

Additional speed control measures

1. At the last Parish Council meeting there was considerable discussion about additional/improved speed control measures. I have investigated these and my findings are as follows:

Proposal 1: Purchase of a second SID

2. At the June meeting of the Parish Council it was suggested that consideration be given to the purchase of a second SID, to be installed on Chalky Road. A preliminary enquiry about this resulted in the following response from Rob Camp:

First things first, you would need a speed survey completed to see if it meets the required criteria and you can request that through Joe Allen. In terms of an additional SID should you have another site, you would need to utilise your existing SID, so essentially spread it over 3 sites. If you wanted another SID just for Chalk Road, then it would have to be taken down every 6 weeks for a period, as SIDs are not allowed to be a permanent fixture. So most of our communities have either 1 SID over 2 or 3 sites, or if they have more than 3 sites they can easily deploy a second SID.

As the speed surveys Joe completes reduce in cost for subsequent surveys completed at the same time, do you have 4th site you want assessed?

3. I have asked how much a survey would cost, and about where SIDS need to be positioned in relation to the start of the 30 mph zone. Here is the response received:

The cost is £250+VAT for the first site, then £175+VAT for each additional monitored at the same time in the same area.

In theory they can be placed quite close to the start of a 30mph limit, dependant on any health and safety requirements. We would need to look at the sites and see if we could find an appropriate location for the pole and the volunteers to be able to deploy. There is no limit on how far you can come into the limit, as long as the visibility is good, the speeds meet criteria and a suitable location can be found.

4. The existing SID is looked after and moved between its two sites by our SID Coordinator, David Eaglestone. I have been keeping him informed of these discussions and he has said the following:

Regarding the extra SID, if a speed survey supports the demand for a SID on Chalky Road then I would be happy to do a three-way rotation of the existing SID. If there were a second SID then I think an extra body might be useful, but an alternative would be to pay for the installation of solar charging on each pole so that I would only need to visit the SID every 6 weeks to move it rather than every 2-3 weeks to change the battery, which would mean no more work for one person (i.e. me!).

5. The cost of a “solar update” for the existing SID is £175 + VAT (I think the same cost would also arise in installing a solar panel for a new SID).
6. The cost of an additional SID would be: £2660 +VAT
7. The cost of installing each additional pole would be approximately £500
8. This information leads to a number of different options:
 - a. One survey (on Chalky Road)

Assuming criteria met and existing SID then utilised over three sites

Item	Cost
Survey	£250 + VAT
Install pole	£500 + VAT
Solar upgrade of existing SID	£175 + VAT
Total	£925 + VAT

- b. Two surveys (one on Chalky Road and one on Knighton Lane)

- (i) Assuming criteria met on one new site only and existing SID then utilised over three sites

Item	Cost
Surveys	£425 + VAT
Install pole	£500 + VAT
Solar upgrade of existing SID	£175 + VAT
Total	£1100 +VAT

- (ii) Assuming criteria met on both new sites and additional SID purchased.

Item	Cost
Surveys	£425 + VAT
Purchase additional SID	£2660 + VAT
Install poles	£1000 + VAT
Solar panel for new SID	£175 + VAT
Solar upgrade of existing SID	£175 + VAT

Total	£4435 + VAT
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- c. Solar upgrade of existing SID alone (to assist the work of the coordinator)

£175 + VAT.

- d. One or two surveys are undertaken and neither site meets the Dorset Council criteria for a SID then the survey.

Item	Cost
One survey	£250 + VAT
Two surveys	£425 + VAT

9. There is no specific budget set aside for a SID project, but I would suggest that it could be taken from the “Environmental Works” budget head. The thinking behind that budget head when it was created was to pay for things which the principal authority was asking parish councils to take up. There is £1,925 under this heading in the reserves plus another £500 in the current budget. There would be enough money under that budget head to pay for any of the scenarios except buying a second SID (8(b)(ii) above). In that eventuality you would have to decide to draw on the general reserves. Alternatively you could resolve to pay for any of the scenarios from the general reserves.

DECISION REQUIRED

The Parish Council is asked to consider which, if any, of these options it would like to pursue. This will be a staged process. The first step will be to arrange for the survey or surveys. The second step will then be entirely dependent on whether the site or sites meet the Dorset Council criteria.

Proposal 2: a “rumble strip” at the 30 mph limit on Chalky Road

I have contacted Phil Goodland, our Community Highways Officer, about this and he was advised as follows by Stephen Mephram, the Community Highways Team Leader:

I think there may be some confusion about rumble strips – these are typically used on the edge of dual carriageway to alert drowsy drivers that they are drifting from live carriageway to hard should (by means of “rumble” – vibration caused by tyres driving over very small ridges within the painted line).

I believe the PC may be interested in the yellow bar markings that sometimes accompany “slows”.

If that is the case – then you can assess their need and add to wish list if you believe that they are required.

If the yellow bar markings are what you would like then I can ask Phil to undertake the necessary assessment. However, it appears that even if the necessary criteria are met, the desire to have these markings will only be added to a “wish list”.

DECISION REQUIRED

Does the Parish Council want as assessment of the possibility of painting yellow “slow” bars on Chalky Road to be undertaken?

Proposal 3: painting and refurbishing the entrance ‘gates’

Given the difficulty in obtaining quotes for general maintenance works and the need for anyone doing this job to be able to work on a highway, I am trying to obtain a price for this job to be undertaken by the Dorset Council works team but at the time of writing no figure has been supplied.

Janet Davis
July 2022