

Derry Hill Traffic Calming Scheme

1. Introduction

The Parish Council is asked to endorse the plans for traffic calming measures in Derry Hill Village. These are based on proposals developed in the Council's Road Safety Feasibility Study and put forward to Wiltshire Council.

The overall cost of the scheme is estimated at £61,358, including contingency. The Council's contribution of £25,679 is already authorised and reserved, with the remaining funding being provided by Calne Area Board (£5,000), Substantive Highways Scheme Funding (£25,679) and a developer contribution of £5,000 from the Post Office redevelopment.

2. Background

Road Safety Feasibility Study

In 2020, Calne Without Parish commissioned consultant Entran to undertake a Road Safety Feasibility Study for the parish, assessing 16 locations and recommending solutions.

The Brief included the understanding that *"if you want drivers to respect the rural areas roads and villages then you must make them clearly identifiable as areas where pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders will be sharing the road and may have priority in certain areas"*.

It also included the Hans Monderman quote *"If you want drivers to behave as they should in a village, make sure it feels like a village"* taken from the publication, Traffic in Villages (<https://dorset-nl.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Traffic-in-villages.pdf>).

The Stage 1 Report was completed in October 2021 (https://derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/20211019-CWPC_Road-Safety-Study_FINAL_Stage-1-Report_RF_V2.pdf) The Stage 2 Report for the Derry Hill and Studley locations was completed in July 2022 and can be found here: https://derryhillandstudley-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/20220905-CWPC_Stage-2_Study-Area-1-V2.pdf.

The proposals were presented to a well-attended annual Parish Meeting in April 2023 and received overwhelming support from those attending.

Derry Hill Traffic Calming Measures

The scheme for Derry Hill village comprised measures at five locations:

- DH3 Shop - contrasting material (muted buff coloured surface dressing) across the carriageway, augmented by string courses of granite setts highlighting the pedestrian crossing point. The purpose of this is to highlight the shop as a village feature, allowing it to spill out onto the street.
- DH5/6 Bus Stops and School – highlight the pedestrian crossing point at the bus stops in buff coloured surface dressing; highlight the presence of the school with posts shaped like pencils in primary colours.

- DH7/8 Church and Layby - introduce a new crossing point to the church, highlighted with buff coloured surface dressing.
- DH10 War Memorial - introduce concentric circles using the same muted buff surface treatment. This would provide further “spill out” onto the street and reinforce the nature of the village with drivers.
- DH11 Gateway – provide muted buff coloured surface treatment to highlight the existing crossing point and village gateway; provide planter with mounted 20mph signage at gateway.

The proposals were formally endorsed at the Parish Council meeting of 17th April 2023 and submitted to Calne Area LHFIG for development by Wiltshire Highways.

Derry Hill Substantive Scheme

The Derry Hill proposals were further developed by Wiltshire Highways with an estimated cost of £61,358, including contingency.

Wiltshire Council operates an annual process to give Area Boards the opportunity to bid for more “substantive” highway improvement schemes from a budget, which was set at £250,000 in 2025/26. The expected benefits of each scheme are assessed against set criteria and prioritised by Cost v Benefit.

The Derry Hill Traffic Calming Scheme was approved as a substantive bid for 2025/26 by Calne Area LHFIG and Area Board, with the Parish Council’s contribution of £25,679 agreed at the meeting of 11th November 20254.

The Bid was one of eight successful bids across Wiltshire approved for funding in 2025/26.

3. Detailed Design

Detailed design drawings have been further developed by Wiltshire Highways and are attached. Implementation is programmed for Spring 2026.

These were reviewed on site with Wiltshire Council officers on 13th August. The following minor changes were requested:

- Site 1 – Post Office / Shop. New drop kerbs to be installed opposite the pedestrian entrance. 20mph roundels to be moved outside the buff coloured area.
- Site 2 – School. Retain the existing 1.8m wide drop kerbs. Move all pencil bollards to the south side of the street.
- Site 3 – Church. Highways to consider feasibility of a raised crossing point at this location.
- Site 4 – War Memorial. No changes.
- Site 5 – Village Gateway. Gate to be white to match Bowood Gates; nameplate to be amended to “Studley & Derry Hill – Please drive carefully”. Parish to contact landlord of corner house to arrange for laurel bush encroaching onto highway verge to be cut back to improve line of sight.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council endorses the plans for traffic calming measures in Derry Hill Village, subject to the requested changes noted above. (The Parish Council's contribution of £25,679 has previously been authorised and is ring-fenced in the reserves.)

Cllr John Barnes
Chair, Highways, Transport & Road Safety Working Group