Middleton Tyas Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs C. Jones **Email: clerk.mtyas@live.co.uk** **Tel: 01325 377062**

4 April 2018

Middleton Tyas
Richmond
North Yorkshire
DL10 6PP

County Councillor Angus Thompson
North Yorkshire County Council

By e-mail: cllr.angus.thompson@northyorks.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Thompson

Request for changes to two existing speed limit zones in Middleton Tyas, North Yorkshire

At the behest of residents, the Parish Council is requesting two changes to speed limits in our village, as follows:

1. Middleton Tyas Primary School 20 mph zone

The 20 mph zone in this village was established before the existing school was built – the old school, now a house, was located on School Bank. When the existing school was built it was located just outside the 20 mph zone on Kneeton Lane and it remains in a 30 mph zone. The case for the requested change (to include the school in the 20 mph zone) therefore seems quite clear and straightforward. However, not only does the School's location argue for this change but Kneeton Lane is usually subject to a 60 mph limit up to the existing 30 mph zone and cars travel at that speed ....and much more! We therefore request that the 20 mph zone is extended to/or about the existing 30 mph limit sign along Kneeton Lane and that the 30 mph zone is extended to provide a buffer before a new 20 mph sign. In creating this buffer it is worth noting that Kneeton Lane is used by brave walkers (there is no pavement) to access Middleton Lodge from where there are a number of cross country walks. If the 30 mph buffer then led into a 40 mph buffer extending beyond the Middleton Lodge entrance to the new local access road this would provide walkers and others with a degree of protection from speeding vehicles.

2. Middleton Tyas Lane Extended 30 mph zone

Prior to the A1 roadworks, the speed limit from the Scotch Corner roundabout down to the existing 30 mph signs was 40 mph. During the course of the roadworks, that 40 mph speed limit was very sensibly reduced and still is, temporarily at least, to 30 mph. The road in question is a residential road and is lined with houses on one side. In addition, this stretch of road is regularly used by commuters and others who park their cars along its edge thus reducing its effective width. These parked cars are very difficult to see when driving at night on what is a poorly lit road.

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Our concerns have been reported to the Police on numerous occasions but they can do little unless the parked cars obstruct the footpath. The (in many places quite narrow, and more so when cars are parked on its edge) footpath is regularly used by villagers to walk to and from Scotch Corner for the services, hotel, buses etc. In addition, the A1 widening programme has introduced a new road junction almost opposite the entrance to the MOTO services. Consequently, an already difficult junction – not everyone exiting MOTO realises that they do not have the right of way - has been made more demanding and potentially dangerous. Under the circumstances we believe that Middleton Tyas Lane merits a 30 mph speed limit up to the A1 roundabout for the safety of the residents, including young families as well as older people, of this village.

As a measure of the concern about speeding in and around our village, we are forming a speed awareness team whose work would be assisted by the proposed speed limit changes.

We thank you for your support of our request and would ask you to bring our concerns to the attention of North Yorkshire County Council Highways Department for their serious consideration.

Yours sincerely

Christine Jones
Parish Clerk