

REPORT 21.151
LAVERSTOCK AND FORD PARISH COUNCIL
SUBJECT: Speed Limit on Milford Mill Road
DATE: 13th October 2021
AUTHOR: Trudi Deane, Deputy Clerk

1. Report Summary

A report to councillors on a proposed extension to the 20mph speed limit on Milford Mill Road.

2. Background

Milford Mill Road runs from the junction with Petersfinger Road at the railway bridge in Milford, through to the junction with Manor Farm Road/Shady Bower in Salisbury. The route is a well known short cut to and from Salisbury to the A36 Southampton Road at Petersfinger. It is also part of a route via Manor Farm Road, Riverside Road and Church Road to the A30 London Road. Both routes are used as a 'rat run' when the main 'A' roads through Salisbury are busy.

Milford Mill Road, from the railway bridge to the medieval bridge over the river is a narrow, rural country lane. From the bridge to Manor Farm Road is a residential area, with pavements adjacent to the highway on one side. This part of the road is in the Salisbury City Council parish.

3. Summary

Traffic surveys have been conducted on both parts of the road, and the findings are attached as appendices 1 and 2 below. The stretch within Salisbury City area is currently covered by a 20mph speed limit. The rest of the road, within Laverstock and Ford Parish, is a 30mph limit.

Wiltshire Highways are investigating solutions, where the road edges along Milford Mill Road are becoming eroded by cars driving onto the verges. Currently the deep over-runs are filled with stone rather than tarmac, to avoid looking as though the road was being widened. Wiltshire Council consider kerbing would be expensive and would urbanise it, but may try to re-establish the verges by building up the verge with stone and topsoiling over it, then concrete in black/white verge markers.

4. Conclusions

Wiltshire Council have indicated that they would be prepared to consider extending the 20mph speed limit to cover part or all of the Milford Mill Road within Laverstock and Ford Parish.

Use of a Speed Indicator Device has been mentioned along Milford Mill Road, between the nursing home and the railway bridge. The Deputy Clerk has considered this stretch of road previously and concluded that there is no suitable site. The edge of the SID must be at least 450mm from the carriageway, which is not possible without consent from a landowner. The SID, solar panel and pole must be removed after each month in use but there is no suitable safe parking refuge available.

Cllr Baker has proposed submitting a Highways Improvement Request (Appendix 3 below) to request extending the 20mph limit to the junction with Queen Manor Road, but would like to hear the opinions of other councillors on requesting extension of the limit to the railway bridge.

5. Recommendations

That the council consider whether to support a request to extend the 20mph speed limit, and if so, the area to be included.

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APPENDIX 1 – TRAFFIC SURVEY BETWEEN RAILWAY BRIDGE AND NURSING HOME

Survey and Comments from Wiltshire Council Engineer received 18th August 2021.
Hi Andrew / Trudi

I have forwarded you on a copy of the traffic survey results relating to the section of Milford Mill Road within Salisbury. This email will deal with the results of the traffic survey in the section of the road within the Laverstock & Ford parish and whether the 20mph speed limit can be extended to cover this section of the road. A copy of the survey results are enclosed.

The survey recorded a total of 33322 vehicles as using the road, at an average of 4760 vehicles per day. The average speed of vehicles using the road was recorded to be 26.2mph with the 85th percentile speed of traffic recorded to be 32.1mph.

You will note that the volume of traffic using this section of road is less than is recorded in the results of the other survey. This will be because some of the traffic that travelled over the survey equipment near The Meadows will have travelled to locations such as Riverbourne Road and Potters Way and therefore not travelled over the other survey equipment. The level of use of this section of Milford Mill Road by HGVs is consistent with the other section of road surveyed.

Usually, sign only 20mph speed limits can only be introduced where the average speed of traffic using a road is less than 24.0 mph. However, the council would be happy to consider extending the sign only 20mph speed limit to cover the section of Milford Mill Road within the Laverstock and Ford parish along with the use of light touch measures. Light touch measures can reduce the speed at which vehicles travel between 1-2mph. Light touch measures would take the form of additional repeater signs and roundels painted on the carriageway surface. This approach has been undertaken in a number of locations in Wiltshire where sign only 20mph speed limits have been introduced where survey results indicate that the average speed is marginally above the 24.0mph requirement, one such location is the nearby Manor Farm Road. If the Parish Council wish to pursue this matter it would need to be formally raised as a CATG issue. If the 20mph speed limit is extended to cover this section of the road then it might be worth the Parish Council considering the use of a SID at this location to re-enforce the speed limit.

