Bourn Traffic Calming Survey – Results Update

Thank you to all Bourn residents who took part in our traffic calming survey which we launched in June. We asked for your views and comments on traffic calming improvements for the village. The survey collected over 100 individual comments reflecting the strength of residents' concerns about speeding in, and through, our village.

In our July newsletter article, we shared our intention to keep you closely informed about our new proposals and to ensure that our actions are guided by your views wherever possible. This update provides a summary of the survey findings along with a sample of residents' comments which indicate the range of views we have received. These results will shape our proposals for traffic calming improvements.

1 THE RESULTS

1.1 We asked would you be in favour of these:

A. Village Gateways



82% said Yes 6% said No 12% were unsure

B. Road Bumps



58% said Yes 30% said No 11% were unsure

C. Road Colouring



46% said Yes29% said No25% were unsure

1.2 Road Narrowing

Work to carry out road narrowing is scheduled to begin in the autumn at the Broadway. We are keen to extend this to other entry points into the village. In the comments section of our survey an overwhelming number of you agreed that this would be both desirable and effective. Over half of the open comments you provided indicated a preference for additional road narrowing.

2 YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

You provided a huge number of comments and options for consideration. These were the most popular, in order of preference:

#=1 Village gateways

#=1 Road narrowing

#2 Speed signs/speed cameras

#3 Reduced speed limits

#4 Speed bumps/rumble strips

#5 Weight/height limit (on Chapel Hill)

#6 Lorry/large vehicle ban/restriction through village

#7 Pedestrian crossing

2.1 STRENGTH OF OPINION

We aim to meet the needs of all residents but as the sample of comments below show, this can sometimes be difficult to navigate:

2.1.1 On speed bumps:

"As many as possible..."

"Potentially the most effective of the measures suggested..."

"Road bumps are worse than ineffective..."

"Definitely not"

2.1.2 On road colouring:

"I would want it to cover the distance of the village not only the very centre"

"That would be ideal around from the Willow Tree, past the farm... It's a great visual reminder"

"Visually discordant with the look of the village"

"Waste of money"

3 LOCATION HOT SPOTS

We would probably all agree that we wish to see slower and fewer vehicles throughout the village but would equally recognise that there are some particularly "hot spots". You consider these to be:

- Speed of traffic entering the village by the Lalbagh restaurant
- Speed of traffic coming into the village at Gills Hill, the Broadway, Caxton Road and Caxton End
- Number of heavy lorries cutting through the village (few would have reason to be delivering here)
- Speed of traffic on Fox Road to/from Bourn and Longstowe
- The need for weight and height restrictions on Chapel Hill
- Congestion around the war memorial, shop and village hall
- Congestion around the school during pick up and drop off
- Volume and speed of traffic on Alms Hill and safely crossing the road

3.1 EXAMPLE LOCATION-RELATED COMMENTS:

"Fox Road is a dangerous road with cars parked on the road. Now there is a housing estate (Fairways) just down Gills Hill. It is very difficult for any vehicle coming from Longstowe to turn right down the hill with the cars parked so close to this junction. Several near misses have occurred".

"Speed limit should be reduced on school route every morning"

"We have seen the speed monitors on Broadway and near the Doctors, but it is needed on the through route to the primary school, ie just after (or before) the bend where the phone box is in Hall Close, as traffic is still exceeding the 20 mph limit by a large amount at school drop off and collection times, making it dangerous to drive in and out of the village at this particular point. Speed ramps around this part of the village would greatly help."

"I would like the traffic calming measures to be extended to the boundary of bourn towards longstowe. huge speeding issues on my rd"

"Please remember the end of Fox Road towards Longstowe it's a rat run nowadays from the a1198"

"A 20mph speed limit on the stretch from Caxton Road to Gills Hill."

"We live opposite Lalbagh and drivers very very regularly speed past us at 50-60 miles per hour. This is a massive risk to our safety, particularly our children. It is imperative that there is some kind of sign or sleeping policeman or gate or something as you come down the hill. Once you leave Broadway it looks like you're leaving the village as there is a large area with many trees etc and no houses which feels like a rural road. In addition there is the extra speed people pick up coming down the hill."

"Caxton Road has no footpaths and high banks so traffic needs to be slowed on this road too, with bumps. Dangerous for walkers, cyclists and horse riders at moment."

"The speed limit on Caxton End needs to be reduced to 20mph along the whole length. Currently it is 60mph from the junction with the Bourn Caxton Rd almost up to the ford. This is absurd because two vehicles cannot pass one another in places, and sometimes only if one stops. Caxton End is part of a recreational /informal exercise route for plenty of people and has a number of footpaths opening on to it. It forms a direct pedestrian, and informal cycle route to and from Cambourne and the village."

"The time would be better spent sorting out the parking issues on the main road through the village, particularly the selfish, dangerous parking outside the Willow Tree, which has become worse since the easing of lockdown. For some reason the customers no longer make use of the pub's car park. Also the parking outside the council houses on Fox Road is dangerous and thoughtless. It's just a matter of time before someone is hurt or worse."

"Near the bend in Hall Close, near the phone box, the through route for the school"

4 NEXT STEPS

We will now be considering all available options, taking into account strength of opinion, traffic calming priorities (in order of need and effectiveness), the viability of the proposed traffic calming measure following a County Highway's assessment and, of course, costs. We will continue to keep you all closely updated with news here on the website and in our newsletters. Thank you again for your contribution and do look out for our proposed timetable for the new improvements.