

CLERK'S BRIEFING NOTE – SEPTEMBER 2007

SPEED & TRAFFIC CALMING IN SEDLESCOMBE

ESCC has been requested to supply traffic calming in Sedlescombe in accordance with Parish Council resolutions passed in July 2007. Replies have been received from ESCC. The current situation is as follows:

Sedlescombe Parish Council requests	East Sussex County Council replies
<p>A vehicle activated sign southbound on the B2244 by the village hall</p> <p>VAS to flash "slow down" and "30"</p>	<p>A VAS has to be situated well inside the 30mph speed limit to make sure that it does not light up before the limit. The County Council Engineer suggested positioning the VAS outside Suntrap Cottages on the western side of the B2244 facing Church Hill where it would be clearly seen by vehicles entering the Village. At a site meeting with the Chairman and Clerk , it was agreed that the sign could be moved further to the north in order to avoid being in front of a window of Suntrap Cottages.</p>
<p>A vehicle activated sign northbound as near the bridge as possible</p> <p>VAS to flash "slow down" and "30"</p>	<p>The County Council has suggested positioning the VAS on the grass verge between Kester House and Riverbridge Cottages. This site is within the Sedlescombe Conservation Area, next to the Brede Valley Site of Nature Conservation Importance and will have the side of the Grade II 17th century timber-frame listed building, Kester House, behind. The view eastwards from the proposed position of the VAS is marked on the Sedlescombe Conservation Area Appraisal as a "significant view". In addition, looking from the south of the Village, there is an attractive view of Sedlescombe Village Green which could be spoiled by an illuminated sign.</p> <p>At a site meeting with the Chairman and Clerk, the only alternative position appeared to be outside Brookfield on the other side of the road where a bus stop sign had previously met with fierce opposition.</p> <p>Some amendments are, however, proposed to minimize the intrusion of the sign in the Conservation Area: a smaller sign face for the '30' roundel which would reduce the overall size of the sign cabinet from 800mmx800mm to 700mmx600mm; the existing "road narrows" sign relocated onto the same post as the VAS with a black post rather than the existing grey one.</p>
<p>Roundels on the B2244 beside the 30mph speed limit signs at the Village Hall and Paygate Road</p>	<p>East Sussex Highways at Sidley organising</p>

Sedlescombe Parish Council requests	East Sussex County Council replies
Roundels outside Roselands	East Sussex Highways at Sidley organising
A 40mph buffer speed limit from Sedlescombe Vineyard in Hawkhurst Road (B2244) to the 30mph limit sign in order to make the VAS work when entering the Village from the north	To be considered as part of the County review of A and B roads. At present ESCC is concentrating on A roads with B roads following on; the B2244 is ranked 14 th in priority for assessment
A lower speed limit in Stream Lane which is currently being used as a rat run from the B2244 to the A21 despite its narrowness, bends, accesses with very poor visibility and lack of footways	Stream Lane is a very minor C class road and will be reviewed as part of the county wide review of C roads which is not programmed until the A and B road reviews have been completed, which will probably be in about a year's time
A buffer speed limit in Chapel Hill to slow traffic approaching the B2244	Ditto comments for Stream Lane
A 20mph speed limit in Brede Lane to protect the School and Doctors' Surgery from halfway down Gammons Hill to the Brickwall Hotel	20mph speed limits will only be supported by Sussex Police if either the nature of the road restricts drivers to about 20mph or there are measures in place to restrict drivers to this speed. Assuming that speeds are well above this, then the lane will have to be referred to our traffic calming list where it will have to compete with all the other roads seeking calming. Colin Clarke to investigate further and get back

The Parish Council stated that:

- There should be no financial commitment required from the Parish Council for installation or future maintenance.
- Additional 30mph repeater signs are not supported unless they are essential with roundels. Residents of Crazy Lane have also asked for some form of traffic calming.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 1: That the Parish Council approves the siting of 2 vehicle activated signs as detailed on the ESCC plan dated 20/08/07 with the smaller face design as detailed on drawing number ENQ3415 02 of 30/08/07.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2: That, in addition to earlier requests, ESCC is asked to investigate a lower speed limit for Crazy Lane which has tortuous bends, is narrow and is used by a lot of drivers accessing the A21 from Westfield and, also, cars and coaches visiting Carr Taylor Vineyards. Towards the bottom of Crazy Lane, the Whydown Farm Caravan Park has its entrance.