

Speed Limit Consultation Results September 2020

Objection 1

Hello Ref: Bedford Borough Council (20mph and 40mph Speed Limits) (Staploe and Duloe) Order 20** I would like to object to this new speed limit proposal. I can see no need to restrict the speed of traffic through the village or between Staploe and Duloe. Neither stretch of road has a history of accidents and the current speed limits are both adequate and effective. The villages have mobile speed signs and community speed watch groups – plus residents who note down speeding cars and this should be sufficient to ensure limits are kept to by those that care. The changes will inconvenience users and those who speed will almost certainly take no notice, so the imposition of new lower speeds is a waste of time and effort I hope therefore that this proposed change will be rejected

Support 1

I'm just writing a few words in support of the proposed speed reduction in Duloe and Staploe. Walking on these roads as I do every day with my dogs, can be very frightening, they are very narrow in parts and there are no footpaths or verge to walk on, I feel a reduction in the speed limit would go a long way to making walking safer and a more pleasurable experience.

Support 2

Good morning Please accept this email in support of the road speed reductions for the hamlets of Duloe and Staploe. As a resident of Duloe the current speed limit is not appropriate for the lanes as they are extremely narrow, unlit and without footpaths. A 30 mile per hour limit would provide a safer environment for both residents and visitors. Thank you

Support 3

Dear Sirs, I write in SUPPORT of the proposed amendments to some speed limits in Staploe and Duloe. These amendments are detailed in the Public Notice that you have issued dated 30th July 2020. The grounds on which my support is based, are as follows: 1. A (i) To reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph in the centre of Staploe. • The road through Staploe is narrow and just wide enough for two-way traffic. In the centre of Staploe houses abut directly onto the highway and parked cars reduce the road to single vehicle width. There is no footpath and although there are grass verges in places, pedestrians walk in the road. Children also play in the road. There are two blind bends in this part of Staploe that are only single vehicle width with no verges. Many cyclists use this route for recreational cycling. • The volume of traffic through the village increases significantly when weddings are held at the Bassmead Wedding Venue and speeding visitor vehicles (especially taxis from St. Neots) are an issue. The parish has purchased two mobile speed signs to encourage adherence to the speed limits. • Reducing the speed limit in this part of Staploe will improve the safety for pedestrians, children, cyclists and all other highway users. It is also hoped that it will encourage visitors to the village and to the Bassmead Wedding venue to respect the speed limits and the close proximity of the residents. 2. To reduce the speed limit from the national speed limit

to 40mph along the following lengths of road: a. A(i) Gypsy Lane; B(i) Staploe Lane: • This road from the Bushmead Road to Staploe is narrow single vehicle width and has a number of blind sharp corners. The national speed limit is not appropriate for this type of road and for the rapid deceleration from 60mph to 30mph when entering Staploe. • Reducing the speed limit on this road will improve safety and allow for a more gradual deceleration from 40mph to the current 30mph when entering Staploe. b. B(ii) Staploe Lane; C(i) Duloe Lane: • This road between the 30 mph limits in Staploe and Duloe has two key hazards: (a) the junction with Shakers Way where vehicles turning out from Shakers Way have poor visibility and those turning left towards Staploe swing out across the full road width due to the junction layout; (b) the sharp blind bends at both ends of the very narrow single vehicle width section of road approaching the existing 30mph speed limit in Duloe, where a recent serious accident occurred. In this section pedestrians have to walk in the road due to the tall hedges that form the road edge. • The road through Duloe and Shakers Way is used by many vehicles from St. Neots to the Bushmead Road and to Roxton to avoid congestion in St. Neots and on the A1/Black Cat roundabout. • Reducing the speed limit on this road will increase safety for all highway users at the hazards described above and will encourage more gradual deceleration from 40mph to the current 30mph when entering both Staploe and Duloe. I trust that my comments and support for this Public Order will assist the Borough Council in making this order and I look forward in due course to the installation of the new speed limits. Please could you acknowledge receipt of this email and confirm that you will consider this in the consultation?

Support 4

I write in SUPPORT of the proposed amendments to some speed limits in Staploe and Duloe. These amendments are detailed in the Public Notice that you have issued dated 30th July 2020. The grounds on which my support is based, are as follows: 1. A (i) To reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph in the centre of Staploe. • The road in Staploe is narrow with houses right on the edge of the highway. Parked cars reduce the road to single vehicle width and as there is no footpath, pedestrians walk in the road. Children also play in the road. There are also two single vehicle width blind bends with no verges. Many cyclists pass through the village for recreational cycling. • Speeding vehicles (especially taxis from St. Neots) are an issue on this narrow road, particularly when weddings are held at the Bassmead Wedding Venue. • Reducing the speed limit in this part of Staploe will improve the safety for pedestrians, children, cyclists and all other highway users. I also hope that it will encourage visitors to the village and to the Bassmead Wedding venue to respect the speed limits. 2. To reduce the speed limit from the national speed limit to 40mph along the following lengths of road: a. A(i) Gypsy Lane; B(i) Staploe Lane: • This road from the Bushmead Road to Staploe is narrow single vehicle width and has a number of blind sharp corners. The national speed limit is not appropriate for this and the rapid deceleration from 60mph when entering Staploe. • Reducing the speed limit on this road will improve safety and allow for a more gradual deceleration from 40mph when entering Staploe. b. B(ii) Staploe Lane; C(i) Duloe Lane: • This road between the 30 mph limits in Staploe and Duloe has two key hazards: (a) the junction with Shakers Way; (b) the sharp blind bends at both ends of the very narrow single width section of road approaching the 30mph speed limit in Duloe, where a recent serious accident occurred. In this section pedestrians have to walk in the road due to the tall hedges on the edge of the road. • The road through Duloe and Shakers Way is used by many vehicles from St. Neots to the Bushmead Road and to Roxton to avoid congestion in St. Neots and on the A1/Black Cat roundabout. • Reducing the speed limit on this road will increase safety for all highway users and will encourage more gradual deceleration from 40mph when entering both Staploe and Duloe. I trust that my comments and

support for this Public Order will assist the Borough Council in making this order and I look forward in due course to the installation of the new speed limits. Please could you acknowledge receipt of this email and confirm that you will consider this in the consultation?

