

ADDERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Mr J Greenroyd
Project Manager
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13th September 2018

Dear Mr Greenroyd

We know that you have been liaising with Bruce Mantle who is a member of Adderley Parish's Speed Sub-committee and we are very grateful for the information you have given to him regarding your involvement in the Safer Road Partnership scheme to make improvements to the A529, a section of which runs through our parish.

Our village has key landmarks which we consider in all decisions that we make: Adderley Church of England Primary School and Nursery, Adderley Village Hall and St Peter's Church.

We have been concerned for some time about the excessive speed of some vehicles travelling through the parish and because of this, along with a number of fatal road traffic collisions, we are very supportive of the project and future related works. We believe that this is a once in a 20 year opportunity to improve the A529 and we want to work with Shropshire Highways to make this a project that is fit for the future.

As a parish we have already formed a working group to start addressing speed-related issues, have purchased a portable monitoring speed sign which is actively collecting speed data and have held a parish meeting to collate the views of parishioners on what improvements they would wish to see as part of your project. In addition, we have also collated views of some parishioners by way of a short Traffic and Road Safety Questionnaire which highlights their concerns. We are more than willing to share any information and data which we have with you.

We want to achieve a significant reduction in the average speed of traffic through the village by means of traffic calming measures and pedestrian crossings that together give Adderley more of a feel of being a rural village.

The reason for writing to you now is so that you are fully aware of the work we have done so far, our commitment to supporting improvements to the A529 and so parishioners' views can be taken into consideration prior to the public consultation phase of the scheme. We are also aware that the exact sequence of work is yet to be decided. What we are very keen to see is a genuine consultation process in which the project team fully and formally considers the measures sought by Adderley Parish Council and parishioners and incorporates as many as possible into the final highway modifications. What we would not like to see is a consultation process which merely rubber stamps the suggestions of the project team without actually including anything which is desired by the Parish Council or our parishioners. Where it is deemed not possible to incorporate a measure we would expect a clear explanation for the decision from the project team.

As part of your ongoing work on this project we would like the feasibility of the following proposed measures to be formally considered by the project team.

- A stepped reduction in speed to the entrances to our village along the A529. This should include an extension of the existing 40mph zone both sides of the Cox Bank turnoff southwards to a point that is approximately 100 metres north of the school. The start of the proposed new 40 mph buffer zone at the southern end of the village should be moved southwards to start just south of Damson Cottage.
- A 20mph zone with appropriate traffic calming measures to extend from approximately 100 metres north of the school to a point just south of the church.
- 20mph speed limits being introduced within the main village i.e. the main feeder roads to the A529, namely Green Bank and Rectory Lane.
- Cattle Crossing signage on the A529 either side of Park Farm (north of Adderley village) warning motorists that cattle might be crossing the road, as there are at Newhouse Farm on the A529 south of Adderley.

We would suggest that these are preferably vehicle activating signs.

- Concealed entrance signage at Park Farm.
- An extension of the existing 30mph zone southwards to start just before the bad bend at South Lodge.
- Railings between the pavement and the road particularly for the area which runs to Adderley School from Green Bank. This should be considered a priority.
- Gated entrances to the village would be beneficial to include horizontal and vertical features, giving Adderley the appearance of a village as the travelling public enter the 30mph zone. We would very much like a similar gated entrance to be put in place on Norton Lane, which is the 3rd entrance to Adderley village. This would bring consistency to the design and also address any speed issues with the increased use of this road as a result of the current housing developments underway in Norton-in-Hales.
- A linked and upgraded footway between the 3 main points of our village i.e. St Peter's Church, Adderley Village Hall and Adderley Primary School, with new combined crossing points/traffic calming measures outside the Village Hall and in the vicinity of Church Farm. This would ensure a continuous footpath between Adderley Primary School and St Peter's Church utilizing the space on the west verge of the A529.
- Improved street lighting along the A529 through Adderley village. This should be LED lighting and designed to minimise light pollution visible to nearby houses.
- Upgraded mandatory speed restriction signage.

We would also appreciate answers to the following questions:-

- We assume there will be a number of road closures to the A529 when work commences and this will lead to more usage of 2 alternative roads as road users circumvent the village, these being Norton Lane and Shavington Road. These 2 roads are in poor condition at the moment. Are there any plans to improve the conditions of these roads prior to or post the project works?
- With any upgrade of the A529, vehicles (especially HGVs) are more likely to use the road and we would want to ensure any improvements are such that higher volumes of traffic are effectively discouraged from travelling at higher speeds. We feel that this can only be done with traffic calming measures either at the entrances to the village or throughout the stretch of the A529 which runs through it. How can this be done safely and effectively on an A road?
- The A529 just south of Heywood Lane, close to the county boundary, is unacceptably narrow for an A road. It does not allow a car and a large lorry to pass in opposite directions without one having to reverse, which constitutes a hazard on an A road. One of our sub-committee members was recently travelling south on the A529 from Audlem in an estate car and had to reverse when a lorry travelling north approached on this narrow stretch of road, although both vehicles were tight to the hedge on their respective sides of the road. Would it be possible to widen this relatively short stretch of road to address this hazard?

We hope that you find our letter, enclosed comments and requests of use to your ongoing discussions as the project moves towards formal commencement following the current preliminary planning stage. We are very happy to meet with any project team in the future to discuss the parish council's position in more detail and to ensure continued engagement with the project.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Jane Evans

Jane Evans
Clerk to, and sent on behalf of, Adderley Parish Council