

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 1 MARCH 2016

**PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING, SILVER BIRCH DRIVE, BALLUMBIE CASTLE ESTATE:
RESPONSE TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

REPORT BY IAN COCHRANE, HEAD OF TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of the public consultation process regarding the proposed traffic calming installation on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the comments received during the consultation process regarding the proposed traffic calming installation on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate;
- (ii) notes the range of opinions expressed by those who have responded to the consultation;
- (iii) agrees not to proceed with the provision of traffic calming measures on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate;
- (iv) instructs the Head of Technical & Property Services not to proceed with the provision of traffic calming measures on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Angus is a good place to live in, work in and visit,
- Our communities are safe, secure and vibrant

3. BACKGROUND

Report 159/15 considered by the Communities Committee on 14 April 2015, detailed the format and timescale for public consultation regarding the proposal to install traffic calming measures on Poplar Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate.

Report 379/15 considered by the Communities Committee on 29 September 2015, detailed the responses from the public consultation regarding the proposal to install traffic calming measures on Poplar Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate. The committee approved the provision of traffic calming measures on Poplar Drive. The Committee also instructed the Head of Technical and Property Services to investigate a further traffic calming cushion on Silver Birch Drive and to progress the consultation on the additional traffic calming measure prior to any works being started on the ground.

The traffic calming proposals for Poplar Drive and Silver Birch Drive are presented on the plan appended to this report (**Appendix 1**).

The consultation documents associated with the proposal to install an additional traffic calming measure on Silver Birch Drive were issued on 23 November 2015 to approximately 180 residential addresses within the surrounding area of the proposed installation (as shown in **Appendix 2**). Consultation documents were also sent to all affected groups listed in the proposed list of consultees (**Appendix 3**) and were made available at Monifieth Access Office for the general public who might wish to comment on the proposals.

The consultation questionnaire was also available for completion online via the Council's website.

The number of responses to the consultation was relatively modest as set out below, however a small majority of returned questionnaires expressed a desire for the proposals to not proceed.

43 completed responses were received (24% return) from individuals by the closing date of 11 December 2015. Of these responses 17 (40%) agreed, 24 (56%) disagreed and 2 (4%) neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposed traffic calming measures. 2 (4.6%) of respondents asked for additional speed cushions to be installed on Silver Birch Drive, 3 (7%) of respondents asked for the existing build outs to be removed and replaced with speed cushions and 2 (4.6%) ask for a review of the existing traffic calming measures on the whole estate.

The comments which were provided through the returned questionnaires have been lodged in the Members' Information Hub for the reference of the members of the Committee. A selection of the comments received is shown in **Appendix 4**.

On balance and recognising that views received have been quite mixed both in favour and against the proposals, it is recommended that the Committee agrees not to proceed with the installation of traffic calming measures on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate as proposed.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If the recommendations of this report are approved, the installation of the traffic calming measures on Poplar Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate are estimated to cost approximately £15,000 which can be funded from the Road safety/Traffic Calming provision within the 2016/17 Roads (Traffic) Capital Budget.

5. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Strategic Director of Resources, Head of Corporate Improvement & Finance, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Area Manager and the local Divisional Police Commander for Tayside have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

6. CONCLUSION

This report details the result of the responses received to the public consultation regarding the proposed traffic calming installation on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate.

The Committee is asked to note the mixture of views received in response to the consultation on the proposed traffic calming installation.

On balance it is recommended that the Committee agrees not to proceed with the installation of traffic calming measures at this location.