As per the email you were copied in on the Police are responsible for enforcing speed limits and do so on the basis of the guidance provided by ACPO which recommends a threshold of 10% of the limit plus 2mph. Where a road is subject to a 30mph speed limit a vehicle must therefore be travelling above 35mph to be considered as speeding. The 85th percentile figure is the speed at or below which 85% of the traffic is travelling and is the standard method of assessing traffic speed in the UK.

For reference in Wiltshire on a road subject to a 30mph speed limit the following criteria is applied:

- 85th percentile speed is between 30mph and 35mph = No Further Action
- 85th percentile speed is between 35.1mph and 41.9mph = Eligible for Community Speed Watch or Deployment of Speed Indicator Device
- 85th percentile speed is over 42mph = Subject to Police enforcement or considered for traffic calming

In consideration of the location surveyed and the results of the survey, no further action will be undertaken at this time.

I hope that the above and enclosed information is of use.

Regards

Paul Shaddock
Engineer (Traffic Engineering)
Salisbury Transportation Team

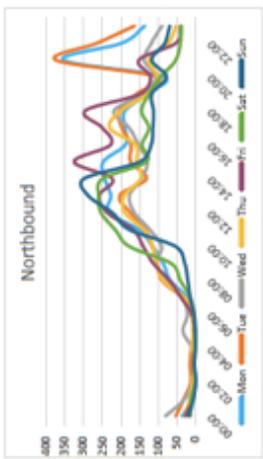
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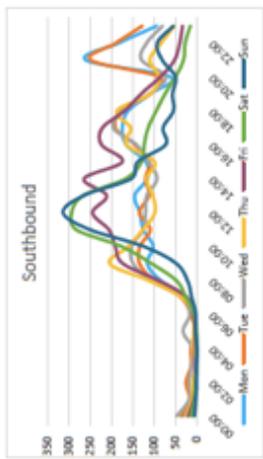
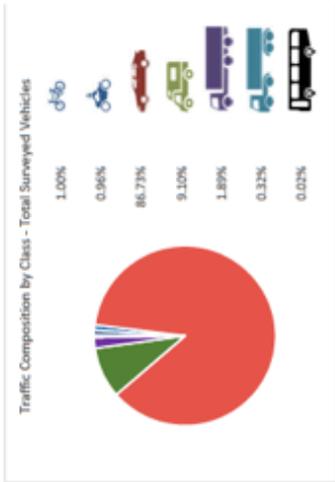
Client: Wiltshire Council
 Project: 4188-MID Wiltshire ATCL - Spring Batch 2021
 Start Date: Monday 12 July 2021
 Speed Limit: 30
 East/West: East/Northing
 Lat/Long: 51.064609, -3.172924



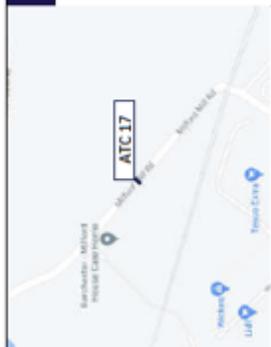
| Direction | 7-Day Average Speed | 7-Day 85th %ile Speed |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Northbound | 25.9 | 32.0 |
| Southbound | 26.6 | 32.3 |
| Combined | 26.2 | 32.1 |



| On a 7-day average | 23.8% | 6.6% | 0.5% |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|------|
| of vehicles are travelling over posted speed limit (PSL) | 26.7% <td>6.9% <td>0.6%</td> </td> | 6.9% <td>0.6%</td> | 0.6% |
| of vehicles are travelling 10% +2 over PSL (35mph) | 25.2% <td>6.8% <td>0.5%</td> </td> | 6.8% <td>0.5%</td> | 0.5% |
| of vehicles are travelling 15mph over PSL (45mph) | | | |



| Direction | Weekday Average Total Traffic | 7-Day Average Traffic | Weekly Traffic Total |
|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Northbound | 2694 | 2540 | 17778 |
| Southbound | 2314 | 2221 | 15544 |
| Combined | 5008 | 4760 | 33322 |



Incidents/Observations
 Spike in traffic observed on Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th around 21.00 likely due to a local diversion.

