with the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government:
 - (i) allowing a period of 21 days from the date of acknowledgement, or as extended, to expire; or
 - (ii) allowing 21 days for the Secretary of State to notify the County Council that it is not intended to call-in the application; or
 - (iii) allowing 21 days for the Secretary of State to notify the County Council that it is intended to call-in the application.
- 2. To grant planning permission subject to conditions as indicated in paragraph 8.1 of this report.

CONSIDERATION BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES, ECONOMY AND TRANSPORT

1. The Site And Surroundings

- 1.1 Polegate Primary School caters for approximately 420 children aged between 4 and 11 years old and is within an established residential area in north Polegate. The School shares its north-western and north-eastern boundaries with the gardens of the residential properties on Oakleaf Drive, Greenleaf Gardens and Cresta Close. The area to the south-east of the site is heavily wooded and bounds the Cuckoo Trail which is part of the National Cycle Network.
- 1.2 The site comprises 1.8 hectares and the original School dates from the 1960s. Originally built with 4 classrooms, as Polegate town expanded the School was extended in the 1980s, 1990s, 2000s and most recently in 2015 to its current 2 Forms of Entry. As a consequence its main buildings comprise a not entirely coherent variety of single storey buildings with a mixture of pitched and flat roofs, predominately red brick walls and white window frames together with temporary classrooms, sundry outbuildings and School apparatus. They are arranged in the southern part of the site with ground levels falling gently northwards towards the playing fields and recently constructed fenced multi-use games area (MUGA). The area immediately adjacent to the west, and in front of, the main buildings is used as a playground.
- 1.3 The site is accessed off Oakleaf Drive with separate vehicular and pedestrian access points, which lead to on-site car parking. An additional pedestrian and grounds maintenance access is also provided off Oakleaf Drive onto the western playground. There is also a separate nursery (originally a Children's Centre) opposite the School on the southern boundary which shares the access arrangements. Between the nursery and Oakleaf Drive is a public playpark

2. The Proposal

- 2.1 The proposal is for a third Form of Entry increasing maximum numbers on roll to 630. Staff numbers would increase correspondingly from 79 currently to 97 ultimately. The main element of the works is a two storey extension to be located at the front on part of the junior playground which would itself be extended north-westwards by approximately 270m² to compensate. The built extension would be approximately 1000m² gross floor area and include new main and small halls together with kitchens, admin. space and a new main School entrance area. The upper floor would include 3 new classrooms, staff space and ancillary facilities. The existing hall would be adapted for teaching space and the opportunity taken to rationalise existing spaces as much as possible within the significant constraint of continuing to teach children within the premises.
- 2.2 The main extension proposed would be flat roofed and finished in a combination of dark brick, dark and light grey cladding panels with rough and smooth surface respectively together with green panels fixed alongside some of the windows to provide colour. Windows frames would be coated aluminium, again in grey.
- 2.3 A new fenced MUGA is also proposed to be sited to the north of the recently completed area and at a slightly lower level. This would be identical to the existing in terms of size and design including green Weldmesh fencing 2.4 metres high to

contain balls. Additional acoustic fencing, 1.8 metres high, will be provided to its north-western and south-western edges to help contain noise in view of its proximity to the site boundary (8.5 metres) and residential neighbours, the nearest being 18 metres away at 103 Greenleaf Gardens.

2.4 Other alterations to the grounds comprise various small additional playground and soft play space, trim trails and outdoor gym equipment. A new 12 space car park is proposed on just over half of the public playpark but due to the need to maintain emergency access across the existing car park to the south of the School the net addition to on-site parking is 8 spaces. The total number of spaces will therefore increase from 27 to 35 including 2 spaces for people with disabilities. Parking for 40 cycles / push scooters will be retained on the site.

3. Main Site History

3.1 The School has an extensive planning history dating from the 1960s when the educational use of the land was approved. The most recent application was granted 5 year temporary consent in June 2017 to replace a 3 bay temporary classroom with a larger 8 bay version (WD/3362/CC). A year earlier permission was granted to install a temporary single mobile classroom on the north eastern part of the School playing field to the rear of the main School building (Ref: WD/3314/CC). Prior to this in January 2015, permission was granted for an extension to the rear of the building, providing an intervention room and area for morning and after-School clubs (Ref: WD/3243/CC). The MUGA on site was granted permission in June 2016 (WD/3316/CC).

