

SEVENOAKS Town Crier



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From Sevenoaks Town Council for the community of Sevenoaks.

Autumn 2023



This edition of the Town Crier includes a town-wide survey for Sevenoaks community to have their say on the latest proposals for 20mph speed zones to be put in place in Sevenoaks.

We need to hear your thoughts
prior to the closing date of:

14th December 2023.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to our special edition of the Town Crier. For several years, there have been discussions on lowering speeds and increasing road safety in our town. Local residents in five different areas of Sevenoaks have campaigned for 20mph limits to improve safety for all.

As a result, KCC led a consultation in 2022 on a 20mph scheme, which has been refined using the feedback. We believe this would give a boost to active travel in Sevenoaks, and can be funded by the Community infrastructure Levy from developers.

This Town Crier has information about the proposed scheme, and details of how to comment.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Councillor Claire Shea, Mayor of Sevenoaks



Why are 20mph plans introduced?

[Source: Government Atkins 20mph study]

TRANSPORT

- Casualty and injury reduction.
- Reduction of rush hour traffic through residential areas.
- Reduce the negative impact of cars in urban centres

COMMUNITY

- Community concerns about speed, safety and the quality of the local environment.
- Demand from local groups and individuals in the community.
- Seen as a low cost initiative, which delivers instant improvements for local residents, schools and commuters.

HEALTH

- Encourage active travelling locally (walking and cycling instead of driving)
- Improve public health and wellbeing

Background to the demand for 20mph in Sevenoaks.



The following five petitions presented to Kent County Council and Sevenoaks District Council over the last six years created the demand for a 20mph provision in Sevenoaks:

- **To reduce speeds in Seal Hollow Road to create safe access to Knole Park**
- **For a 20mph zone around Sevenoaks Primary School**
- **For a 20mph zone around St John's Primary School**
- **For a wide 20mph zone, to protect the remaining primary and secondary schools in the area bounded by Seal Hollow Road, Sevenoaks High Street, South Park, the railway line and the A25.**
- **For a 20mph zone to protect families walking from the Greatness and Hillingdon areas to Seal Primary School.**

Two of these have been implemented (for Sevenoaks and St John's Primary Schools) but the remaining schools and the surrounding residential areas remain at 30mph.

Sevenoaks Town Council is of the opinion that the introduction of additional areas of 20mph is essential to our current and future road safety, protection of the environment and the community's well-being. It is also complementary to other proposals, including those for new cycle routes in the future and the Aim M4 in the Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Plan which supports additional 20mph in residential areas and around schools.

Kent County Council 2022 Consultation.

[Source: Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board meeting: 13/12/22]

For the past year, there has been much debate regarding the introduction of additional areas of 20mph in Sevenoaks. This has included a public consultation exercise carried out by Kent County Council which included a one-way scheme around the war memorial (now excluded) and left out some areas that residents wanted to be considered including: most of Kippington, Greatness, Bat & Ball area, Oak Lane and Brittain's Lane.

Kent County Council's consultation indicated a majority in favour of a town-wide scheme by those living within it, whereas those surveyed outside the town boundary opposed as a majority.

Need for further consultation and by whom?

[Source: Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board meeting: 18/09/23]

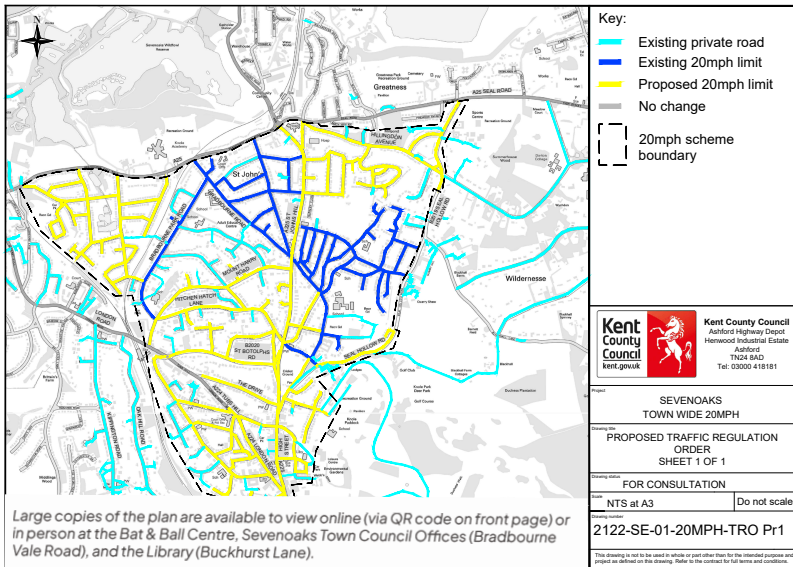
Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board would like further public consultation before moving forward with the project. Sevenoaks Town Council believes it is best placed to progress this consultation in its local community. If public opinion is in favour of the extension of 20mph, there will be a formal legal process to be followed prior to its implementation.

