

HARLOW CIVIC SOCIETY

Chair: Stan Newens
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Secretary: Paul McLintic
Treasurer: Tony Evans

*Please reply to: Paul McLintic, 5 Cowlins Yard, Old Harlow, Essex, CM17 0FZ
E mail: paul@mclintic.com*

8 April 2015

Ms Rissa Long
Highways Liaison Officer
Essex County Council
County Hall
Market Road
Chelmsford
Essex, CM1 1QH

Cc Councillor Eddie Johnson
Councillor Mike Danvers
Councillor Joel Charles
Councillor Muriel Jollies
Councillor Sue Livings

Dear Ms Long

Speed limit on Gilden Way

I am writing on behalf of Harlow Civic Society to ask for the speed limit on the B183, Gilden Way, Harlow, between the roundabout at London Road and the Town boundary at Marsh Lane, to be reduced from the present national speed limit of 60mph to 40mph.

Please would you see the attached map which shows the location and various features of the route that make the case, we believe, for a speed reduction on this busy road. These features are:

- Four (in future five) nearby schools with children walking home across and along Gilden Way
- A hazardous junction at Mulberry green with a right turn lane from the east and a pedestrian crossing to the east
- Access to shops and doctors for Churchgate Street residents involves crossing Gilden Way at this Mulberry Green junction
- Further major housing development both north and south of the road with increased traffic and pedestrian flows
- The bend in the road at the point where traffic is fastest obscures views so that it is dangerous here for both pedestrians to cross and for vehicles to overtake, though many try to
- A proposed pedestrian crossing near this bend, though needed for those who cross, could present new hazards if traffic were travelling at 60mph.

Gilden Way is very busy at peak midweek times and this naturally slows the traffic. However, outside peak times, though the road runs through the middle of the ward of Old Harlow, and because perhaps it looks deceptively rural, many car drivers and motorcyclists appear to treat it as a country road and the national speed limit signs as an invitation to open up the throttle.

We understand that a review of speed limits has quite recently been done. However, having consulted with local residents' associations, our ward HDC councillors and a local cyclist group, we know we have their support in urging you to revise your conclusion in the light of the information in this letter and to reduce the Gilden Way speed limit to 40mph.

With best wishes
Yours sincerely

Paul McLintic
Secretary