

OAKLEY GREEN, FIFIELD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LIMITED



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Mr John Campbell
Chief Constable
Thames Valley Police

Dear Mr Campbell,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association (OGAFCA) to ask for your support. I am referring to issues on the B3024, Oakley Green Road, which runs through Oakley Green Village.

In 2019, the then leader of RBWM Council, Simon Dudley, attended a meeting at the Braywood Primary School in Oakley Green attended by the Head Teacher, Bray Parish Council members and other community representatives. We explained to him the very real concerns of residents regarding the dangers on our roads caused by lorries and speeding traffic. Having listened to our concerns and visiting the area he agreed that a 7.5 tonne weight restriction and a 30mph speed limit should be introduced. Now, two years on, the weight restriction has been implemented, although it is completely ignored by heavy vehicles, and the speed limit reduction is not in place because, we are told, the Police objected to it. I would like to understand why the Police should block a measure that has been asked for, by the community, to protect their safety. I attach for your perusal, a very thorough report, compiled by Alison Brayshaw, an OGAFCA Director, illustrating why we believe the speed reduction is necessary.

We are fortunate that general crime in our area is low, but road traffic crime is extremely high. Since the lorry ban was introduced earlier this year there has been a blatant refusal, by the Hauliers, to comply. A few local residents standing around taking down their registration numbers is not going to frighten them into submission.

I understand that this is considered 'low priority' by the Police but to our residents it is very high indeed and is causing distress and frustration when people see a blatant disregard for the law go unpunished.

Similarly, since the Covid restrictions reduced traffic on the roads, the speed of the traffic has increased significantly. You will see from Alison's report that this road is used extensively by cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians and the speed of the traffic on this winding road is threatening everyone's safety.

I read that part of the Policing Vision for 2025 is "to make communities safer by upholding the law fairly and firmly". We would all like to see the road traffic laws enforced fairly and firmly to keep our community safer.

I would like to ask for your support with the following;

- To support requests for reductions in speed limits throughout our Parish
- To then enforce those limits by mounting random but regular speed traps
- To enforce the 7.5tonne weight restrictions by also mounting random but regular checks.

I have seen these measures work very successfully in Winkfield where, in my experience, the speed has reduced considerably, and all with the aid of one flashing sign to remind drivers of the limit.

I realise these concerns may seem very trivial to a Police Service with very extensive responsibilities but I can assure you that to the residents of Bray Parish they are very real and distress is turning to anger as they feel abandoned and unsupported by the very people they expect to protect them.

Yours sincerely,



Barbara Frame, Chairperson

Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association Ltd.