4. Consultations and Representations

- 4.1 <u>Wealden District Council</u>; The District Council raises no objections subject to the LPA being satisfied the effects of the development, in particular on the noise environment would not demonstrably harm neighbouring residential amenity.
- The District Council also requests suitable replacement outdoor playspace be provided to off-set the loss of part of the public play area to ensure there is not a detrimental loss of outdoor playspace in the local area.
- In addition the County Council, as competent authority in respect of the Habitat Regulations, should satisfy itself that the proposal would not have likely significant effect on the Ashdown Forest SAC or SPA in combination with other plans and projects in the area of influence for the Forest.
- 4.2 <u>Polegate Town Council</u>; The Planning Committee has minor concerns over the traffic that may be generated by building works and suggested related traffic movements be carefully monitored. Otherwise the Committee had no objections and were all in favour.
- 4.3 <u>Sport England</u>; Sport England considers the proposed MUGA could meet its policy exceptions and does not object provided the MUGA is subject to a Community Use Agreement. If such an agreement is not secured by condition then Sport England objects.

- 4.4 <u>Highway Authority</u>; No objection raised however the draft Travel Plan is insufficient in that it identifies problems but is light on solutions. It should be subject to proper process starting with an up to date travel survey of staff and children.
- 4.5 <u>County Archaeologist</u>; Based on the information supplied, I do not believe that any significant below ground archaeological remains are likely to be affected by these proposals. For this reason I have no further recommendations to make in this instance
- 4.6 <u>Flood Risk Management (ESCC)</u>; The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) identifies the surface water drainage network is at risk of flooding however it is recognised it would be unreasonable to expect the proposals to rectify this. Efforts to reduce flood risk are noted and, crucially, the proposals themselves do not increase the risk of surface water flooding. If the LPA is minded to grant permission the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) requests the flood risk management proposals set out in the FRA are worked up, agreed and included in the development as built.
- 4.7 <u>Sussex Police (Designing Out Crime Officer)</u>; Offers various detailed guidance from a crime prevention point of view. The comments have been forwarded to the applicant for consideration.
- 4.8 <u>Local Representations</u>; One letter received objecting to the increased traffic that would arise and which would aggravate existing School related traffic problems. Also object to the loss of part of the play park which provides a valuable and popular exercise and social space for the immediate area.
- 5. The Development Plan and other policies of relevance to this decision are:
- 5.1 <u>Wealden District (incorporating part of the South Downs National Park), Core Strategy Adopted February 2013 (as amended following the Court of Appeal judgement)</u>: WCS12 (Biodiversity)

The Wealden District (incorporating part of the South Downs National Park) Core Strategy Local Plan was adopted on 19 February 2013. The Core Strategy Local Plan is the key policy document setting out a strategic vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the area up to 2027. The Core Strategy Local Plan only replaces parts of the Wealden Local Plan 1998. Some policies from this earlier plan are still "saved" where they remain of relevance and until they are superseded by further Development Plan documents.

5.2 <u>Wealden Local Plan 1998:</u> Saved Policies EN27 (layout and design of development), EN28 (Design of development for people with disabilities), TR3 (Traffic impact of New Development).

Saved development management policies contained in the Wealden Local Plan remain part of the Development Plan for the area. Wealden District Council has not formally determined whether its Saved Policies in the Wealden Local Plan are in general conformity with the NPPF. However the County Planning Authority has

assessed the Saved Policies as being in general conformity with the overarching principles of the NPPF.

5.3 The National Planning Policy Framework, 2012 (NPPF)

The NPPF does not change the status of the Development Plan as the starting point for decision making. At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Paragraph 72 of Part 8 (Promoting healthy communities) advises Local Planning Authorities to give great weight to the need to alter and expand Schools. Paragraph 74 seeks to resist building on open space, sports and recreational buildings and land. Furthermore, Part 4 (Promoting sustainable transport) and Part 7 (Requiring Good Design) are of relevance to this proposal.

5.4 Policy Statement on Planning for Schools Development (2011)

The policy statement states that the planning system, when dealing with planning applications for state-funded Schools should operate positively and there should be a presumption in favour of the development of state-funded Schools. The policy statement encourages a collaborative approach to applications, in particular encouraging pre-application discussions and the use of planning obligations to help mitigate the adverse impact of developments. The policy statement indicates that the Secretary of State will be minded to consider refusal of any application for state-funded Schools to be unreasonable conduct, unless it is supported by clear and cogent evidence

6. Considerations

Need

- 6.1 Owing to recently completed housing in the area together with more planned housing there is increasing demand for School places. The Education Authority's 'Commissioning Plan 2017 2021' identifies a bulge in the child population currently being accommodated in primary Schools in the area. At Polegate School for example, 60 places were added with temporary accommodation in 2016 /17 and another 60 in the following year. Initially this was in a 3 bay 'mobile' classroom subsequently expanded to 8 bay format. Therefore whilst the School is notionally providing 420 places there are, currently, approximately 60 more children at the School.
- 6.2 Once occupied the additional planned housing will show as a permanent increase in the child population and there is therefore demonstrable need to provide additional permanent School places for the growing population to be available from September 2019.