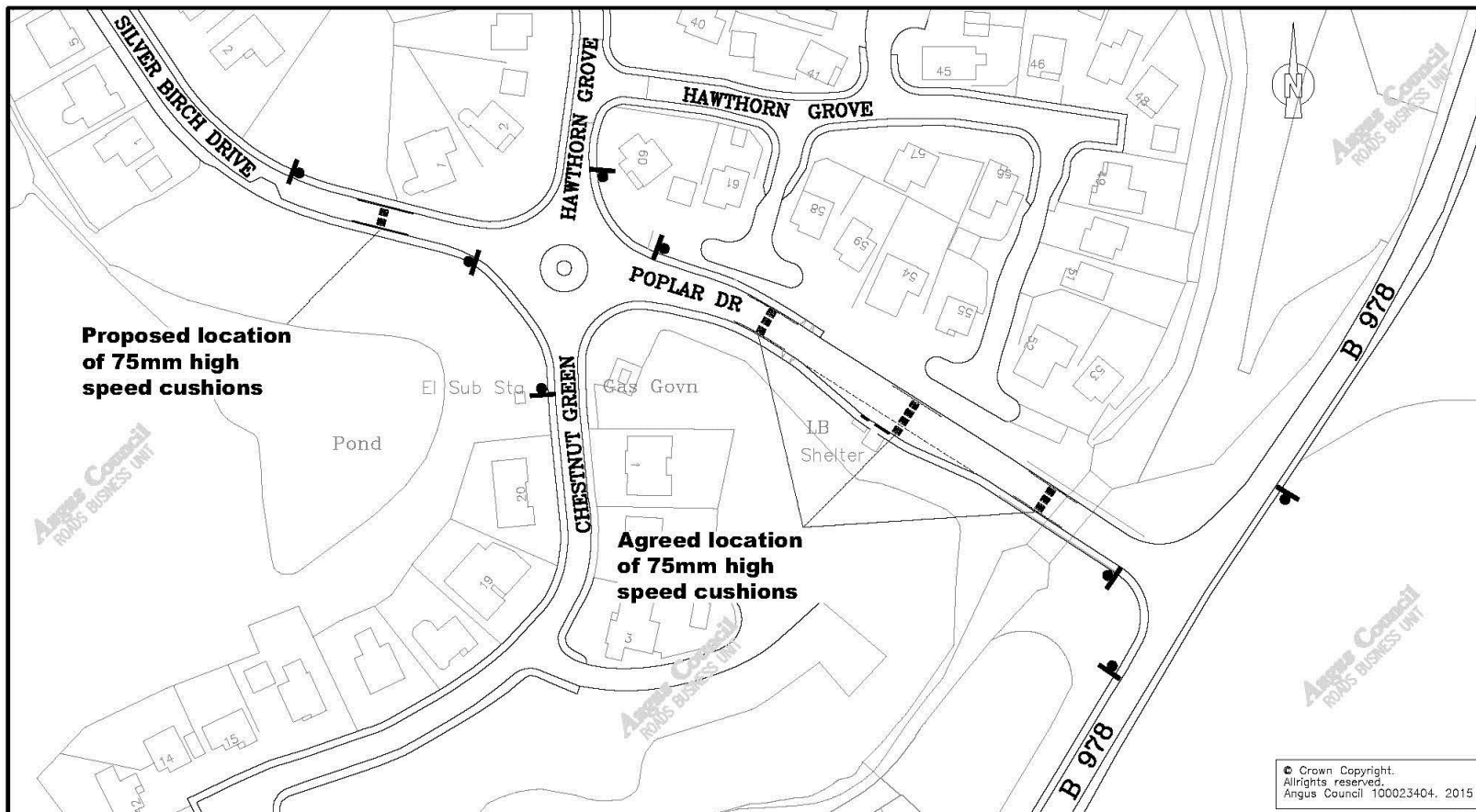
NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:


- Report No. 159/15: Ballumbie Castle Estate – Traffic Calming
- Report No. 397/15: Proposed Traffic Calming, Poplar Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate
- Response to Public Consultation

