

Benenden Parish Council Highways Improvement Plan

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN – Stage 1			ACTION PLAN – Stage 2		
Priority	Location	Problem and suggested remedy	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Action/Programme (Who/When)
1.	<u>Benenden Crossroads</u> Junction of The Street/ Cranbrook Road/ New Pond Road/ Iden Green Road	<p>Problem There have been a number of accidents and near misses here involving traffic travelling south on New Pond Road overshooting the crossroads. Speed limit on New Pond Road reduces from 60 mph to 30 mph too close to the junction. The site is on the crest of a ridge and is not visible until it is too late for unwary drivers to stop. The overshoot problem may be exacerbated by use of SatNav equipment which does not indicate that a stop is required.</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Reduced speed limit to 20 mph on approach to Crossroads in all directions including the B2086 from Pullington Farm to Benenden School. Propose traffic calming scheme. Improved signage to include use of flashing Cross Roads warning signs and extension of 30 mph speed limits prior to new 20 mph zone on New Pond Road and Iden Green Road.</p>	£1000	KCC S106/278	<p>Parish to report non-working VAS.</p> <p>KCC to investigate feasibility of altering Give Way to Stop on Iden Green Road.</p> <p>Parish to consider requesting funding from developers to make improvements to crossroads.</p>
2.	<u>Iden Green Crossroads</u> Four-way crossroads incorporating triangular junction in the centre of Iden Green	<p>Problem This is a dangerous crossroads particularly for vehicles turning right onto Mill Street from Standen Street. Visibility here is just 16 metres looking westwards. The 85% speed has been measured here as 35 mph for northbound traffic and 37.9 for southbound traffic (speed limit is 30 mph). Peak speeds of over 50 mph have been recorded at this site.</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Reduce traffic speed on Mill Street from Little Weavers to Cotton Cottage by lowering the speed limit to 20 mph. Propose a traffic calming scheme. Road markings need to be refreshed and signs need replacing.</p>		KCC	KCC to investigate feasibility of improving warning signage on approaches to crossroads.
3.	<u>Benenden Hospital</u> Goddards Green Road	<p>Problem Speed of through traffic at the Hospital is a serious problem posing a danger to patients and staff crossing from the car park to the main Hospital entrance</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Reduction of maximum speed limit to 20 mph on Goddards Green Road from East End Chapel to Mockbeggar Lane. Propose a traffic calming scheme.</p>	£200 £500	BPC KCC	<p>Speed survey to ascertain current speeds.</p> <p>Install pedestrian warning signage in advance of the informal crossing points</p>
4.	<u>Walkhurst Road/ The Street/ Rolvenden Road (War Memorial)</u> Triangular junction to the east of the village centre.	<p>Problem A difficult junction to negotiate safely with narrow access and restricted sightlines.</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Reducing speed limits along B2086 to 20 mph will help here (see item 2 above). Refresh road markings. Replace existing damaged signage.</p>			<p>Junction improvements to take place as part of a nearby development works.</p> <p>Damaged signs to be</p>

					reported on online fault reporting tool.
5.	<u>Walkhurst Road</u>	<p>Problem The rural character of this lane is suffering because motorists use it as a rat run between Goddards Green Road and Benenden Village Centre.</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Walkhurst Road to be designated a “Quiet Lane” with speed limit reduced to 20 mph and “Access Only” signage sited at each end of the road. The name “Walkhurst Road” should revert to its previous name of “Walkhurst Lane” to reflect the rural nature of this byway.</p>			<p>BPC to contact TWBC regarding change on road name.</p> <p>Quiet Lanes not current KCC policy. Other options discussed include provision of warning signage as appropriate. BPC to consider whether they wish to include more signage as this conflicts with a more rural area.</p>
6.	<u>Green Lane/ Stepneyford Lane</u>	<p>Problem The rural character of these connecting lanes is suffering due to speed and weight of traffic. Walking or cycling is particularly hazardous.</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Both Green Lane and Stepneyford Lane to be designated as “Quiet Lane” status with speed limits reduced to 20 mph and “Access Only” signage sited at the junctions with Goddards Green Road and the B2086.</p>			<p>Quiet Lanes not current KCC policy. Other options discussed include provision of warning signage or road markings as appropriate. BPC to consider whether they wish to include more signage as this conflicts with the rural character.</p>
7.	<u>Mockbeggar Lane</u>	<p>Problem The rural character of this lane is suffering due to speed and weight of traffic</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Mockbeggar Lane to be designated as a “Quiet Lane” with speed limit reduced to 20 mph and “Access Only” signage sited at the junction with Goddards Green Lane and Cranbrook Road</p>			<p>Quiet Lanes not current KCC policy. Other options discussed include provision of warning signage or road markings as appropriate. BPC to consider whether they wish to include more signage as this conflicts with the rural character.</p>
8.	<u>Whole Parish</u>	<p>Problem Road markings and signage is in a generally poor state throughout the parish. Many junctions suffer from poor visibility due to overgrown hedges restricting sightlines.</p> <p>Suggested Remedy Road markings at all junctions should be refreshed and road and speed signs repaired or replaced as appropriate. Hedges and verges around all junctions should</p>			<p>Maintenance issues to be reported on online fault reporting tool.</p>

		be maintained regularly to ensure sightlines remain clear and safe.			
9.	<u>The Street</u>	Alternative road markings to reduce speeding traffic. Remove centreline road markings	£1000	KCC	KCC to confirm whether resurfacing will be taking place. If so, prepare altered white lining scheme assuming suitable timescale available.
10.	<u>Iden Green Gateways</u>	Replace existing gateways on Mill Street and Iden Green Road	£2,500 per location	BPC	BPC to confirm if funding available for installation and all future maintenance