



Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

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Public Meeting to discuss traffic on the A10 held at

St Andrew's Church, Buckland

Saturday 25 April 2026, 2.30pm

Present: Chris Hinchliff MP, District Cllr David Woollcombe, Parish Cllrs Jeff Kenyon (chair), Penny Baxter-Newman (vice chair), Mark Seymour

Attending: S Kubica (parish clerk), 21 members of the public

Minutes

- 1. Cllr Kenyon welcomed everyone to the Meeting** highlighted that each village has in excess of 20 access points onto the A10. Points for discussion; increased volume and speeds of vehicles; accidents on A10 between southern entrance to Chipping and northern exit from Buckland; Buckland Road at the Barkway A10 turning; reduced speed limit to 30 mph throughout the villages and adjoining lanes; number of HGVs through the villages; and introduction of speed cameras to both villages
- 2. Cllr Kenyon introduced the MP and other invitees present** and noted the absence of County Cllr Terry Smith and no representative available from the Police
- 3. Invite Questions, comments from the Floor**
Buckland resident 1: a noticeable increase in HGV traffic avoiding the weight limit and taking shortcuts along unsuitable narrow lanes to the A505, particularly along Whiteley Lane which has potholes and poor surface.
Chipping resident 1: can speed cameras be installed, because motorists already ignore the speed limit signs?
Buckland resident 2: Planning permission should take into account businesses operating large vehicles as the business in Whiteley Lane cannot operate without these but the road is very narrow and entirely unsuitable for large vehicles. The 30 mph limit along Whiteley Lane is largely ignored. A reduction to 30 mph has been proved to

reduce pedestrian deaths.

Chipping resident 2: vehicles entering Chipping do not slow down to 40 mph.

Chipping resident 3: also noted the failure of vehicles to slow down when entering Chipping, making it difficult to pull out from properties onto the highway. There were several examples of motor incidents which included vehicles ending up in the front garden and almost hitting the house.

Chipping resident 4: a reduced speed limit for Chipping should extend to include the turn off to Sandon.

Chipping resident 5: during speed checks most drivers are only just outside the limit, with drivers in excess of the speed limit causing a hazard and ignoring signs, so could speed camera signs be used and a community speed watch initiative set up as a cheaper solution?

Buckland resident 3: in favour of 30 mph in Buckland with an increase in young families and older people in the village, the traffic coming through at speed makes it difficult to cross to the post box, defibrillator and bus stop. Barkway Road is popular with pedestrians and the national speed limit sign is not appropriate for modern traffic.

Buckland resident 4: reminded the parish council that many years ago Highways visited with engineers who deemed the route along Barkway Road as unsuitable for the purposes of HGVs transporting supplies between Anstey Quarry and Barkway Golf Course and refused permission for this purpose.

Chipping resident 6: should village residents provide a list of motor vehicle incidents as the number has increased in the last 10 years?

Chipping resident 7: struggles to pull out onto the A10 due to a restricted view to the right and hedges and vehicles approaching at speed. In the time taken to pull out, a vehicle will appear. Can there be buffer zones to reduce the speed limit?

Chipping resident 4: traffic problems are impacted by M11 closures.

Chipping resident 8: noise should be taken into account, as rumble strips are loud and would not be popular with residents and signage should be proportionate for the countryside setting.

Resident: signs and village gates might be more affordable measures.

4. Invite MP and invitees for their thoughts

Chris Hinchliff MP: confirmed that there is nothing in law that requires a fatality before action is taken and that it is very encouraging to have the engagement of the local community. Chris will support a common sense approach with all the ideas presented and is able to make representations to Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) for measures to reduce HGVs. Ultimately, however, this is the responsibility of HCC Highways who are likely to require a speed and volume survey. The first port of call should be a request to the County Cllr to see what can be funded from the Highways Locality Budget.

District Cllr David Woollcombe: noted the increase in HGVs diverting to avoid the

weight restriction is a problem. David proposes the continuation of 50 mph along the bypass and advocates action before the change to a unitary authority, noting that the risk of fatalities is of real concern. David is happy to support the proposals.

Cllr Jeff Kenyon: noted that residents present were in favour of average speed cameras for the entire stretch between Buckland and Chipping. The parish councillors confirmed that HCC hasn't assessed speed and volume, but Police carried out monitoring around 10 years ago. Police found it difficult to find a place to carry out speed checks. There is also concern over Metropolitan Police carrying out high speed vehicle training along the road including motorcycle training.

Cllr Mark Seymour: recalls a parish council meeting which discussed similar issues but action is still awaited.

Cllr Penny Baxter-Newman: highlighted the difficulties in crossing the road with only one spot offering slightly better visibility.

5. Sum up Meeting The MP and District Cllr will support a statement containing the suggestions discussed and including evidence of the history of incidents. Attendees are asked to submit details of incidents over the years to the clerk: clerk@bucklandandchipping-pc.gov.uk Cllr Woollcombe to raise police driver training issues with the Buntingford Town Mayor (a former Police officer).

6. Propose way(s) forward

This Community believes that to create a safer environment in Buckland and Chipping, the following items should be given thorough investigation by both Highways and Hertfordshire County Council:

1. The installation of "Speed Cameras" in both villages.
2. Lower the speed limit to 50mph from the southern end of the Buntingford Bypass to the lower speed limit sign south of Chipping.
3. Lower the speed limits in Buckland and Chipping to 30mph.
4. Extend the speed limit at the southern end of Chipping by 300m.
5. Introduce "Average Speed Limit" monitors in both villages.
6. Introduce a "Pelican Crossing" in both villages.
7. Extend the speed limit in Barkway Road from the A10 to the track to the church.
8. Regularly maintain the A10 footpath between the villages
9. Attached is a portfolio of accidents in both villages, as compiled by residents.

It was further agreed that our MP Chris Hinchliff be requested to investigate the dangerous habit of the Metropolitan Police using the A10 as a practice route through our villages with high speed driving totally ignoring the mandatory speed limits.

It was further agreed that the above proposal would be voted upon at the next PC Meeting and, if agreed, forwarded to our MP and local Council representatives for action, with a copy to be placed in the next issue of our Newsletter.