

## **Congleton Integrated Transport Working Group Meeting**

### **NOTES OF MEETING – Sole Discussion 20 mph zones**

**Date:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Location:** Spencer Suite

**Time:** 3.30pm – 5pm

**Present:** Cllr Suzie Akers Smith (Chair), Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley, , Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Robert Douglas, Jackie MacArthur.

**Observers** – two residents were invited by the Chair to observe

#### **NOTE THIS MEETING WAS OPEN TO ALL COUNCILLORS - SOLE SUBJECT DISCUSSION ON 20 MPH ZONES**

Cllr Suzie Akers Smith introduced the item to debate which roads Congleton Town Council may wish to recommend to Council that are put forward as the Town Council's preferences for 20 mph zones. Large maps were present in the room.

#### **Main points raised in the Working Group meeting:**

- Why is CEC not looking at a blanket approach like other counties have taken – it is expensive and confusing to work street by street or small area by small area. Noted that in Wales the Welsh Government has passed a law for the whole country.
- CTC would want to prioritise areas where there is risk to children and vulnerable adults.
- Eight primaries and two high schools in our area – how would CTC choose which is best suited for the investment of a 20 mph order?
- It's not necessarily the road the school is on, but the journey from the residential areas to the school or places where people go that need to be considered
- Town will be divided into five wards – but it wouldn't make sense to the public for one ward to be 20 mph and not other areas of the town.
- Cllr SAS stated that it may be that CEC will look to revise the rules. It is not clear where the funding for the legal orders to change the speed limits will come from. CEC would look at funding options.
- All residential estates should be treated the same.
- Town Council had previously agreed in the Local Transport Plan consultation that it would like to see 20 mph zone in the Town Centre
- Best and most effective approach would be a blanket approach to the whole town with the exceptions of the main through roads.
- Gradually the 20mph on residential roads and roads in built up areas where there are many other types of road users will be the norm. Already adopted in lots of areas.
- Would want to ensure it doesn't become a revenue raiser.

#### **ACTION**

As CEC had asked for preferences from the towns it was agreed it would be best to take a paper to Council so that a Council recommendation could be made to Cheshire East Council. Working Groups are not decision making groups. A paper from the group would be prepared for the Council meeting to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022.