The Town Council is aware that other local councils in Sevenoaks District have consulted with their local residents directly on local community proposals for 20mph.

Revised Project Plan.

[Source: Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board meeting: 15/03/23]

Sevenoaks Town Council is consulting on the outlined revised project plan provided by Kent County Council below. It is a **Signage-Only Scheme** which will not include physical traffic calming measures.



Costs relating to 20mph scheme in Sevenoaks.

[Source: KCC Vision Zero Document]

The **Signage-Only Scheme** is suitable for the project and is significantly less cost than physical traffic measures.

At present, the estimate for a Signage-Only Scheme in Sevenoaks is £130,000, with a further £25,000 for the installation of a zebra crossing on Dartford Road. This will be funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy paid for by developers.

KCC Vision Zero documents states:

Each death and life changing injury on Kent's Highways is a personal tragedy and that is why we have a target of zero deaths.

Serious injuries also have very high social costs. 24-hour home care can cost up to £2,000 per week. Other costs include clearing the scene, emergency services and resulting congestion. The Department for Transport estimates the average value of prevention of each reported casualty, which estimates a value for all human and public costs as follows:

Fatal: £1.9 Million
Serious: £220,000
Slight: £17,000

In 2019 Kent's combined prevention value of all collisions was over £263m, including over £70m for fatalities and over £143m for serious injuries.

Sevenoaks Town Council believes that 20mph limits would be a valuable investment in community safety, as well as encouraging active travel and reducing climate impact.



Sevenoaks Markets

Dedicated traders with fresh, local and handmade products every week!

9am - 4pm

High Street
(Saturday)

Bligh's Walk
(Saturday)

Buckhurst Lane
(Wednesday)



We've thought of every detail to support your productivity and well-being. So, why not give your business, old or new, what it needs? Enquire today!



Collision Statistics.

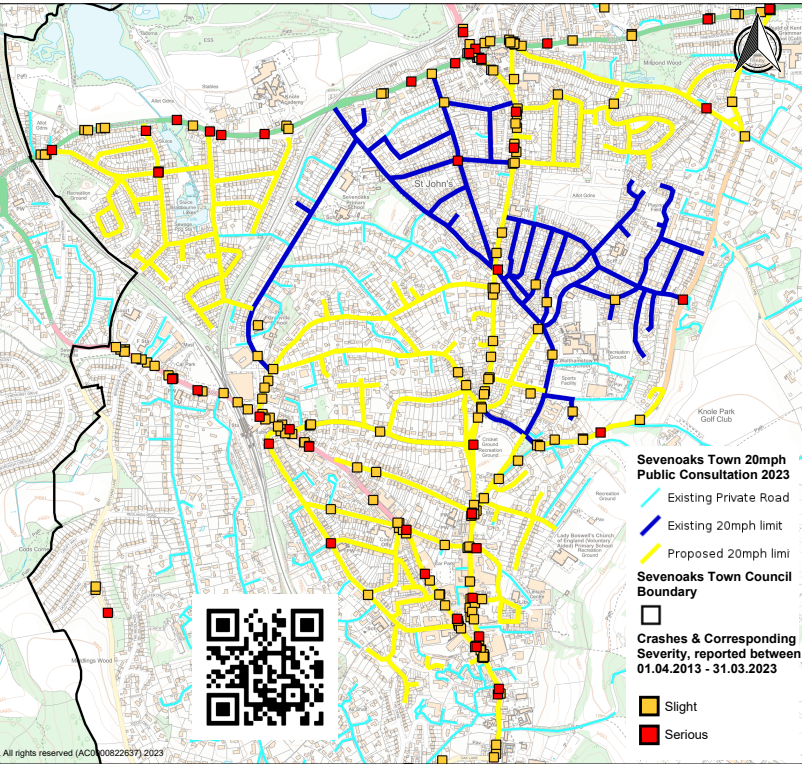
[Source: Kent County Council – Personal Injury Crash Data]

“A pedestrian is five times more likely to die if hit at 30mph rather than 20mph”

[Source: KCC Vision Zero document]

Kent County Council provided the following information for Sevenoaks Town for the years 01/04/2013 – 31/03/2023. It should be noted that collisions totalled between 2020–2021 were abnormally low nationally due to the COVID pandemic.