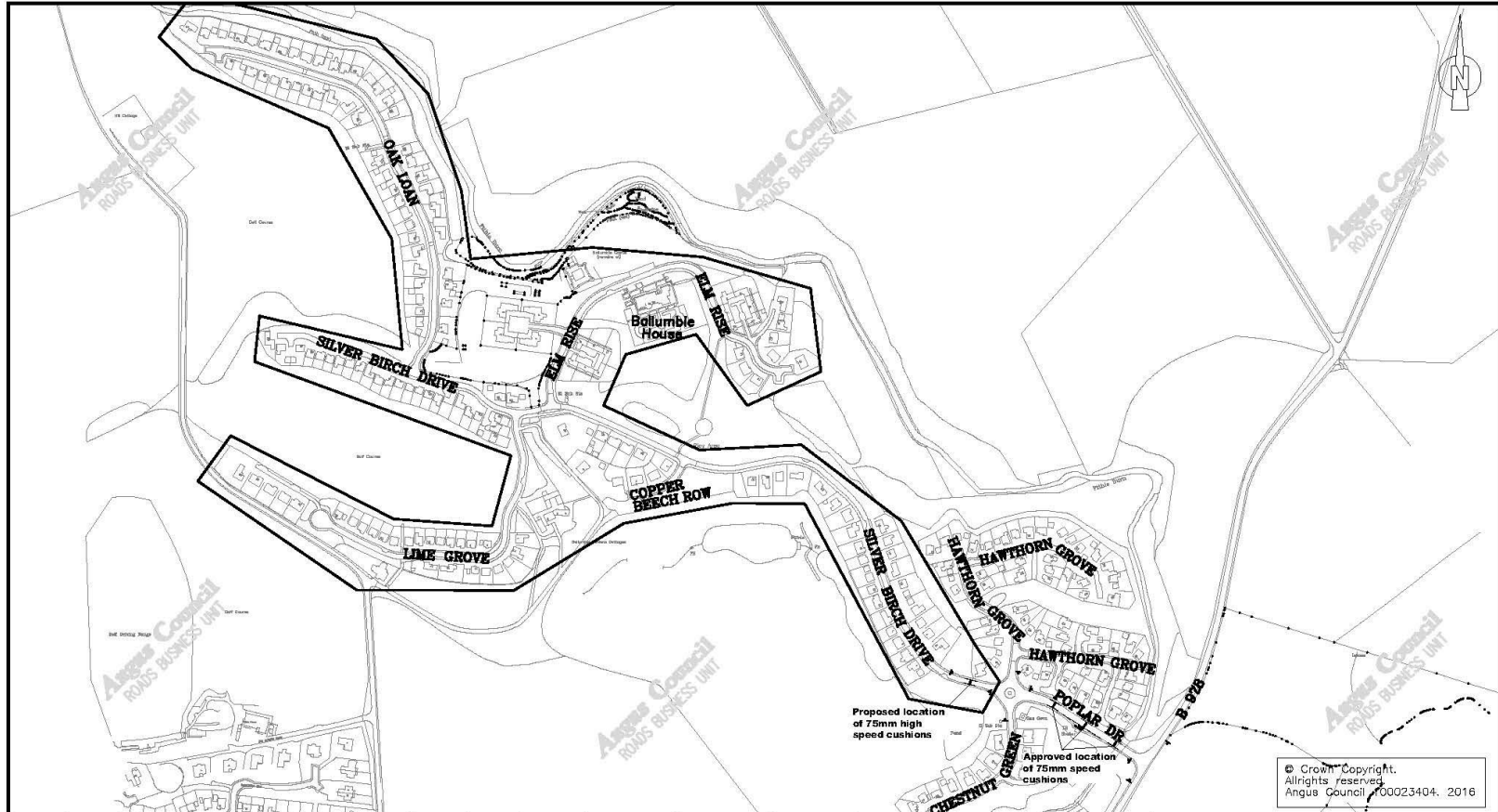
REPORT AUTHOR: Ian Cochrane, Head of Technical and Property Services

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List of Appendices: Appendix 1 - Traffic Calming General Layout
Appendix 2 - Consultation Location Plan
Appendix 3 - List of consultees
Appendix 4 - Selected comments received regarding the installation of the proposed traffic calming measures on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate



Drawing Size: A4			Plotting Scale: 1=1			Status: Final			 Angus Council INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT Engineer—Head of Roads, Angus Council TRAFFIC Section County Buildings Market Street Forfar DD8 3WR Tel: 01307 461460 Fax: 01307 473388			Drawing Title: APPENDIX 1 TRAFFIC CALMING GENERAL LAYOUT		
Drawn by:			Checked By:			Approved By:						Project Title: BALLUMBIE CASTLE ESTATE TRAFFIC CALMING		
Date:			Date:			Date:			Project No:					
Issue:			INFORMATION			Path & Filename: S:\Roads\Traffic\Traffic Management\Projects 2015-16\Capital\003 AS-Ballumbie Traffic Calming\Drawings\Ballumbie-Traffic-Calming-Layout02.dwg			Drawing No:					
Rev.	Date	Description	Drawn	Checked	Approved				Revision:					



