

Formal Consultation: Pembridge (20mph Speed Limit)

25/03/2021 to 21/04/2021

Response Summary

Consultee	Comments
County Councillor for Arrow Ward	<p>As the local County Councillor for Pembridge for over 20 years and a lifelong resident of the parish I fully support the proposed traffic order for a reduction of the speed limit in the village from 30 mph to 20mph.</p> <p>There is no other village on the whole length of the A44 from Oxford to Aberystwyth, or in Herefordshire that has so many residential dwelling front doors within a metre of the main road. The village has a high levels of listed property adjoining the highways with some evidence of damage to the ancient buildings of the high traffic movements, clearly slowing the speeds will give some ease to this.</p> <p>The high level of over 3,000 vehicles per day including a high percentage of HGVs and agricultural traffic, passing through an active community with a high level of pedestrian movements, raises a risk of potential personal injury which the blue light services will understand.</p> <p>The crossing of the highways to attend the school, high school and other bus services, the various retail establishments, tourist attractions, play and recreational areas make the calming down of speed a sensible and progressive measure for Pembridge.</p> <p>I have received numerous emails and contacts of support from residents for this TRO and comment its implementation.</p>
Pembridge Parish Clerk	<p>Good Morning XX,</p> <p>Following the recent PC Meeting on 21st April 2021. I confirm Pembridge Parish Council are in support of the 20mph scheme in Pembridge village.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>
Pembridge CE Primary School, Headteacher	<p>Dear XX,</p> <p>The school fully supports the use of a 20mph scheme through the village in order to increase pedestrian safety. Trying to take a class of children across the A44 can be potentially dangerous.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>
Traffic Management Advisor, West Mercia Police	<p>Dear XX,</p> <p>Re: Proposed Introduction of 20mph limit throughout the village of Pembridge, Herefordshire</p>

	<p>I refer to your e-mail and attached letter dated 3rd February seeking West Mercia Police's views in respect of the proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit throughout the village of Pembridge, Herefordshire, as shown on the drawing ref 3409-100-002 accompanying the e-mail.</p> <p>I have had a number of conversations with colleagues from Herefordshire Council about this idea and others of a similar nature and agree that, in principle Pembridge is the best location to trial the effectiveness of a 20mph speed limit in conjunction with the existing traffic calming and lining arrangements so offer no objections to the proposal.</p> <p>I note that current mean and 85th%ile speeds are above the level that DfT recommend for the implementation of a 20 limit, so have some reservations as to how well it will be complied with. I cannot commit to regular enforcement of this limit if we subsequently receive complaints about non compliance and feel that as part of the management of local expectations it should be made clear to councilors and residents that this is the case.</p> <p>I would expect there to be ongoing monitoring of traffic speeds as part of this exercise with at least a review 2-3 years after implementation as referred to in your letter. If it is subsequently found that the 20mph limit is not effective, consideration should be given to reverting back to the original 30mph speed limit.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
Resident 1	<p>Hi there</p> <p>I would like to suggest regarding the 20mph proposal that whilst I agree with it around the centre I feel that the outskirts of both ends of the A44 approaching Pembridge should have a 30mph buffer zone including within a fractional part of the initial 20mph zone proposed as it would allow a more adaptive and gradual reduction/increase, otherwise it's virtually a huge shunt to drop from a national speed limit straight into a 20mph zone.</p> <p>Another couple of proposals I would suggest looking into Unclassified Road Church Road, Old Clehonger Village, to have a 30mph speed limit through the old Clehonger village from the B4349 junction to the village outskirts on the Northern Side (approaching C1199 Ruckhall Lane) as it is currently 'technically' a de-restricted 60mph speed limit through there which is impractical and doesn't associate a village boundary. A465 Belmont//Abergavenny. The 40mph limit that was imposed back in late 2011 along the A465 from the Belmont Tesco island to just before the Clehonger turnoff, I previously suggested a buffer 50mph limit to impede part of the current 40mph limit (just past the Newton Coppice area) but to extend it to just beyond (south of) the B4349/A465 Clehonger Junction as I feel that this would allow a cautious approach to the junction as well as more gradual advanced easing for traffic approaching the tesco island.</p> <p>Also I would ask whether there could be some safety improvements given to the B4349/A465 junction to include a 'stop' order rather than a give way order for traffic joining the A465 from the B4349 as I am</p>

