

## **SMALL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME - Staplegrove Parish Council**

### **'SLOW' on carriageway**

#### **1.0m cycle lane on north side of A358 from pedestrian crossing to A3027**

##### **'SLOW' sign on the carriageway.**

It is extremely hazardous for vehicles exiting from houses on the north side of the A358 between Westerkirk Gate and the mini roundabout with the A3027 and particularly so for the large number of cars frequently exiting at all times and wishing to turn right out of the very well-used village hall. This is due to the lack of visibility because of the two blind left hand bends to the west and some serious accidents have occurred. Many drivers actually chose to turn left and then turn 180 degrees at the mini roundabout (which is itself not a desirable manoeuvre) to make the turn they consider more safely.

Staplegrove Road is extremely busy with all types of traffic including heavy goods vehicles and this will now increase with the opening of the Northern Inner Distributor Road. During the periods of congestion the speed of the traffic is usually contained within the permitted 30mph speed limit. However it is frequently exceeded in quieter times and the police mount frequent radar speed monitoring positions by Brindle Close. Vehicle speeds seem to be increased after passing through the traffic lights at the Manor Road junction as drivers encounter the unbuilt up section past Hudson Way Park to the south and the open field to the north. While there are lighting columns at appropriate spacing to confirm the speed limit they do tend to be partially hidden in the adjacent trees and the provision of 'SLOW' on the carriageway would give a worthwhile reminder of the speed restriction and significantly improve traffic safety at this point. It is noted that 'SLOW' and yellow bar marks have been installed on the NIDR before right hand bends, without the provision of accompanying signs on posts, and that the above section of Staplegrove Road is now an extension of the NIDR and requires the same provision before it's more demanding left hand bends.

##### **1.0m cycle lane marked on the carriageway.**

In addition, the provision of a cycle lane marked on the north side of the road only, between the pedestrian crossing by Westerkirk Gate and the mini roundabout at the junction with Greenway Road, would improve the safety for cyclists over this length and would also reduce the effect of the lack of visibility round the left hand bends by moving the traffic further away from the kerb.

The Parish Council therefore ask for these minor provisions to be included as a proposed Small Improvement Scheme in the next allocation of funds.

M N Clark, Chairman, Staplegrove Parish Council

July 2017.