COLLISIONS	295
CASUALTIES	362
VEHICLES INVOLVED	506



Community Support.

[Source: Petition presented to JTB Committee on: 09/06/21]

Community support in favour of the 20 mph proposals was included within the 2021 Petition submitted to the Joint Transportation Board including from the following schools, community groups and organisations:

- ◆ St John's C of E Primary School
- ◆ Sevenoaks Primary School
- ◆ Lady Boswell's C of E Primary School
- ◆ St Thomas Catholic Primary School PTA
- ◆ The Granville School
- ◆ Trinity School Sevenoaks
- ◆ Sevenoaks School
- ◆ Knole Paddock Residents' Association
- ◆ St John's Residents' Association
- ◆ Hollybush Residents' Association
- ◆ Bradbourne Residents' Association
- ◆ Eardley Road Residents' Association
- ◆ White Hart Estates Residents' Association
- ◆ Busy Bees Nursery
- ◆ Sevenoaks Bicycle User Group



MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

OPEN DOOR SESSIONS

Sevenoaks Town Councillors invite you to attend public surgeries:

In addition to the right of every resident to come and ask questions at Town Council committee meetings, Sevenoaks Town Councillors would like to make themselves available to **talk about issues affecting individuals and neighbourhoods** across the town.

Town Councillors – newly elected and those re-elected will be available for regular Public Surgeries in the **Bat & Ball Centre** (for residents of northern Sevenoaks and the **House in the Basement** Youth Cafe (for residents in southern Sevenoaks)



www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



01732 459 953

Upcoming sessions:

Saturday 11th November: 10am – 12pm

Saturday 9th December: 10am – 12pm

Meeting Room, Bat & Ball Centre

House in the Basement Youth Cafe

Sevenoaks Town 20mph Public Consultation 2023.

Please tick **YES** or **NO** to indicate your response:

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 Do you support 20mph limits in residential roads and roads in close proximity to schools?

2 Do you support the proposal for a 20mph limit for most of central Sevenoaks including schools? (See map, page 2)

3 Are there any roads in the proposal you would like to see left out?

Please indicate :.....
.....

4 We would like to understand future demand and therefore are asking which additional areas you feel should have 20mph speed limits, this does not form part of the current proposal.

CRAMPTONS ROAD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GREATNESS / MILL LANE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LONDON ROAD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SEAL HOLLOW ROAD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRITTAINS LANE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OAK LANE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TONBRIDGE ROAD (by Sevenoaks School)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there any roads not named in the list above you would want included in the proposal?

Please indicate :.....
.....

The 20mph limits may be open to extension in the future, bringing opportunity to include additional roads following the consultation

Responses can be returned via this form to **Freepost: RTHK-RSKY-SSXS, Sevenoaks Town Council, Council Offices, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks TN13 3QG** by 14th December 2023 or electronically using the QR code below or via our website **www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk**

*Name:.....

Address:.....
.....

*Postcode:.....

Email:.....
(FOR FUTURE UPDATES)

I am **under** 18 years old I am **over** 18 years old

Fields marked with (*) must be provided to make the response eligible.

Anonymous responses will not be considered. Personal details are required purely for identification purposes.



form.jotform.com /232892510110344

Functions & Facilities provided by Sevenoaks Town Council

Precept

Sevenoaks Town Council's total revenue budget for the 2023/24 financial year is £1,954,749 per annum. The average Band D house would pay £139.17 per annum equating to £2.68 per week.

