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| <b>Committee</b>   | <b>FULL COUNCIL</b>     |
| <b>Date</b>        | <b>14 December 2022</b> |
| <b>Agenda Item</b> | <b>15</b>               |

## 20's plenty

Cllrs Gronland and Radley, and the Town Clerk, attended online meetings on 15 and 17 November along with many others representing many different Essex Councils.

### Objectives of these proposed actions:

- To make communities safer and more amenable for active travel, walking, cycling, and outdoor play.
- To contribute to climate change goals by facilitating and encouraging people to use active travel in safety.
- To do what is possible within the remit of parish councils to minimise the risk to pedestrians from road crashes.
- To respond to the greater risk posed by the increasing size and speed of cars.
- To promote a change in mindset whereby the safety and comfort of people within communities takes precedence over the (arguably insignificant) time saved for people driving through them.
- To approach the challenge as a number of collaborating parish councils.

### Proposed Actions:

- 1) Campaign actions
  - Agree and adopt a Parish Council motion based on the attached template, also available at: [https://www.20splenty.org/parish\\_council\\_motion](https://www.20splenty.org/parish_council_motion)
  - Communicate benefits of 20mph to parishioners:
    - You can use the template article for Parish Magazines, see Appendix below.
    - Explain why road speeds are going up (better vehicle engineering, heavier cars, faster cars)
    - Explain link between speed and risk and harm
    - Explain what parish councils can and can't do for their communities / electors.
  - Write to Transport Authority (ECC)
    - Use template email text (see Appendix letter template below)
    - Address to
      - Lead Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport at Essex County Council (Cllr Lee Scott)
      - Our local representatives in ECC
      - etc
- 2) Implementation actions – the proposal is to:
  - a. Base the programme on the low-cost, whole-community “wide-area” approach adopted in Scottish Borders, Oxfordshire, Cornwall.  
(see [https://www.20splenty.org/universal\\_demand\\_for\\_20](https://www.20splenty.org/universal_demand_for_20) and [https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/news/article/4202/permanent\\_20mph\\_plans\\_approved](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/news/article/4202/permanent_20mph_plans_approved)).
  - b. 20mph speed limit across whole communities, a “wide area scheme”
    - i. Not linked to road status in “roads hierarchy”, PR1, PR2 etc
    - ii. Everywhere where people mix with cars

- c. Adopt 20mph as default for whole of Essex, with higher speeds the exception not the rule
- d. To create a uniform and consistent speed-limit practice across Essex so that it is simple and familiar and unconfusing for drivers.
- e. Cluster communities together to seek implementation in groups, eg all contiguous communities within an area bounded by main roads.
- f. Road signs only, low cost installation.
  - i. Starting assumption that no civil engineering required; possibly small amount if it proved appropriate but not part of the main programme.
  - ii. There is no need to delay the process or introduce the cost of additional data collection: adequate data is available from existing programmes elsewhere in UK.

**Recommendation:**

- that HTC supports the 20's Plenty for Essex campaign;
- Calls on Essex County Council to implement 20mph in Halstead
- Will write to Essex County Council to request 20mph speed limits on streets throughout the county where people live, work, shop, play or learn, with 30mph as the exception on those roads, where full consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users allows a higher limit.

*Sarah Greateorex*

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Town Clerk