Design and Siting (including impact on residential amenity)

6.3 Saved Policy EN27 of the Wealden Local Plan sets out a range of general design criteria which proposals for development must meet. These include ensuring that the scale, siting, design and use of materials take account of the character of the development site and surroundings, and that the amenities of occupiers of adjoining

properties are not adversely affected. Saved Policy EN28 of the Wealden Local Plan also requires that proposals for development on land used for educational purposes should provide safe and convenient access for people with limited mobility, where it is reasonable and practicable.

- 6.4 The main component of the new-build is the 2 storey front extension. The area surrounding the School is predominantly residential in character comprising 2 storey dwellings under pitched roofs although there is a scattering of 3 storey flats.
- 6.5 Whilst the existing School is predominantly single storey, in that wider context the 2 storey proposal is not out of character. Practically speaking a front extension is both a rational way to accommodate the required floorspace on a quite restricted site and also the obvious position on site to minimise disruption to the main educational function. In addition, as mentioned in paragraph 1.2, the School has evolved in a piecemeal fashion and presents a generally uninspiring public face with a well disguised main entrance. The existing School would largely be hidden behind the new front extension which would also include a new and prominent main entrance.
- 6.6 The flat roof of the extension will minimise its bulk and it will be sufficiently set-back from the site boundary to avoid being overly prominent in the streetscene. It is similarly sufficiently distant from the nearest residential neighbour at 51 Oakleaf Drive to avoid adverse impacts in terms of light, overshadowing or being otherwise overbearing. It will be a striking addition due to the form and colour of the proposed materials. These are black brick, dark and light grey panels with green coloured accent panels; materials not generally represented elsewhere in the neighbourhood. Nevertheless, in its own right the front extension is considered to be a pleasant composition and bold architecture which is worthy of support.
- 6.7 In terms of physical layout there will be level thresholds at all entrances, appropriate door widths, accessible WCs together with visual contrast between walls/ floors, doors / door furniture and WCs / walls.
- 6.8 Despite its close proximity to the School's boundary the proposed MUGA in the north west corner of the site will not adversely affect residential neighbours in terms of its physical structure. However a Noise Assessment supports the proposal which models the likely impact in use. The model is informed by monitoring noise including from the existing adjacent MUGA using a combination of attended and unattended surveys. The findings of this monitoring are that use of the MUGA exceeds background sound by up to 18dB at the nearest residential properties and modelling suggests it is likely that the proposed MUGA will have similar impacts. When other noise from the School is factored in, noise attributed to the MUGA is not so incongruous but a difference of up to 18dB in isolation is considered by British Standard 4142 to amount to significant adverse impact. It is therefore recommended that the use of the proposed MUGA is restricted to coincide with core School use and associated after School activities but to prevent use during School holidays, evenings and weekends when the School is closed and background levels will be lower.

6.9 With such restrictions in place the proposal is considered to comply with Saved Policy EN27 and with Policy EN28 in the Wealden Local Plan as well as the comments of the District Council.

Loss of Playing Field

- 6.10 Sport England comment that the proposed MUGA would be acceptable as an exception to its policy to protect grass playing fields from development if a Community Use Agreement (CUA) is in place. Sport England has confirmed it objects if the CUA is not in place.
- 6.11 The principle of community use of educational premises is a good one for many reasons and is widely available in the County including at Willington Community School some 2 km distant to the south west. However in this case it is clear that use of the proposed MUGA will very likely be a source of significant adverse noise impact to residential neighbours at times when a CUA would be expected to have effect. For this reason Sport England's recommendation should not be accepted. Procedurally this means referring the application to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for consideration whether the Minister wishes to 'call-in' the application for his decision or whether he is content for the County Council as Local Planning Authority to make the decision.

Surface Water Management

- 6.12 The NPPF requires development proposals not to increase the risk of flooding and give priority to the use of sustainable drainage systems.
- 6.13 It is proposed that the surface of the MUGA will be a permeable 'Polymeric Type 3' surface, made from rubber crumb mixed with a binder and laid onto a gravel base. Surface water will collect in a network of channels under the pitch prior to being discharged into the existing storm water system. In addition a storage tank will be excavated beneath the extended playground.
- 6.14 The County Council's Flood Risk Management Team have assessed the submitted information and note that the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) concludes the proposals will not increase the risk of surface water flooding on the site. It is recommended that the surface water management proposals formulated for the detailed design stage should be supported by detailed hydraulic calculations, the provision of which should be secured through an appropriate condition attached to any grant of planning permission. Subject to the provision of a condition, the proposed development is considered to be acceptable in terms of managing the surface water run off and does not conflict with the provisions of the NPPF.