Data annotated with '***' denotes when a given time period has been affected by data loss. For a full breakdown of data loss please refer to Data Summary.

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APPENDIX 2 – TRAFFIC SURVEY BETWEEN MEDIEVAL BRIDGE AND MANOR FARM ROAD

Survey and Comments from Wiltshire Council Engineer received 18th August 2021.

Dear Cllr

I received the results of the recent traffic surveys undertaken in Milford Mill Road last week and have now had an opportunity to consider them. As you will be aware two surveys were undertaken. One was undertaken in the vicinity of the junction of Milford Mill Road and The Meadows (as specifically requested by Mr. Lovibond) and the other was undertaken on the length of Milford Mill Road between the railway bridge and the access to the nursing home (as requested by Laverstock & Ford PC). The remainder of this email will deal with the results of the survey requested by Mr. Lovibond. I will send a separate email regarding the results of the other survey.

The survey recorded a total of 36393 vehicles as using the road, at an average of 5199 vehicles per day. The average speed of vehicles using the road was recorded to be 21.7mph with the 85th percentile speed of traffic recorded to be 26.0mph.

Speeding

Sign only 20mph speed limits, as is already in place on the section of Milford Mill Road surveyed, can only be introduced where the average speed of traffic using a road is less than 24.0 mph. Therefore, the results of the survey indicate that overall the 20mph speed limit in this section remains appropriate.

The Police are responsible for enforcing speed limits and do so on the basis of the guidance provided by ACPO which recommends a threshold 10% of the limit plus 2mph. Where a road subject to a 20mph speed limit a vehicle must therefore be travelling above 24mph to be considered as speeding. The 85th percentile figure is the speed at or below which 85% of the traffic is travelling and is the standard method of assessing traffic speed in the UK.

For reference in Wiltshire on a road subject to a 20mph speed limit the following criteria is applied:

- 85th percentile speed is between 20mph and 24mph = No Further Action
- 85th percentile speed is between 24.1mph and 38.9mph = Eligible for Community Speed Watch or Deployment of Speed Indicator Device
- 85th percentile speed is over 39mph = Subject to Police enforcement or considered for traffic calming

In consideration of the survey results a minor speeding problem exists. I will therefore ask Salisbury City Council to add the section of Milford Mill Road in question to the list of locations where a Speed Indicator Device is deployed.

Volume of Traffic

The last comparable traffic survey undertaken in Milford Mill Road took place in June 2019. That survey recorded a total of 35717 vehicles as using the road, at an average of 5102 vehicles per day. Although the headline figure suggests a small increase in the overall level of traffic using the road, the underlying results should be looked upon slightly more favourably. As is noted in the results, the survey was impacted upon by the traffic diversion in place on the A36. Had the traffic diversion not been in operation whilst the survey was undertaken it is likely that the overall volume of traffic using Milford Mill Road would have shown a slight decrease on the figure recorded in 2019. Therefore, in my opinion the results should be considered positively as previously expressed concerns that the volume of traffic using the road is continually increasing and would further increase as a result of the

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opening of the McDonald's restaurant in New Petersfinger Road would appear not to be being borne out at this point in time.

Class of Traffic

As is shown in the results of the survey of the overall volume of traffic using Milford Mill Road 2.33% is recorded to be HGVs potentially contravening the 7.5t weight restriction in place in the area. This equates to 846 vehicles. I say potentially because the weight restriction contains exemptions for properties within the area to be serviced (i.e. deliveries, refuse collection etc.) which means some of the HGVs recorded as using the area will have been legitimately able to do so. The results of the traffic survey undertaken in 2019 recorded there to be 884 HGVs using the road. So the headline figure suggests a small reduction in the volume of HGVs using the road. However, the volume of HGVs using the road remains unacceptably high given that there is a formal weight restriction in place.

As was discussed at the most recent Salisbury CATG meeting the introduction of traffic calming measures to prevent HGVs using the road is not something that can be considered further. The introduction of such measures would also stop HGVs who have a legitimate right and need to use the road from doing so. As was discussed at the aforementioned meeting to make the weight restriction in place in Milford Mill Road truly effective it needs an appropriate level of enforcement. It was agreed at the CATG that once the results of the traffic survey were known the CATG/Area Board would approach the Police and request that they commit to undertaking formal enforcement of the weight restriction to back up the work being undertaken by the Community Lorrywatch volunteers. Doing so would be the next course of action.

