

## SWILLAND AND WITNESHAM GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: Mrs. L Cotton, The Old Vicarage, Swilland, IP6 9LP.

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Mr Rod Sore  
Safety Engineering Manager  
Environment and Transport  
Endeavour House,  
Russell Road  
Suffolk County Council  
Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 2BX

5<sup>h</sup> August, 2008

Dear Mr Sore,

Further to my letters to you of 16<sup>th</sup> April and 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2008 on the subject of various local highways issues and your department's reply by Mr Luke Barber of 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2008, I now write to follow up on one or two of the points.

Thank you for the installation of chevron signs on the bend at the top of Rose Hill on the B1077. Residents report that these have had minimal effect on traffic speeds, believing that many of the speeders are regular users of the road, are over confident in their own judgement and underestimate the potential of other drivers. More has to be done. It is not good enough to have the occupants of the homes on Rose Hill frightened silly every time they leave their premises. I respectfully invite you or your representative to join me at a site meeting so that we can drive in and out of some of the resident's driveways so that the reality of this terrifying experience can be demonstrated.

While understanding your points on the criteria for applying speed limits (*— DfT/ SCC: "To be realistic and respected by the motorist, 30 mph speed limits should be restricted to areas of concentrated development, as with the current 30 mph provision in the village"*), these limits are not always as rigidly applied as you seem to state. Sensible exceptions exist in our area, (for example, part of the B1077 into Ipswich, the C366 into Swilland, some Lanes, eg Church Lane), -all unrelated to housing density and it is difficult for people to understand why you cannot consider our community's request for modest extension of the limits at the North and South of the Villages.

I believe that people are more aware of their actions when exceeding a speed limit (“breaking the law”) than ignoring warning signs (“using own judgement”). I repeat my point that we would rather have people speeding at 10mph above a new 30mph limit than 10mph above the present 60mph limit. We are asking for some practical judgement here rather than literal enforcement.

Thank you for your assurances on resurfacing and I note that you have been asked by the Coroner to carry out a countywide investigation into obstructions adjacent to carriageways.

Also, thank you for the clear explanation of your position on all my other points.

In conclusion, I repeat that I am writing on behalf of a large group of residents who request that you take the following actions:

1. Extend the 30mph zone on the Northern approach of the B1077 to some hundred metres North of the Berghersh House bends.
2. Extend the 30mph zone on the Southern approach of the B1077, beyond the bends at the top of Rose Hill, to begin at the “Witnesham” name place sign.
3. Lower the limit to 20mph in Tuddenham Lane
4. That the B1077 between Westerfield and Witnesham, be limited to 40mph

I look forward to your reply and/ or a site visit. Thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully,

John Lightfoot