Impact on the local highway network (including impact on the Ashdown Forest)

6.15 Saved Policy TR3 of the Wealden Local Plan seeks to ensure that development does not create or perpetuate unacceptable traffic conditions.

- 6.16 The School is in a large residential area to the north of Polegate town centre and benefits from a good network of cycle links, footways, crossing points and street lighting that extend into the surrounding residential areas. The School and neighbouring area are also served by public transport links including buses and rail from local destinations such as Hailsham and Eastbourne.
- 6.17 The application site itself is accessed off Oakleaf Drive, leading into the School car park, where there are currently 27 car parking spaces available for general School and nursery use. The layout of the proposals will require a reconfiguration of existing parking in order to provide playground and maintain emergency access so approximately half of a public play park to the south of the School is to be laid to additional parking. The net increase will be 8 spaces which will be adequate to deal with the increase in staff numbers associated with the School expansion provided the School's Travel Plan is updated.
- 6.18 The comments of Wealden District Council in respect of the loss of part of the play park as well as the impacts on the Ashdown Forest are noted. Whilst the concern about loss of play space is appreciated facilities will remain albeit in a smaller area. These will be re-designed in consultation with the Town Council.
- 6.19 The District Council also advise that the County Council needs to be satisfied that the proposal would not have a likely significant effect upon the Ashdown Forest SPA and SAC. These designated areas are sensitive to impacts associated with recreational pressure, within the SPA, and nitrogen deposition arising from vehicular traffic, within the SAC.
- 6.20 Given the location of the application site and the nature of proposed development, there is not considered to be any likely increase in recreational pressure on the Ashdown Forest, should planning permission be granted and the scheme implemented. With regards to increases in vehicular traffic across the Ashdown Forest the movement of children and carers attending the School currently and in the future is confined to Polegate and its immediate vicinity. Any impacts of increased vehicular traffic will be localised and would not increase numbers of vehicle trips on routes through the Ashdown Forest. Nitrogen levels in Ashdown Forest would therefore not be materially affected by the proposal both by itself and in combination with other plans and projects, the need for any further assessment can be screened out and Core Policy WCS12 is satisfied.
- 6.21 For these reasons the proposal is considered to be in accordance with Saved Policy TR3 of the Wealden Local Plan and with Policy WCS12 in the Core Strategy.

7. Conclusion and reasons for approval

- 7.1 In accordance with Section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 the decision on this application should be taken in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 7.2 The proposal is supported in principle by paragraph 72 of the NPPF and the Government's Policy Statement on Planning for Schools Development. It is considered to be acceptable in its impacts on the visual and neighbouring amenities

of the area as well as the local highway network. It will not increase vehicular trips across the Ashdown Forest and therefore subject to appropriate conditions complies with Policy WCS12 (Biodiversity) in the Wealden District Core Strategy 2013 and with Saved Policies EN27 (layout and design of development), EN28 (Design of Development for People with Disabilities) and TR3 (Traffic impact of New Development) in the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

- 7.3 In determining this planning application, the County Council has worked with the applicant in a positive and proactive manner. The Council has also sought views from consultees and neighbours and has carefully considered and balanced these in preparing the recommendation. This approach has been taken positively and proactively in accordance with the requirement in the NPPF, and as set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.
- 7.4 There are no other material considerations and the decision should be taken in accordance with the development plan.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 To recommend the Planning Committee to grant planning permission subject to consultation with the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and subject to the following conditions:-
- 1. The development hereby permitted shall be commenced before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
 - Reason: To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the plans listed in the Schedule of Approved Plans.
 - Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.
- 3. No development shall take place, including any ground works or works of demolition, until a Construction Management Plan, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Thereafter the approved Plan shall be implemented and adhered to in full throughout the entire construction period. The plan shall provide details as appropriate but not be restricted to the following matters;
 - the anticipated number, frequency, access, egress and routeing of vehicles during construction
 - the management of flood risk
 - the parking of vehicles by site operatives and visitors,
 - the loading and unloading of plant, materials and waste,
 - the protection of retained trees during construction
 - the storage of plant and materials used in construction of the development,
 - the erection and maintenance of security hoarding,

- the provision and utilisation of wheel washing facilities and other works required to mitigate the impact of construction upon the public highway (including the provision of temporary Traffic Regulation Orders),
- details of public engagement both prior to and during construction works.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety and amenity of the area.

4. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, including any demolition, a condition survey of the surrounding highway network is required to be undertaken and submitted and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Any damage caused to the highway as a direct consequence of the construction traffic shall be rectified at the applicant's expense.

Reason: In the interest of Highway safety and amenity of the area.

5. Prior to commencement of development a detailed surface water management design shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. The design shall include hydraulic calculations which take account of connectivity with different surface water drainage features together with details of maintenance and management. Before the development is occupied the approved drainage system shall be made available for use and written confirmation provided to the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

Reason: To ensure appropriate management of surface water in accordance with Saved Policy EN27 in the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

6. Prior to commencement of development a Site Waste Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. The Plan shall include details of dust and noise controls during demolition as well as how construction waste will be minimised. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Site Waste Management Plan.

Reason: To minimise disruption and construction waste to be removed from site in accordance with Policy WMP3d of the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Plan 2013.

7. Construction work shall not take place at any time other than between the hours of 0730 and 1800 Mondays to Fridays and between the hours of 0800 and 1400 on Saturdays and not at any time on Sundays, Bank and Public Holidays other than with the prior written approval of the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

Reason: To strike a balance between the need to carry out construction as speedily as possible but at the same time to minimise the impact of construction on the occupiers of properties in the vicinity of the site and to comply with Saved Policy EN27 of the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

8. Before first use of the MUGA details of a noise barrier including modelling of its expected effectiveness shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. The approved noise barrier shall be installed and retained as part of the MUGA in operation.

Reason; To comply with Saved Policy EN27 in the Wealden Local Plan 2003.

9. No part of the approved development shall be occupied until a Draft Framework Travel Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Thereafter the approved Travel Plan shall be implemented and reviewed as specified within the approved document.

Reason: To encourage and promote sustainable transport options in accordance with Saved Policy TR3 in the Wealden Local Plan 2003.

10. Prior to completion of the development hereby approved the car parking shall be constructed and provided in accordance with the approved plans. The areas shall thereafter be retained for that use and shall not be used other than for the parking of motor vehicles.

Reason: To provide car-parking space for the development in accordance with Saved Policy TR3 in the Wealden Local Plan 2003.

11. Notwithstanding details shown on approved plans prior to construction above ground samples of the materials to be used in the construction of the extension hereby permitted shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure the appropriate appearance of the development in the area in accordance with Saved Policy EN27 in the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

12. Within 12 months of first occupation of the approved development the approved external planting shall be carried out in full.

Reason: To ensure planting is carried out as approved.

13. The Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) hereby permitted shall not be used at any time other than between the hours of 0830 and 1800 Monday - Friday inclusive during school terms.

Reason: To safeguard the amenity of neighbouring residents from noise in accordance with Saved Policy EN27 of the Wealden Local Plan 1998.

