
Bickley Traffic Calming – Revised Proposals

Following an enormous number of objections from the public to the proposed traffic calming scheme for Bickley East, the following changes have been made:

The following parts of the scheme have been removed altogether:

- The 20 mph zone signs (it will no longer be a 20 mph zone).
- A “throttle” in the Fairway.
- Junction build-outs on Southborough Road.
- Closure or one-way working on Highfield Rd/The Fairway.
- Throttles in Homestead Road.
- Build-outs at junction of The Fairway (near Southborough Lane).

Additional proposals are as follows:

- Installation of Vehicle Activated Signs in Blackbrook Lane and Southborough Road.
- Provision of 2 chicanes and a throttle in Hawthorne Road.
- Provision of 4 throttles in Oldfield Road
- A Zebra crossing in Southborough Road.
- Installation of a mini-roundabout on Blackbrook Lane/Hawthorne Road junction.
- Widening of The Fairway and parking restrictions (near junction with Southborough Ln.)

The traffic calming in the lower part of Blackbrook Lane has also been replaced by pedestrian refuges with kerb build-outs (previously a chicane type of design).

More consultation is being done with residents affected by the new proposals. Some powers to decide on the final versions seem to have been delegated by Councillor Colin Smith to the Environment Director, although the scheme has also been “called in” for scrutiny by the Environment PDS Committee so almost nothing it seems is certain.

In general the changes are a big improvement although BBRAG will certainly be objecting to the throttles and chicanes in Hawthorne Road and Oldfield Road – we think there are better alternatives, if any works are necessary at all in those roads.

Roger Lawson, BBRAG, December 2006