

Committee	<b>Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment</b>
Date	<b>22 February 2010</b>
Report By	<b>Director of Transport and Environment</b>
Title of Report	<b>Petition for speed restriction measures in Etchingham</b>
Purpose of Report	<b>To consider a petition requesting the installation of speed restriction measures for the village of Etchingham.</b>

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

**To advise the petitioners that:**

- 1. traffic calming measures cannot be justified at this time given the low recorded mean speeds and good crash record on this road; and**
  - 2. Etchingham is included in the County Council's forward programme of parking reviews, which aim to improve local safety.**
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**1. Financial Appraisal**

1.1 There are no specific financial implications in respect of the recommendations detailed in this report.

**2. Supporting Information**

2.1 At the County Council meeting on 8 December 2009 Councillor Barnes presented a petition to the Chairman requesting that the County Council considers and acts on the installation of speed restriction measures for the village of Etchingham. The petition was signed by 169 parishioners.

2.2 A copy of the petition is available in the Members' room. Standing Orders provide that where the Chairman considers it appropriate, petitions are considered by the relevant Committee or Lead Cabinet Member and that a spokesperson for the petitioners be invited to address the Committee. The Chairman has referred this petition to the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment.

**3. Comments / Appraisal**

3.1 Approximately 3 years ago, Etchingham Parish Council funded the installation of vehicle activated signs at either end of the village, to provide a reminder of the 30mph speed limit and reduce vehicle speeds entering the village.

3.2 Recent speed surveys were carried out at both ends of the village to establish whether vehicle activated signs have been effective in reducing vehicle speeds. The results of the surveys are summarised in Appendix A. The surveys returned mean speeds of less than 30mph, which indicates that the majority of drivers are complying with the 30mph speed limit. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds were less than 35mph, which suggests that speeding is not a significant problem through the village.

3.3 There has been just one slight injury crash on this section of road in the latest three year period. As such, this site could not be considered a priority for traffic calming measures when there are other sites across the County with a far worse crash problem.

3.4 It has been identified that Etchingam could benefit from a review of the waiting restrictions along the A265. Rearrangement of the permitted parking could bring about a traffic calming effect and, therefore, promote local safety. This review is on the forward programme of work for the Eastern Area Traffic and Safety Team, but it is not currently a high priority due to the relatively good crash record in the village.

#### **4 Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation**

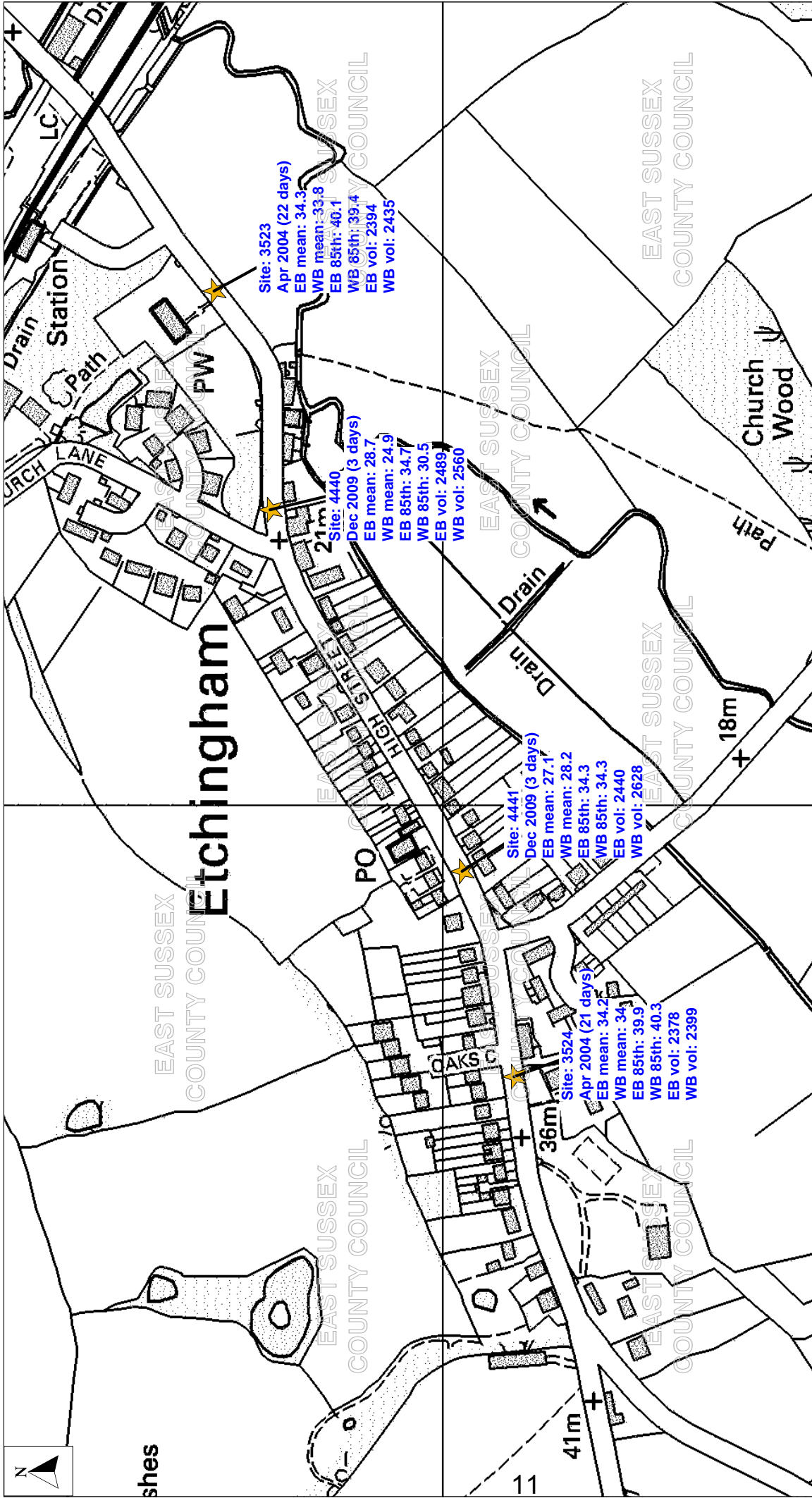
4.1 The low mean speeds suggest that the majority of vehicles are observing the 30mph speed limit, and that traffic calming measures are not required to reduce vehicle speeds. The crash record on this section of road is very good and the cost of traffic calming measures could not be justified when there are sites across the County with a far worse crash problem.

RUPERT CLUBB  
Director of Transport and Environment  
12 February 2010

Contact Officer: Michael Oates  
Local Member: Councillor Barnes

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None



**East Sussex**  
County Council



**Appendix A - A265 Etchingham speed data**

SCALE	1 : 4000
DATE	27/01/2010
DRAWING NO.	Appendix A
DRAWN BY	PW