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			Drawing Size: Plotting Scale: Status: Drawn by: Checked By: Approved By: Date: Date: Date:			 Angus Council INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT Engineer—Head of Roads, Angus Council TRAFFIC Section County buildings Market Street Forfar Tel: 01307 461460 DDB 3WR Fax: 01307 473368	Drawing Title: APPENDIX 2 CONSULTATION LOCATION PLAN		
			Issue: INFORMATION				Project Title: BALLUMBIE CASTLE ESTATE TRAFFIC CALMING		
Rev.	Date	Description	Drawn	Checked	Approved	Path & Filename: S:\Roads\Traffic\Traffic Management\Projects 2015-16\Capital\003 AS-Ballumbie Traffic Consultation Location Plan.dwg	Project No:	Drawing No:	Revision:

LIST OF CONSULTEES

1. Local Ward members for the Monifieth and Sidlaw area
2. Murroes and Wellbank Community Council
3. Ballumbie Castle Residents' Association
4. The local Divisional Police Commander for Tayside
5. Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Area Manager
6. Scottish Ambulance Service Regional Officer
7. Head of Schools & Learning
8. Service Manager – Regulatory, Protective & Prevention Services
9. Angus Access Panel
10. Forfarshire Society for The Blind

Additionally each resident within the area indicated on the attached plan (see Appendix 2) was provided with an individual copy of the consultation pack.

The consultation was included on the Angus Council website and consultation packs were made available at the Monifieth Access Office for the general public who wished to comment on the proposed option.

Selected comments received regarding the installation of the proposed traffic calming measures on Silver Birch Drive, Ballumbie Castle Estate:

“Would much prefer the traffic cushions the entirety of Silver Birch – as the slalom of indents do not work for slowing drivers down.”

“The speed of traffic over the whole of the Silver Birch is a concern, not just at the entrance to the estate. Parents parking at the bus stop during the morning and afternoon peak times are a hazard to themselves. Children/parents opening car doors onto the road. Parents crossing the road with their children in front of the bus without due care and attention to oncoming traffic. Double yellow lines as well as speed bumps should be considered.”

“While I am in full agreement with traffic calming measures as most traffic (cars) do speed within the estate and leaving/entering it whilst ‘short cutting’ across the roundabout. People would still speed between the last agreed speed bump and the proposed speed bump – why? Because they do past my house between two sets of traffic calming measures and break just before the traffic calming measures. So I do not think an extra one will assist with really calming traffic. In addition I have had cars speed out of Hawthorn Drive, so if you will add another, then consideration should also be given to ‘improving’ the traffic calming measure on the exit of Hawthorn Drive. This is especially so if a number of people from that area are in favour of the additional traffic calming measure! Then to make things equal put one on Chestnut Green.”

“In my mind the whole of Silver Birch Drive should be rethought. There are various speed calming all up Silver Birch which are not placed in correct places – no line of sight, and 2 massive speed bumps which are excessive. Because of placement of the already misplaced calming it is an accident waiting to happen especially with cold weather due.”

“Speed restriction 20mph would incur no additional cost to the council and I for one would favour this option. Parked cars at the entrance near the bus stop are part of the problem. Children crossing between them. Yellow lines – no parking – would make it much safer for pedestrians to cross and cars pass safely. An alternative exit road would reduce the cars using the only way in/out of the estate. Given they propose building new houses in the estate, surely this could be considered.”

“...I would be happy to support this as a review of the traffic calming measures on the estate. If approved, I personally will be facing 4 sets of speed cushions, 7 one lane restrictions (3 of which are positioned in dangerous locations...) and two elevated intersections, all in the space of approximately 0.5 miles in a dead-end system....”

“Whilst I accept that high speed cushions have been agreed for the school bus area I disagree with having yet another set on Silver Birch Drive side. This is fairly open with good visibility. I am completely against having another set added. I live at the other end of the estate and will have to negotiate every traffic calming measure on the estate. 4 speed cushions at the bottom of the road is ‘too much’.”

“I understand a survey revealed average speed of 34.9mph. I do not think this merits additional speed calming measures. There are currently 4 chicanes, 2 (horrendous) speed tables and 3 speed bumps to get to our home. There are no other estates in Dundee and Angus that I am aware of that has this amount of traffic calming measures without adding additional measures. I have resided in this estate for 8 years and have only witnessed excessive speeding on 2 occasions and that was a Tesco delivery driver. This was addressed and stopped. I do not feel additional measures are required.”