Support 5

I am writing to support the proposal to reduce the speed limits on the roads in and between Duloe and Staploe. I have lived in Staploe since ****. These roads are in several places only a single vehicle wide, with poor visibility on bends. No one should be going at over 40 mph at any point on these roads. The centre of Duloe and the area from Falls Farm to Old Farm Cottage in Staploe are especially dangerous because the available road-space is reduced to single file by parked cars and because these are built-up areas with children and frail, elderly people living in the houses. It makes sense to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph in these zones.

Support 6

I write in SUPPORT of the proposed amendments to some speed limits in Staploe and Duloe. These amendments are detailed in the Public Notice that you have issued dated 30th July 2020. The grounds on which my support is based, are as follows: 1. A (i) To reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph in the centre of Staploe. • The road in Staploe is narrow with houses right on the edge of the highway. Parked cars reduce the road to single vehicle width and as there is no footpath, pedestrians walk in the road. Children also play in the road. There are also two single vehicle width blind bends with no verges. Many cyclists pass through the village for recreational cycling. • Speeding vehicles (especially taxis from St. Neots) are an issue on this narrow road, particularly when weddings are held at the Bassmead Wedding Venue. • Reducing the speed limit in this part of Staploe will improve the safety for pedestrians, children, cyclists and all other highway users. I also hope that it will encourage visitors to the village and to the Bassmead Wedding venue to respect the speed limits. 2. To reduce the speed limit from the national speed limit to 40mph along the following lengths of road: a. A(i) Gypsy Lane; B(i) Staploe Lane: • This road from the Bushmead Road to Staploe is narrow single vehicle width and has a number of blind sharp corners. The national speed limit is not appropriate for this and the rapid deceleration from 60mph when entering Staploe. • Reducing the speed limit on this road will improve safety and allow for a more gradual deceleration from 40mph when entering Staploe. b. B(ii) Staploe Lane; C(i) Duloe Lane: • This road between the 30 mph limits in Staploe and Duloe has two key hazards: (a) the junction with Shakers Way; (b) the sharp blind bends at both ends of the very narrow single width section of road approaching the 30mph speed limit in Duloe, where a recent serious accident occurred. In this section pedestrians have to walk in the road due to the tall hedges on the edge of the road. • The road through Duloe and Shakers Way is used by many vehicles from St. Neots to the Bushmead Road and to Roxton to avoid congestion in St. Neots and on the A1/Black Cat roundabout. • Reducing the speed limit on this road will increase safety for all highway users and will encourage more gradual deceleration from 40mph when entering both Staploe and Duloe. I hope that my comments and support for this Public Order will assist the Borough Council in making this order and I look forward in due course to the installation of the new speed limits. Please could you acknowledge receipt of this email and confirm that you will consider this in the consultation?

Support 7

To whom it may concern, As a resident of Staploe, I fully support the proposal for implementing new, reduced speed limits on the main Staploe and Duloe roads as described in the plan. The road through Staploe is narrow; there are often parked cars (residents, visitors and delivery vehicles) that narrow it even further. Visibility is greatly reduced on the slight bend, leaving Staploe towards Bassmead Manor. Further, the sharp bend between Duloe and Staploe is a 'blind bend' frequently taken at speed by cars travelling through Duloe towards Shakers Way. I have suffered a number of worrying near misses here, as approaching vehicles take the bend at speed and drive across the centre of the road. I would hope that the proposed speed limit changes would encourage safer and more considerate driving by all road users.

Support 8

I wish to let it be known that I fully support the proposed new speed limits as stated below: The proposal is to introduce a 40mph speed limit between Staploe and Duloe, a 20mph zone in the narrow section of Staploe from Falling Water House to the current 30mph sign west of Old Farm Cottage and a 40mph zone from the speed sign west of Old Farm Cottage to the end of Gypsy Lane. These proposals make 100% sense to me. Since the opening of a large venue locally I fear the amount of extra speeding traffic (taxis, mini busses and the like) will ultimately end up with a serious injury/s. Lowering the speed limit could avoid this. It is also worth pointing out the large number of children and walkers that use this road. For safety's sake the proposed slower speed limits can only be a good thing.

Support 9

Good afternoon, I fully support the proposed new speed limits as stated below: The proposal is to introduce a 40mph speed limit between Staploe and Duloe, DEFINATELY.....a 20mph zone in all of Staploe. These proposals make 100% sense to me. Since the opening of a large venue locally I fear the amount of extra speeding traffic (taxis, mini busses and the like) will ultimately end up with a serious injury/s. Lowering the speed limit could avoid this. I have children and pets, and us walkers also use this road. For safety's sake the proposed slower speed limits can only be a good thing.
Thank you