



lisa clements &lt;mabeparish@gmail.com&gt;

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## Speed of Traffic - Mabe

1 message

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**Highways & Environment West** <handew@cormacltd.co.uk>

4 August 2017 at 09:30

To: "mabeparish@gmail.com" &lt;mabeparish@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Williams Peter CC &lt;peter.williams@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk&gt;, Brown Geoff CC &lt;geoff.brown@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk&gt;

Dear Lisa

Thank you for your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2017. Having received a copy of your letter, Councillor Williams has asked me to provide a response to outline the Council's position on the issues raised:

I am conscious of the long standing aspiration to reduce through traffic in the village and introduce lower speed limits in the village alongside additional traffic calming measures. To this end, a feasibility study was undertaken in 2014, which I attach for clarity, funded via Section 106 contributions from nearby development. This document provides a number of feasible options for improvements in the village in some detail with approximate costings. Having discussed the options covered in the document at the regular highways parish council meetings with the representatives who attend, it appears that the preferred option is to install a 20mph limit in the village. This would need to be undertaken alongside associated traffic calming to ensure the limit fulfils the "self-enforcing" mean speed limit of 24mph set-down by the police. Suitable traffic calming would need to be installed at regular intervals throughout the extent of the limit therefore this is a costly proposition and is where the bulk of costs for such a scheme would lie. Alongside the introduction of a 20mph limit and traffic calming, the intention would be to also implement a short section of 40mph "buffer" to the north of the village to ensure vehicles are slowing from the derestricted section coming from Longdowns as they approach the village.

All of the above is feasible and could be progressed subject to funding, however, this is where the current prospect of such an improvement scheme is problematic, given the limited amount of improvement funding that is available in the current austere climate.

Essentially, any sort of works to improve the highway requires a significant capital investment. There is very limited funding available for road improvements in the current climate and Cornwall Council need to prioritise this limited funding to the areas with the worst speeding issues alongside existing accident history. As alluded to above, we maintain a list of sites across the county where there have been three or more injury accidents within the same 100 metre stretch of road in the previous three years, and almost without exception, it is those sites which attract the limited funding we have available. In terms of accidents, thankfully Mabe only has one recorded serious incident in the last 3 year review period – towards the extremities of the existing 30mph limit on Antron Hill involving a vehicle colliding with a cyclist wearing dark clothing in hours of darkness – and therefore does not feature on the accident remedial list which currently runs to well over 200 sites. I appreciate that individual residents concerns are focussed on the roads in their immediate neighbourhood, but we have to consider the facts across the whole of the network and I'm afraid the evidence suggests that Mabe is very low priority and therefore unlikely to attract funding for an improvement scheme in the foreseeable future.

Practically speaking, the only realistic way of progressing the desired improvement scheme outlined above in the near future is via third party funding from either developer planning contributions or some other external funding source.

Whilst I acknowledge the above is not the answer you had hoped for, I trust I have fully explained the Council's position.

Kind regards.

**Viv Bidgood**

**Highways & Environment Manager**

**CORMAC Solutions Ltd**

Western Region  
Radnor Road  
Scorrier  
Redruth  
TR16 5EH

Tel: 0300 1234 222

Email: [handew@cormacltd.co.uk](mailto:handew@cormacltd.co.uk)

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