



Milton Keynes City Council  
Civic Offices  
1 Saxon Gate East  
Central Milton Keynes  
MK9 3EJ

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025

To the Traffic Regulation Order Team,

**Ref: TRO-422**

Woburn Sands Town Council supports a 20mph town wide speed limit. Many of our residents feel strongly about this subject and the Town Council has taken into account a recent petition which raised almost 500 names in support of a 20pmh limit on Hardwick Road, The Leys, Downham Road, and Bow Brickhill Road as it enters the residential area of Woburn Sands. The Town Council would also like to see the lower speed limit extended to include Station Road as it extends from the High Street which already has a 20mph limit. Station Road is a very busy road which children have to cross to go to the Swallowfield Primary and Fulbrook School, the only schools in walking distance for Woburn Sands children.

This recent petition follows a more general survey from 2021 which was hand delivered to all households in Woburn Sands and had a good return rate. On the question of speed 80% of those surveyed supported a lower speed limit of 20mph and some roads have since been designated 20mph which has been much appreciated by residents of those streets.

The SpeedWatch group in Woburn Sands reports seeing a fairly consistent 10% of traffic speeding on the roads they monitor, that is Theydon Avenue and Bow Brickhill Road. At the February 10<sup>th</sup> council meeting residents presented their opinion in support of lowering the speed limit. One did not support this because he could not see it being enforced, however, evidence nationally indicates that a lower speed limit will reduce speed even if it cannot be enforced by police.

**Memorial Hall, 4 High Street, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes MK17 8RH**

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It is also well known that accidents at 20mph where pedestrians are hit by vehicles are less likely to be fatal than if a pedestrian is hit at 30mph. Generally schools have this lower speed limit on their roads but the pre-school nursery on Hardwick Road has traffic at 30mph passing their building, it is a busy road the children regularly cross to explore Edgewick Farm and the woods.

Some residents have also presented evidence to the council to show how a lower speed limit with traffic driving steadily (i.e. not accelerating to 30mph and decelerating to 20mph in short distances) helps to lower air pollution. This is important in a residential area where these roads pass a nursery school, primary school and secondary school, as well as sheltered accommodation and nursing homes for the elderly. The pavements are narrow along Hardwick Road and The Leys, and parked cars mean Hardwick Road is single car width which increases the feeling of danger from traffic speed. The Leys is almost as narrow with lorries, buses and vans often choosing to mount the pavement to pass oncoming traffic.

Traffic calming measures would be widely supported to help the 20mph speed limit and no residents have told the Town Council they would object to traffic calming on their street. Residents and councillors are aware that the SEMK development will bring an increase in traffic and it would be best to have a 20mph limit with necessary traffic calming in place before this development progresses. It was agreed that slowing traffic on roads entering the town will help traffic keep to the existing 20mph limit in the town.

Considering the residents opinions, the safety and environmental aspects, Woburn Sands Town Council would like to see a town wide 20mph speed limit as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alison Jordan'.

Alison Jordan  
Town Clerk on behalf of Woburn Sands Town Council

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