

COMMUNITY ROADWATCH(UK) C.I.C

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Policy & Regulation,

OBJECTION TO PRO 746

I refer to the extracts (below) provided to me by CCC Highways:

Table 2 Speed limits for single carriageway roads ^[footnote 8] with a predominant motor traffic flow function	
Speed limit (mph)	Where limit should apply:
60	Recommended for most high quality strategic A and B roads with few bends, junctions or accesses.
50	Should be considered for lower quality A and B roads that may have a relatively high number of bends, junctions or accesses. Can also be considered where mean speeds are below 50 mph, so lower limit does not interfere with traffic flow.
40	Should be considered where there are many bends, junctions or accesses, substantial development, a strong environmental or landscape reason, or where there are considerable numbers of vulnerable road users.

Extract from the published 'Reasons for the PRO 746' found [HERE](#)

Name of Order:-

Cambridgeshire County Council (Sawtry Way, Wyton) (50 mph Speed Limit) Order 20--

The Authority's reasons for proposing to make the above named Order(s) are as follows:-

For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Explanatory Note:-

The 50 mph speed limit has been proposed to aid the exiting and entering of vehicles from the various accesses / junctions on this road. The speed limit is also more in keeping with the roads of similar characteristics in the surrounding area.

1. With a deadline of 1 December 2021, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Community Roadwatch(UK) CIC representing hundreds of residents and 1000's of Sawtry Way road users, I wish to have placed on record a strenuous objection by us to the totally wrong conclusions drawn and the reasons then given by CCC Highways Engineers who as far back as 2018 on out 3 successive applications, have acknowledged that the 50 mph limit along Sawtry Way is inappropriate. Any speeding in the existing 50 stretch is not persistent as two 24/5 Logger surveys have produced with 85%iles under 50 mph. So, it's the speed permitted that's too high to enable older folk to cross the road safely and where the nuisance from 24/7 HGV noise, vibration and pollution is affecting the health and quality of life of residents and children. Having rejected a 40 end to end in 2018, the CCC-proposed a schema of 50 mph end to end but with this residential 50 mph stretch reduced to 40 mph to meet the needs of the people affected and to make Sawtry way Safer for all. That CCC schema has now been withdrawn and instead we end up with the 50 mph end to end TRO we see, that really does not improve the welfare or safety of residents at all.

2. Consequently, we find it wholly wrong and misleading for CCC Highways to try to justify **not reducing Sawtry Way 50 limit to a 40** across the many exits of Wyton on the Hill, Pine Hill Park, Blenheim Court, Uplands Industries and the junction of Mere Way and a little further on the unique Camp roundabout that has seen is fair share of 'miscalculations' because it cannot be negotiated safely at more than 25 mph and is currently in a 60 zone not 50 limit as shown on the TRO's Schema. So, that's some **5 really busy exits in the space of 200 yards** for over 600 residents at least twice daily and serving a Primary school, and a regular bus service. All that alone – compared to some 40 zones that have been installed - **that qualifies this stretch as a 40** limit from the table above, rather than 50 limit that it is now.

3) We also dispute the contention by CCC Highways that this busy stretch (vehicles and pedestrians) by retaining it at its present limit of 50 mph is ***'in keeping with roads of a similar characteristic in the surrounding Area'*** such as A1123, A141 Ring Rd, Brampton Rd (Huntingdon to Brampton and even the A1 dual carriageway at Buckden ... so definitely not similar in any respect. This stretch needs to be assessed as more in keeping with the 40 zone in Houghton Hill on the A1123 and is at least as appropriate as the approved, Gamlingay [PRO #748](#) (60mph to 40 mph with fewer exits) and several previously approved mandatory 40 mph limits (apart from buffer zones – some as long as the Sawtry way stretch) that have been installed in straighter, longer, less populated locations than that requested / needed for Sawtry Way. Examples/Illustrations available on request. The Gamlingay reasons listed below apply equally if not moreso because of its busy residential nature to Sawtry Way (that also had dropped kerbs and a single footpath adjacent to a fast road) and should have applied to TRO # 746 that should be publishing a PRO for 50-40-50 if not 40 mph all the way

Name of Order:-

Cambridgeshire County Council, (Potton Road, Mill Hill (B1040), Gamlingay), (40mph Speed Limit) Order 2020

The Authority's reasons for proposing to make the above named Order(s) are as follows:-

For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

For facilitating the passage on the road or other road for any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

For promoting lower vehicle speeds and creating a safer environment for all road users.

Explanatory Note:-

The proposed 40mph speed limit has been proposed to lower vehicle speed to accommodate a new footpath and dropped kerb crossing on Potton Road, Gamlingay.

I trust this objection will be fairly processed to provide the people we represent the safeguarding and environment they deserve that meets the County Councils own objectives (below) and its VisionZERO aspirations for a greener environment – and a 40 mph along Sawtry Way would be a good place to start and put meaningful actions behind the words..

We will support people when they need our most specialist and intensive services.

To achieve our vision, we are focusing on the following priority outcomes for the people of Cambridgeshire:

- A good quality of life for everyone
- Thriving places for people to live
- The best start for Cambridgeshire's children
- Zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2050

We are ambitious about the way in which we can support and shape the future success of our communities. We want to work with you to achieve our aspirations for our county.

Yours sincerely
David

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www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/sawtryway2020