

## **20 mph speed limits in rural residential areas: Burnett and Queen Charlton**

Submitted by Trudie Mitchell, Chair, Compton Dando Parish Council.

Compton Dando Parish Council represents 5 villages close to Keynsham. Three of these, Burnett, Queen Charlton, and Chewton Keynsham, are adjacent to Keynsham, and have for some years been asking for lower speed limits ( and in the case of Queen Charlton, access only).

We were therefore very pleased to hear that Bath & North East Somerset are now considering 20 mph speed limits in all residential areas, but far less pleased to hear that while Keynsham would be in group 4, for early implementation, these villages on the edge of Keynsham would be group 15, for implementation at the end of 2013 if funds remained available.

We would ask the council to consider adding Burnett and Queen Charlton to the Keynsham implementation.

1. There would be potential economies of scale/scope to adding these areas at the same time as Keynsham. Both villages lie along the main arteries out of Keynsham, Charlton Road and the Wellsway. Burnett would require perhaps 3 new road signs, and Queen Charlton 3 or 4.
2. The existing Parish Plan (already adopted by Bath and North East Somerset as part of the LDF) calls for measures to curb speed in these villages, so extensive consultation is unnecessary (see excerpts from Parish Plan at the foot of this document)
3. In Queen Charlton, there is only one existing sign, which shows a 20 mph limit round a bend. There are no other speed limit signs. New 20mph speed limit signs would be needed at the turnoff from Woollard Lane, and on the two turn offs from Charlton Road, (including at the Redlynch Lane crossroads, outside the unauthorised traveller site)
4. In Burnett, the existing situation is nonsensical. The B3116 which passes the village after leaving Keynsham has a 40 mph limit. When turning off the B3116 into the village, there are national speed limit signs. Drivers are thus given permission to increase their speed to 60 mph as they move from a through road into a residential area! This

includes the road where the school bus picks up, and children wait. New 20 mph speed limit signs should be placed at the 2 turnoffs from the B3116 (where the national speed limit signs now are), and at the entrance to the village from the west, from the direction of Compton Dando.

5. If the council decides not to accelerate the introduction of 20 mph limits into these two village adjacent to Keynsham, at the very least we would request that the two national speed limit signs sited at the turnoffs from the B3116 into Burnett are removed, and one resited at the exit from the village on the road towards Compton Dando, leaving the village as a 40 mph limit. This would at least be safer than leaving the entire village as a 60 mph limit area, as it now is.
6. The village of Chewton Keynsham would also like a 20 mph speed limit, in place of the existing 30 mph limit through the village. Here also there is a placement issue for the national speed limit sign. The national speed limit sign on the road towards Compton Dando is sited before the end of the village. Villagers have requested that the 60 mph limit should start at the village boundary, not before
7. We appreciate that we do not have the population density of residential areas of Bath or Keynsham. But these are villages mostly without pavements, and much visited for their picturesque nature, where speeding motorists directly endanger ramblers, horse riders, cyclists, and dog walkers, as well as residents daily moving about the village

## Parish Plan (2010) excerpts

### **Safer Communities**

#### **Road safety**

Many of the roads in the parish are narrow winding lanes which in places are not wide enough for two cars to pass. The junctions of these lanes with main roads can be dangerous and two particular junctions have been singled out as causing concern.

There is a lot of concern about speeding traffic and lanes used as 'rat runs' These are of particular concern in Queen Charlton (to over 90%) where there is strong support for making the village 'Access only'. Over half of the responses supported a 20 mph speed limit in the villages, with 30 mph in the lanes being the most popular option.

## Action Points

- The Parish Council have registered the concern over the Redlynch Lane junction with B&NES, and will keep the issue under review.
- The Parish Council will monitor the situation regarding a possible 20 mph speed limit in the villages. Use of police speed check cameras should be considered. They will establish with B&NES the situation regarding 'Access only' in Queen Charlton.

## Traffic

		Very concerned	Quite concerned	No opinion	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	
<b>2.1</b>	<b>How concerned are you about speeding traffic?</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Would you consider traffic calming?</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Is 'Access only' a good idea?</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Which speed limit is suitable for your village?</b>		<b>47</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.5</b>	<b>Which speed limit is suitable for surrounding lanes?</b>		<b>29</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>2.6</b>	<b>Footpaths for pedestrians on busy roads?</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Are you concerned about lanes used as 'rat runs'?</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>

## 2.4 Which speed limit is suitable for your village?

	Less than 20 mph	20 mph	30 mph	More than 30 mph	Another speed	n/r
<b>Compton Dando</b>	10	106	90	1	1	10
<b>Burnett</b>	3	28	14	1	0	3
<b>Chewton Keynsham</b>	3	25	17	1	0	2
<b>Woollard</b>	3	32	12	0	0	5
<b>Queen Charlton</b>	28	40	6	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>% of respondents</b>	11	52	31	1	0	

