

**Committee: Planning, Highways and Transport**

**Date: 9 April 2024**

**Title: Reduction in speed limit from Ilminster to A358 through Sea**

**Purpose of Report**

For Members to receive information

**Recommendation:**

Members to **Resolve** to allocate £250 to cover 50% of the initial cost of implementing the reduction in the speed limit from the National Speed limit from the A358 through Sea to the Ilminster town Boundary.

**Report:**

1. Members have discussed the problem of speeding numerous times in the past. At the Planning, Highways and Transport meeting on the 6 June 2023 it was discussed again and members resolved to support the reduction of the current national speed limit from the A358 through Sea to the boundary of Ilminster.
2. Minutes from the meeting record that: -

**23-0026-PHT      Speed Limits in Sea**

Members **NOTED** the report.

*Members discussed the Sea residents' concerns regarding speeding. Discussions included the population of sea has increased, the use of the cycle path between Ilminster and Chard has increased (users of the path have to cross the road at Sea), what support the Council has previously given, the Parishes boundaries have changed over the years, highways have indicated that the data didn't support it being an accident blackspot and that the committee should be looking to support local parishes.*

*Sea residents have indicated that they have an action group that are willing to fundraise and are looking for the Committees support.*

*Members were advised that a resident at a recent Councillors Surgery raised the issue of speeding through Sea.*

*It was suggested that a meeting between Ilminster Town Council, Dowlish Wake Parish Council, Donyatt Parish Council and Highways could be arranged.*

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to support the formal reduction of the speed limit from the A358 to the Ilminster Town boundary.

**Proposer** Cllr Shearman **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

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3. Meetings have taken place with various representatives from Donyatt Council and Highways that have resulted in Highways now agreeing to instigate the first stages of the reduction in the speed limit.
4. The first stage of the process will be to carry out and collate data to support the reduction. This requires a payment of £500 to be paid. Members are asked to approve that an expenditure of £250 is made from the allocated reserves that have been carried over in respect of the Speed indicator budget. This currently has £2,885 in it. Donyatt Parish Council will equally match this payment.
5. Dependent upon the level of signage that is required, Somerset Council have estimated the total cost of the scheme as between £6,000 and £8,000. I would suggest that it would be prudent for a sum equivalent to £10,000 be kept in mind with regards the final cost of the scheme.
6. This amount will be split equally with the Parish of Donyatt at a cost of £5,000 per council. It is anticipated that Ilminster Town Council will be able to allocate funds from unallocated budget reserves for the final balance required. As this is a traffic calming measure it falls under the Power to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes. (Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s. 30)
7. Various bodies are being approached regarding contributing towards the scheme. If members wish to discuss this further, then I would advise that the meeting be taken into Exempt Business as they are confidentiality issues surrounding who these may be.
8. Members to **Resolve** to allocate £250 to cover 50% of the initial cost of implementing the reduction in the speed limit from the National Speed limit from the A358 through Sea to the Ilminster town Boundary.

**Mark Tredwin**  
**Town clerk**  
**April 2024**