I hope the above and enclosed information is of use.

Regards

Paul Shaddock
Engineer (Traffic Engineering)
Salisbury Transportation Team

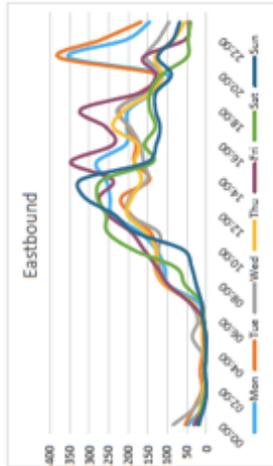
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Client: Wiltshire Council
 Project: 4188-MRD Wiltshire ATCS Avion March 2021
 Site: 34 - Milford Mill Road
 Start Date: Monday 12 July 2021
 Speed Limit: 20
 Easting/Northing: 415634 129823
 Lat/Long: 51.057599 -3.778559



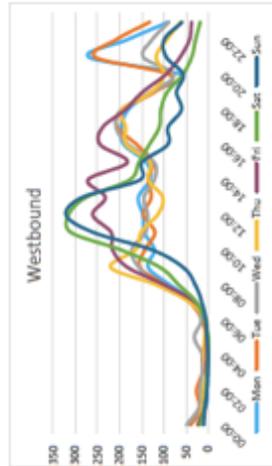
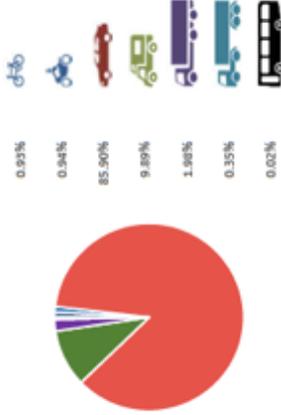
| Direction | 7-day Average Speed | 7-Day 85th Site Speed |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Eastbound | 21.8 | 26.2 |
| Westbound | 21.6 | 25.7 |
| Combined | 21.7 | 26.0 |



of vehicles are travelling over posted speed limit (PSL)

| On a 7-day average | of vehicles are travelling 10% +2 over PSL (24mph) | of vehicles are travelling over PSL (PSL) | of vehicles are travelling 15mph over PSL (35mph) |
|--------------------|--|---|---|
| 66.8% | 30.1% | 0.4% | 0.4% |
| 66.3% | 26.6% | 0.3% | 0.3% |
| 66.6% | 28.5% | 0.3% | 0.3% |

Traffic Composition by Class - Total Surveyed Vehicles



| Direction | Weekday Average Total Traffic | 7-day Average Traffic | Weekly Traffic Total |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Eastbound | 2943 | 2769 | 19383 |
| Westbound | 2537 | 2430 | 17010 |
| Combined | 5479 | 5199 | 36393 |



Incidents/Observations

Spoke in traffic observed on Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th around 21.00 likely due to a local diversion.

Data annotated with ** denotes when a given time period has been affected by data loss. For a full breakdown of data loss please refer to Data Summary.

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APPENDIX 3 – HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT REQUEST

Highways Improvement Request Form

Contact Details

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|------------|
| Name: | Trudi Deane | Date: | 20/09/2021 |
| Address: | Laverstock and Ford Parish Council, 3 Pilgrims Way, Laverstock SP1 1RZ | | |
| Telephone No: | 07885 616276 | | |
| Email Address: | trudideane@laverstock-ford.co.uk | | |

Issue Details

| | |
|--|---|
| Location of Issue: | Milford Mill Road |
| Community Area: | Southern Wiltshire |
| Parish or Town Council: | Laverstock and Ford Parish Council |
| Nature of Issue: | Please see traffic survey 028-017 and 028-034 regarding issues along Milford Mill Road. The route is well known to be used as a short cut into Salisbury, and an alternative route to the A36 Southampton Road when it is busy. |
| How long has it been an issue? | Many |
| What would you like done to resolve this issue? | Laverstock and Ford Parish Council request the extension of the current 20mph speed limit to include the bridge and up to the junction of Queen Manor Road. |
| Have you been in touch with your local Wiltshire Councillor? (Yes/No) | Yes |

This form needs to be completed and e-mailed or sent to your local Town or Parish Council.

Town and Parish contact details are available via the link below:

<https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx>

| |
|--|
| Town or Parish Council Comments: (To be completed by Town or Parish Council only) |
| |