

Speeding and Parking Working Group

The Speeding and Parking Working Group (SPWG) which was formed in July 2013 has finally achieved some success in addressing concerns of Gerrards Cross residents regarding excess speed and parking issues.

For the first set of changes, SPWG resident surveys have been carried out, several meetings with Bucks County Council (BCC) representatives have been held and the budget of £16.4K has been set aside. Agreement with BCC has been reached on proposals for parking restriction changes in West Common, East Common, Layters Way, Bulstrode Way and Bentinck Close. A proposal for a 20 mph speed limit in West Common was made as a test case but was rejected by BCC as the traffic is usually much slower than the current 30 mph limit and enforcement is not realistically possible. However, we are awaiting cost estimates to build a pinch point in West Common at the Bull Hotel end, similar to the one in East Common, to slow traffic and deter the school busses who use the road morning and evening. These large coaches and sometimes double decker busses cause great danger to pedestrians, congestion in the narrow road and are beginning to damage the road surface.

The next step is for BCC to carry out an 'official' resident consultation which will start in July. Assuming residents are still in agreement, a final BCC Cabinet decision will be made in September and work should be completed by the end of the year.

This has been a long a painfully slow process of 2.5 years, mainly due to claimed workload on the part of BCC, but the end is now in sight and in future we can hopefully cut the overall time to 1.5 years.

The SPWG is now ready to work on proposals from other residents in Gerrards Cross for the next round of changes. In this respect we are currently working on concerns received from residents of Woodlands and Gaviots Way. Please let us know if you have any other requests as soon as possible.

The Parish Council will continue to keep all residents informed of progress by regular newsletters to those directly affected and articles in the Voice.