Schedule of Approved Plans

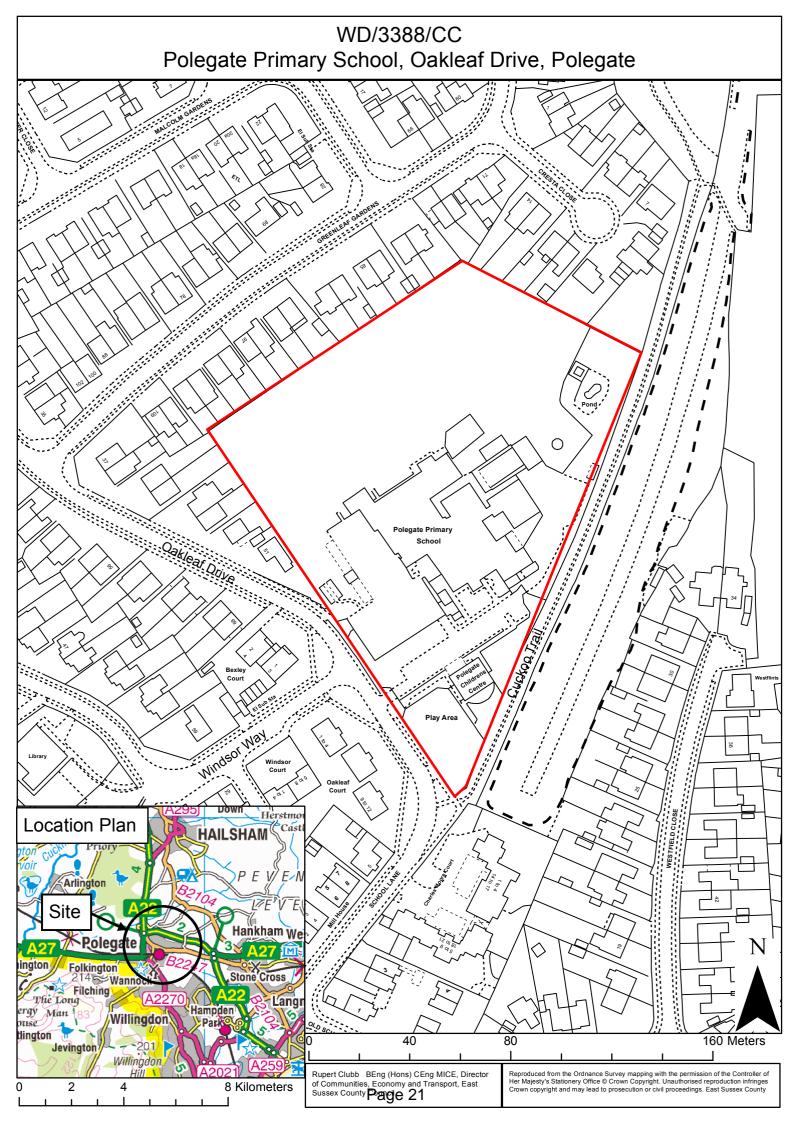
0001 Rev P1 - Site Location Plan, 007 Rev P2 - Existing Site Layout and Location Plan, 0021 Rev P1 - Existing Building Proposed Refurbishment Works, GA0100 Rev P6 - GA Plans - Ground Floor, GA0101 Rev P6 - GA Plans - First Floor, GA0102 Rev P3 - GA Plans Roof Plan, 0020 Rev P1 - Existing Building Floor Plan, GA0400

Rev P4 - North East and South East Elevations, GA0401 Rev P4 - South West and North West Elevations, GA0402 Rev P2 - Context Elevations, GA0500 Rev P2 - Sections AA and BB, 0403 Rev P1 - Proposed Street Elevation, G29/01/502 Rev B - External Lighting Layout, LLD1281-LAN-FIG-001-01 - Landscape Masterplan, 0410 Rev P2 - Existing Building Elevations, 0411 Rev P2 - Existing Building Proposed Elevations, 008 Rev P6 - Proposed Site Layout and Location Plan, LLD1281-LAN-REP-001 Rev03 - Landscape Design Strategy and Outline Plant Specification, 010 Rev P10 - Proposed Detailed Site Layout Plan

RUPERT CLUBB
Director of Communities, Economy and Transport
15 May 2018

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Development Plan
National Planning Policy Framework
Planning Application File
The Town and Country Planning (Consultation) (England) Direction 2009





Agenda Item 6

Agenda Item

Report to: Regulatory – Planning Committee

Date of meeting: 23 May 2018

Report By: Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

Title: Traffic Regulation Order – 20 mph speed limit (Uckfield High Street)

Area

Purpose: To consider the objections received in response to the consultation

on the draft Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a 20 mph speed

limit in the area of High Street, Uckfield, East Sussex

Contact Officer: Christopher Tree – Tel. 01273 482247

Local Member: Councillor Claire Dowling

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Planning Committee is recommended:

(1) To not uphold the objections to the draft Traffic Regulation Order as set out in Appendix 2 of this report; and

(2) To recommend to the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport that the draft Traffic Regulation Order be made as advertised.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2012, the Lead Member for Transport and Environment approved a two-stage approach to mitigate the impact of development generated traffic on the roads in the town centre of Uckfield taking into account existing and future development allocations. At this meeting, Stage 1 of the improvements to High Street from Framfield Road to Bell Lane was approved and construction was completed in November 2014. In September 2015, the Lead Member approved Stage 2 of the improvements which focussed on the section of the High Street north of Bell Lane up to Church Street; construction was completed in September 2016. Development contributions from committed development in Uckfield and surrounding settlements have been secured by Wealden District Council (WDC) by means of Section 106 agreements and were used to fund these transport mitigation measures.
- 1.2 The Stage 2 improvements included the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit on sections of the High Street, Church Street, Bell Lane and the side roads and adjoining cul-de-sacs using signs alone. The aim of the 20 mph speed limit is to improve the road safety, the living environment on Uckfield High Street and surrounding area and travelling conditions for pedestrians and cyclists, thereby encouraging more people to make these modes of transport their first choice for more of their local journeys. However, due to an oversight during the construction of the Stage 2 improvements the draft Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) associated with the 20 mph speed limit was not advertised. In addition, a number of the terminal signs associated with the entry points into the 20 mph speed limit were either missing or incorrectly located. This situation would have been confusing for drivers as the start and the finish of the 20 mph speed limit area was not made clear. All of the terminal and repeater signs were subsequently taken down with a view to resolving this situation by the introduction of the appropriate TRO.

