

SAPLEY ROAD CHICANES

WHAT DO YOU WANT DONE FIRST?

The problem

Sapley Road is a problem. Yes it has a 30 mph speed limit. The problem is that it does not look like a 30 mph road. But it is a downhill road of over a mile, with 13 roads coming in to it and the drives of many houses coming directly off it. It has the dreaded chicanes and they don't work. We did a speed check with our own speed gun from 2 lay bys, one right at the top and the other next to Desborough Road. Three quarters of the speeds recorded were over 30 mph, nearly a third over 35 mph.

These chicanes on Sapley Road have been the source of more complaints to your Lib Dem Focus Team than any other subject (though, recently, street lights were rapidly catching them up). It has been a puzzle to know what to do about them. Recently there has been progress on identifying possible ways forward.

Progress

The Lamport Drive chicane suffers from poor visibility, especially in the gloaming with the lights of oncoming cars. There have been many collisions between car and chicane. It has had to be repaired numerous times. The vehicles too suffer from bodywork, suspension and tyre problems. As most of the incidents do not involve significant injuries they are not recorded on the police computer, but they are still distressing and expensive. After extensive discussions including with residents, Engineers have agreed to install a more visible yellow sign. That should cut the number of impacts. This is a relatively cheap action which we hope will produce good results. Options in other places are likely to be much more costly.



What Next?

Whatever we do will cost money and we shall need to persuade one of the councils to finance your choice. So I judge it to be more likely to yield results more quickly if we deal with the worst problem first. The most frequent comment from you has been about the chicane next to the Desborough Road junction.

The Desborough Road chicane.

This is widely perceived to be dangerous by local drivers. It forces traffic coming down the hill onto the 'wrong' side of the road. So in addition to the normal 'Can I get through before the oncoming car gets there?' there is the danger of a vehicle turning out of Desborough Road to go uphill, right into the path of the downhill vehicle. Stand nearby for very long and you will see a dangerous situation emerging. Overleaf are things we could try. I would be grateful if you would tell me your preferences.

Huntingdonshire Liberal Democrats Survey

How you can help.

The options appear to be:

- A Do nothing. Leave the road and the chicane as it is.
- B Just remove the chicane.
- C Replace the chicane with a radar assisted speed display.
- D Install the small bumps.
- E Install table tops (the full width bumps like Falcon Drive but not as fierce)
- F Your better idea



We are asking you to go to <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SapleyRoadChicane> and give us your views. This will help determine the approach that we shall take when talking with the various councils. If you prefer not to use your computer then please send your reply to:

Mike Shellens, 21 High St, Brampton PE28 4TG by 1 April.

We would be very grateful.