

Email received by County Cllr Simon Webb from KCC Highways.

We (KCC Highways) did look into some 20mph schemes for them last year, but they didn't quite meet the criteria. The roads we looked at were Charlton Lane, Teston Lane, Lower Road, Ewell Lane and Heath Road.

Unfortunately, none of the roads met the criteria at the time, which has only strengthened since. The roads are all too rural in nature to justify a 20 limit on them. The closest one out of them all was Charlton Lane, as there are houses on both sides at the southern end, a park and a pub. Where this one fell down however is that the minimum length for a speed limit should be at least 600m. This is to ensure drivers aren't confused/frustrated by speed limits changing too quickly.



As you can see in the map image, it is only 375m in length, so falls well short of the required length. I did carry out surveys for all locations and they found speeds are very low around the whole area.

Charlton Ln SOUTH (30mph speed limit)							
Direction	Number of Vehicles	Average speed over 7 days	85 percentile speeds	Percentage of vehicles complying with the 30mph speed limit	Percentage of vehicles under enforcement threshold of 35mph	Percentage of vehicles complying with a proposed signed only 30mph speed	Percentage of vehicles complying with a proposed signed only 30mph speed
N0	1054	23.1mph	28.8mph	89.9% (948)	98.2% (1035)	89.9% (948)	89.9% (948)
S1	1321	25.3mph	31.4mph	79% (1044)	95% (1255)	79% (1044)	79% (1044)

Charlton Lane itself has an average speed of around 23mph. So I suppose the main question to ask is what is the problem they are looking to solve? There doesn't seem to be a speeding problem, as over 95% of drivers are travelling below 35mph (the enforcement threshold for a 30 limit).

Follow up email from County Cllr Simon S Webb to Parish Clerk:

The main point for a deferral is on case law, ie what can and what cannot be permitted.

So, if I took this to the Cabinet Member and Director, they would give me the same answer.