- 1.3 Prior to the advertisement of the draft Traffic Regulation Order, consultation was undertaken with statutory consultees including Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, South East Coast Ambulance Service, the local bus operators, Uckfield Town Council, Wealden District Council and the Local County Council Member. No objections were received during this stakeholder consultation.
- 1.4 On Friday 2 February 2018 the County Council gave notice under its powers set out in the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that it was proposing to make a draft Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a 20mph speed limit on roads within the High Street area of Uckfield. A copy of the draft TRO is included in Appendix 1. The roads to be included are shown on the enclosed location plan. The draft Order was advertised in the local press, statutory consultees were notified and notices were placed on lamp columns in all the affected roads. A period of three weeks was allowed for any comments to be received. This period ended on Friday 23 February 2018. The TRO information was also available on the East Sussex Highways website.

2 COMMENTS AND APPRAISAL

- 2.1 During the formal consultation period, in total, four separate representations were received to the draft Traffic Regulation Order. These consisted of one in support of the proposed scheme, and three objecting to the proposals. Full copies of the representations are available in the Members' Room. One of the objections was subsequently withdrawn and the remaining two representations objecting to the scheme can be summarised as follows:
 - the 20 mph speed limit should be extended to include other roads;
 - the proposed 20 mph speed limit serves no purpose;
 - the 20 mph speed limit cannot be enforced;
 - it will have no effect on road safety;
 - the expense cannot be justified;
 - 20 mph at night is unnecessary; and
 - it will increase vehicle emissions.
- 2.2 Each objection has been considered individually and a summary of the objections and the officer comments on each of these is set out in Appendix 2. It is not considered that the objections warrant the modification or withdrawal of the proposal and the objections should not, therefore, be upheld.

3 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Stage 2 town centre improvements included the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit on sections of the High Street, Church Street, Bell Lane and the side roads and adjoining cul-desacs using signs alone. The aim of the 20 mph speed limit is to improve the road safety, the living environment on Uckfield High Street and surrounding area and travelling conditions for pedestrians and cyclists, thereby encouraging more people to make these modes of transport their first choice for more of their local journeys. The results of the most recent traffic speed surveys carried out in July 2017 show that the existing speeds are appropriate for the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit using signs alone. The changes to the layout of the High Street will encourage good compliance with the new speed limit and it will be largely self-enforcing. The number of signs and road markings has been kept to a minimum to minimise the visual impact and where possible they have been located on existing street furniture.
- 3.2 It is recommended, for the reasons set out in this report, that the Planning Committee does not uphold the objections to the draft Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a 20 mph speed limit in Uckfield High Street area, and recommends to the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport that the Order be made as advertised.

RUPERT CLUBB Director of Communities, Economy and Transport 14 May 2018 CT

LOCAL MEMBER

Councillor Claire Dowling

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 1. Appendix 1 (Draft Traffic Order with streets included)
- 2. Appendix 2 (Objections and officer comments)



EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

The East Sussex (Various Roads, Uckfield) (20 mph Speed Limit) Order 201*

East Sussex County Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 84 (1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act"), as amended, and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act and Traffic Management Act 2004, hereby make the following Order:-

- 1. No person shall drive any vehicle at a speed exceeding 20 mph on those lengths of road specified in the Schedule to this Order.
- 2. No speed limit imposed by this Order applies to vehicles falling within regulation 3(4) of the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011 when used in accordance with regulation 3(5) of those Regulations.
- 3. This Order may be cited as "The East Sussex (Various Roads, Uckfield) (20 mph Speed Limit) Order 201*" and shall come into operation on....... 201*.

SCHEDULE 20 mph Speed Limit

C41 High Street	from a point 33 metres north of the northern kerb line of its junction with Church Street, southwards to a point 21 metres south of the southern kerb line of its junction with Mill Drove.
B2102 Bell Lane	from its junction with the High Street, westwards for a distance of 120 metres.
C10 Church Street	from its junction with the High Street, westwards to a point 14 metres east of the eastern kerb line of its junction with The Drive.
U7782 Regency Close	for its entire length.
U7766 Pudding Cake Lane	for its entire length.
U7134 Library Way	for its entire length.
U7135 Civic Approach	for its entire length.
U7136 Bell Walk	for its entire length.
U7154 Hempstead Road	from its junction with Hempstead Rise westwards to its junction with the High Street.
U7780 River Way	for its entire length.

