

APP 2

26 Pembroke Drive
Ingleby Barwick
Stockton
TS17 5BB

13th April 2010

Dear Sir

**Speed Limit Reduction
'A1044' Thornaby Road
Objection**

I would like to object to the order reducing the speed limit on the A1044 Thornaby Road as advertised in the Evening Gazette 9th April 2010


The road in question is a straight open road, with only 1 house and no other buildings fronting onto it. There are only two side turnings, which are both well situated with good visibility. The road is used by very few pedestrians, horse riders, cyclists or other vulnerable road users. I am not aware of any accidents on that stretch of road. Whilst I am aware of accidents at the Low Lane / Thornaby Road junction and some further north at the A174 junction, reducing the speed limit on this section of Thornaby Road would have no affect on these. I would be very surprised if this particular section of road has a high accident rate.

I can see no grounds for reducing the speed limit on this road, and see this proposals as inappropriate and unnecessary. I therefore object to the proposal.

Yours faithfully



T A Bounds


 Stockton-on-Tees
TECHNICAL SERVICES
 DEVELOPMENT & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
 TECHNICAL SERVICES
 DATE: APR 2010
 MAIL LOGGING NUMBER
 3 0 1 9 4
 FILE REFERENCE

My Ref: TS/T/15/4
Your Ref:
Please ask for: Karen Moore
Tel: 01642 526730
Email: technicalservices@stockton.gov.uk

11984

30 April 2010

Dear T A Bounds

A1044 THORNABY ROAD - SPEED LIMIT AMENDMENT

I write further to your letter of objection dated 13 April 2010 regarding the above proposal which was formally received by Stockton's Legal Services team. I will take this opportunity to provide you with the background with respect to the proposed speed limit reduction.

In August 2006 the Department for Transport (DfT) published the National Guidance Setting Local Speed Limits and asked all traffic authorities to use the guidance to assess speed limits on all A and B roads within their authority.

The proposed speed limit reduction is one of the outcomes from the Stockton-on-Tees review which assessed all A and B roads and some C roads where the speed limit is greater than 30mph. Using the methodology recommended in the National Guidance, the study utilised speed and accident data to assess whether the current speed limit on each section of route included in the review is appropriate, in line with the new guidance.

A1044 Thornaby Road, from Ingleby Way to Low Lane has been identified as a 'priority action'. The findings were that the average speeds (42.3mph and 43.6mph) and 85th percentile speeds are much lower than the existing National 60mph speed limit. The accident rate over the 3 years 2005 – 2007 is also around 33% higher than the National average for roads of this type. Given the comparatively high accident rate and the low recorded mean speeds it was recommended that it would be appropriate to reduce the speed limit to 50mph.

Road safety concerns in the vicinity of the Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick FC (TIBS) access have been raised by both Eastern Area Transport Strategy stakeholders and Ingleby Barwick Town Council. TIBS are a junior football club running teams for under nines to under sixteen's and girls' teams, etc. There is only limited parking availability at TIBS, so at busy times parking occurs in the layby on the East side of Thornaby Road and there are associated pedestrian crossing movements.

Cont'd

T. A. Bounds
26 Pembroke Drive
Ingleby Barwick
Stockton on Tees
TS17 5BB

Stockton Council is working with TIBS to investigate provision of additional on-site parking, but this would need to be funded by the club. For the time being, therefore, it is considered appropriate to extend the existing 40mph limit present on Thornaby Road to the North of Ingleby Way to a point approximately 130 metres South of the TIBS access.

In light of the information provided within this correspondence, I request that you consider your objection. If you wish your objection to stand, the item will be referred to the Appeals and Complaints Committee. The Committee is independent to the Traffic Regulation Order process and as an objector you would be given every opportunity to address the Committee. The alternative option is to formally withdraw your objection. A reply slip and pre-paid envelope are enclosed for you to indicate your intentions.

Yours sincerely



Mark Gillson
Senior Engineer, Network Safety Team

Encl.

Copy to: David Bond (Corporate Director of Law & Democracy)

26 Pembroke Drive
Ingleby Barwick
Stockton
TS17 5BB

6th May 2010

Dear Mr Gillson

A1044 Thornaby Road Speed Limit

In response to your letter of the 30th April regarding my objection to the reduction of the speed limit on the above road, I confirm that I feel my objections still stand, and would like them to be considered.

Regarding your letter about the arguments for the speed limit, I would like to make two observations:

The Football Club: This is of course only relevant to the proposed 40mph limit in the vicinity of the Ingleby Way roundabout, and is of no relevance to the main stretch of road between there and Low Lane. In any case, due to the proximity of the football club entrance to the roundabout, I would not have thought traffic speeds would be much of an issue as Southbound traffic will be already going quite slowly after leaving the roundabout, and Northbound traffic will be slowing for the roundabout.

Traffic Speeds: If I am interpreting your letter correctly, you say that traffic speeds on the road are currently lower than the proposed 50 mph speed limit. If this is so, how can reducing the limit possibly contribute to improving safety along that stretch of road? The traffic speeds you quote suggest that excessive speed is not a problem there. It is hard to resist the conclusion that the proposal to reduce the speed limit is an easy way of being seen to 'do' something about a claimed poor accident rate, but apparently without properly assessing the precise safety issues that may exist. I am therefore unconvinced that this proposed speed limit reduction will make any contribution to road safety.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T A Bounds', with a stylized flourish at the end.

T A Bounds