	<p>concerned there are often daily near misses by misjudgement/careless driving with vehicles coming from B4349 Clehonger often pulling out abruptly into the path of fast approaching traffic from the A465 without giving way/observing.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration to my suggestions.</p>
Resident 2	<p>Hello XX,</p> <p>We wish to support the proposed speed limit in Pembridge.</p> <p>We live at XX and see that a 20 sign is indicated somewhere between our entry and that of Dunelm to the west; is this to be carried on the existing street lamp pole? Perhaps you could confirm the exact siting of the 20 sign. Thank you,.</p>
Resident 3	<p>Dear Sir</p> <p>Reference the Proposed Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the speed limit to 20mph on the A44 through Pembridge I would like to object to this proposal. Only a very small section of this road could be considered in any way dangerous. The remainder of the road is open with good visibility in all directions. The principle dangers of this area are caused by large vehicles (40 ton artic lorries, large tractors) which already move at under 20mph and even at this speed are simply too large to safely move through this area combined with a lot of badly parked cars on both sides of the road. A much more effective method of improving safety would be to restrict parking on the A44 throughout Pembridge and add a weight limit to the road to stop large vehicles using the road as a shortcut to Leominster.</p> <p>Best Regards</p>
Resident 4	<p>Dear XX,</p> <p>I am emailing you regarding the trial of 20mph through Pembridge village.</p> <p>I think it is an excellent idea. Many people walk through Pembridge and often these people cannot walk fast because of age, infirmity, or children. There are also lots of houses which are very close to the main road [fortunately not mine] which suffer from the close proximity of the traffic.</p> <p>Anything then which slows down the copious amounts of traffic that pound through Pembridge can only be a good thing.</p> <p>However, I am concerned that there are no signs [unlike in Kington] which tell motorists that they should be slowing down to 20 mph.</p> <p>Last Saturday, my husband and I were returning from our weekly shop in Kington and there were no signs telling us to slow down. The next day, we were walking through the village on our way to church and again, no signs. In fact, the opposite with a huge 30 mph sign outside the village Hall which is where the new 20 mph speed limit starts on Bearwood Lane.</p>

	<p>I appreciate that this is only a trial but I cannot see how it can be seen to be a success if no one knows, or is reminded, that they should be slowing down to 20 mph.</p> <p>Yours,</p>
Resident 5	<p>Dear Sirs,</p> <p>With regard to the above proposal, we are very pleased that the Council has recognised the scale of the traffic problem through the village. We have only moved to Pembridge last year, and have been appalled by the sheer number of heavy goods vehicles passing through the village on the A44, and the speed at which some of them travel through. We have several times had to literally “make a run for it” when crossing over the A44 from the top of Bridge Street. With no zebra crossing, and a poor view to the West, any vehicle travelling fast, even 30 mph, doesn’t allow one time to cross the road safely. With many children also having to cross here, we feel it can only be a matter of time before a dreadful accident happens.</p> <p>The other problem is Bridge Street itself. Not the same problem with heavy goods vehicles, just traffic generally going too fast up or down the hill. In the year we have lived here, we have seen several “near misses” at the bridge, caused by nothing more than drivers ignoring the speed limit and the other warnings.</p> <p>The proposed 20mph limit therefore gets our absolute support, our only concern being how will it be enforced, if at all? The current 30mph limit is being ignored by a lot of drivers, changing it to 20mph will help, but we feel based on what we have seen, particularly on Bridge Street, the limit will just continue to be ignored, and the potential injury to other drivers and pedestrians will remain.</p> <p>Yours Faithfully</p>
Resident 6	<p>Hello XX,</p> <p>I have lived in Pembridge for 32 years and I run XX.</p> <p>I fully support the proposed traffic order for a reduction of the speed limit in the village from 30 mph to 20mph</p> <p>I am constantly reminded of how dangerous this section of the A44 is. I also have a 17 Century timber framed cottage on the A44 and feel threatened by the speed of all the traffic but especially the lorries. A reduced speed limit through the village is long overdue.</p> <p>20 mph would greatly reduce emissions. I have friends in the village who no longer think it’s safe to have their young grandchildren visit them due to smelly emissions.</p> <p>The farm traffic is bigger than ever and everyone ignores the fact that they are driving through a medieval gem of a village which is slowly being destroyed by heavy traffic.</p> <p>The holiday traffic with caravans and campers will now increase, due to C-19 restrictions being lifted, adding to the noise, pollution and unpleasantness of living and working on the A44.</p> <p>Many homes have their front doors right on the pavement, many of these are ancient listed buildings.</p>

	<p>It can takes many minutes to cross the road on foot especially with a grandchild, as the traffic streams through too fast and it's only a matter of time before someone gets knocked over.</p> <p>I do hope that this proposal will proceed in order to make our lives safer and healthier</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>
Resident 7	<p>My property faces the A44. I think that the scheme is an excellent idea, however please note the following comments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of enforcement. The area covered by the limit should be supplemented by the signs of the type showing a camera. This would mean that the police radar van could be, from time to time, be parked in the village and prosecutions for executed on offenders. This, if generally known it would help the speed limit be observed. 2. At the Eastern end of the village, in light of recent housing development here, the limit signs should be 50 metres further towards Leominster. The "pinch" point should be moved there also made narrower and more substantial. This would ensure that traffic slowed down before entering the residential area. <p>Regards</p>