THE COMMON SEAL of EAST SUSSEX)
COUNTY COUNCIL was affixed)
hereto on the xx day of xxxx two)
thousand and xxxx in the presence of:-)

Authorised Signatory

H & T Ctte. 2.4.74 - para 4.2 joint report of Director of Legal & Community Services & County Engineer - para 4.

REPRESENTATION	OFFICER COMMENTS	RECOMMENDATION
Objection Number 1 Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that it should be extended to include other roads in Uckfield town centre area such as Olives Meadow, Spring Meadow and Linden Chase as these are either no through roads or cul-de-sacs. If these additional roads were included in the 20 mph speed limit this would require only 3 speed limit terminal signs to be used which would cut down on costs.	The proposed change to the speed limit is focussed on the roads and side roads associated with the Stage 2 improvement scheme. The use of speed limit repeater signs or markings would still be required to remind drivers of the 20 mph speed limit as there are no specific speed reducing features to lower vehicle speeds. The objector was advised in writing that the request would be considered as part of Stage 4 of the town centre improvement scheme, a movement and access study to identify further pedestrian and traffic management improvements in Uckfield.	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.
Objection Number 2 Noted that a number of the terminal signs associated with the entry points to the 20 mph speed limit were either missing or incorrectly located.	This resulted in an anomaly at the Hempstead Road/Hempstead Rise junction whereby drivers could exit the 20 mph speed limit in Grange Road and enter the 20 mph speed limit in Hempstead Road via Hempstead Rise without passing a terminal sign.	This anomaly will be rectified if the new speed limit signs are introduced.
Objection Number 3 Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that the speed limit serves no purpose.	The aim of the 20 mph speed limit is to improve the road safety, the living environment on Uckfield High Street and surrounding area and travelling conditions for	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.

	pedestrians and cyclists, thereby encouraging more people to make these modes of transport their first choice for more of their local journeys.	
Objection Number 4		
Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that the speed limit cannot be enforced.	The changes to the layout of the high street will encourage low vehicle speeds and help to ensure that the new speed limit is self-enforcing and therefore general compliance is achievable without excessive reliance on enforcement. The results of the most recent traffic speed surveys carried out in July 2017 show that the existing speeds are appropriate for the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit using signs alone. Sussex Police will take a responsible and proportionate approach to enforcement of 20 mph speed limits based on their assessment of risk to individuals, property and seriousness of any breach.	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.
Objection Number 5		
Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that there is no evidence that the speed limits have any effect on road safety.	The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) supports and encourages the wider use of 20 mph speed limits. They believe 20 mph speed limits are most appropriate for roads where average speeds are already low (below 24 mph) and the layout and the use of the road also gives a clear impression that a 20 mph speed or below is the most appropriate. There is a significant reduction in the risk of being killed	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.

	or seriously injured if hit by a car travelling at 20 mph rather than 30 mph.	
Objection Number 6		
Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that the expense of the 20 mph speed limit cannot be justified.	The introduction of the signs and road markings associated with the speed limit is a cost effective means of reinforcing and encouraging good driver behaviour. The minimum number of speed limit signs has been used to ensure the effectiveness of the scheme and, where possible, they have been mounted on existing street furniture to minimise street clutter.	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.
Objection Number 7		
Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that whilst it was difficult to drive above 20 mph in the high street during the day why was it necessary to limit vehicle speeds during the night.	The High Street is not an appropriate location for the introduction of a variable 20 mph speed limit that applies only a certain times of the day. Time limited speed limits are effective where there is an obvious peak in activity such as outside schools at the start and finish times. People may be using the High Street throughout the day and the night. Applying the 20 mph speed limit throughout the day also delivers a consistent message to drivers.	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.
Representation Number 8		
Objection to the proposed 20 mph speed limit on the grounds that the speed limit would increase vehicle emissions.	20 mph schemes do not necessarily increase emissions or fuel costs and Department for Transport guidance states 'Generally, driving more slowly at a steady pace saves fuel and	Not to uphold the objection and to implement the Order as advertised.

τ	
a	
g	
Φ	
S	
<i>N</i> :	

carbon dioxide emissions, unless unnecessarily low gear is used'. I implementation of 20 mph speed limits a result in providing further environment benefits by reducing the number of vehicand congestion on roads through decrease levels of traffic and increases in walking a cycling.	ntal cles sed
--	---------------------