OPEN SPACES & LEISURE

• ALLOTMENTS:

*Bradbourne Vale Road
Quaker's Hall Lane*

• BETHEL ROAD BURIAL GROUND

• BRITTAINS COMMON

• BRITTAINS LANE WOOD

• GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND

• THE GREEN, HILLINGDON RISE

• HANGING BASKETS

• HORSE TROUGHS (*Old Police Station, Rheinbach Gardens, St Botolph's Road*)

• JUDD'S PIECE

• LAND AT:

Letterbox Lane

Littlewood

Tonbridge Road

• MUGA (Multi Use Games Area)

• MIDDINGS WOOD

• MILLPOND WOOD

• PLANTERS (*The Shambles, Dorset Street, Pembroke Road, London Road, Buckhurst Lane*)

• THE POUND, POUND LANE

• RALEY'S FIELD & KNOLE PADDOCK

• RHEINBACH GARDENS

• SEVENOAKS COMMON

• SPORTS PITCHES

• UPPER HIGH STREET GARDENS

• VINE CRICKET GROUND & PAVILION

• VINE GARDENS

Public toilet, telephone kiosk with defibrillator

• WAR MEMORIAL

• WHITE HART BEECHES

• WOODSIDE ROAD OPEN SPACE

CAR PARKS

• RALEYS CAR PARK

PLAY AREAS

• BUCKHURST LANE PLAY AREA

• GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND & PLAYGROUND

• HILLINGDON RISE PLAY AREA

• JULIANS MEADOW & PLAYGROUND

• KIPPINGTON MEADOW

• MOUNT CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND

• PONTOISE CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND

SERVICES

• BAT & BALL CENTRE

(formerly Sevenoaks Community Centre)

Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.

• BAT & BALL STATION BUILDING (including Café and rooms available to hire)

batandballstation.com

• BUSINESS HUB

• BUS SHELTERS (*Dartford Road x1, Bradbourne*

Vale Road x2, London Road x2, Tonbridge Road

x1)

• CAFÉ ON THE VINE cafeonthevine.com

• CONSULTTEES (*Planning, Highways, etc.*)

• GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

• GREATNESS PARK CEMETERY

• HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HITB) YOUTH

CAFÉ (*available for hire*)

• INFO-PODS & DIGITAL DISPLAY SCREENS

• LITTER BINS AND GRIT BINS

• MARKETS (*Wednesday and Saturday*)

• MASTERPLAN FOR NORTHERN SEVENOAKS

• NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

• ORBITAL NO 8 BUS

• PUBLIC CLOCKS (*Jubilee Clock Old Market*

House and Warren Clock above Brewers)

• PUBLIC SEATS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

• PUBLIC TOILETS (*The Stag, The Vine, Lower St*

Johns, Greatness Recreation Ground)

• SEVENOAKS TOWN TEAM

sevenoakspartnership.org

• STAG COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

Defibrillator in foyer

stagssevenoaks.co.uk

• STREET LIGHTS IN SOME UNADOPTED ROADS

• TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES/CHAMBER

Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.

• TWINNING WITH PONTOISE AND RHEINBACH

• YOUTH COUNCIL sevenoakseyouthcouncil.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

• CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS IN TOWN

• CIVIC FUNCTIONS

• VINE BANDSTAND/FREE SUMMER

CONCERTS

Town Councillors 2023-2027

NAME	PARTY	NAME	PARTY
EASTERN WARD		ST JOHNS WARD	
Cllr L Ancrum	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S Camp	Liberal Democrat
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat	Cllr P Dixon	Liberal Democrat
Cllr S Layne	Liberal Democrat	Cllr D Skinner OBE	Liberal Democrat
KIPPINGTON WARD		TOWN WARD	
Cllr C Daniell	Liberal Democrat	Cllr V Granville	Liberal Democrat
Cllr C Gustard	Liberal Democrat	Cllr L Michaelides	Liberal Democrat
Cllr N Varley	Liberal Democrat	Cllr G Willis	Liberal Democrat
NORTHERN WARD		WILDERNESSE WARD	
Cllr Dr M Canet	Liberal Democrat	Cllr N Wightman	Liberal Democrat
Cllr L O'Hara	Liberal Democrat	To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format: Cllr.surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk eg. to contact Councillor Ancrum, the email address would be: Cllr.Ancrum@sevenoakstown.gov.uk	
Cllr C Shea	Liberal Democrat		

Town Clerk/Chief Executive:

Linda Larter MBE:

townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk:

Ann White:

dtc@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

The Town Council or its Committees meet on most Monday evenings at 7pm and members of the public are welcome to attend. For further details of the meetings please contact the Town Council Offices on 01732 459953.

council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Sevenoaks
Town Council

