Down Farm Lane Working Group - Terms of Reference

2026

Background

In 2022, after receiving complaints from Down Farm Lane (DFL) residents (C/21/159) the Council agreed to set up an informal working group to look into how the problem could be solved (C/22/012). The complaints concerned the volume of traffic that came down the road, under the railway bridge and entered the narrow part of the road, where residents lived, at speed, and the problems and dangers this caused.

In 2024 Hampshire County Council (HCC) agreed to explore the idea of installing a modal filter at the top of DFL just below the turning to the Golf academy. Their proposal was agreed by the Headbourne Worthy Committee (HWC) but in order to go forward with the proposal, HCC was asking for a contribution of over £6,000 to provide the drawings and for scoping out the project. They also notified the Committee that in order for the project to be implemented the Committee would have to demonstrate community support.

In 2025 HWC agreed to hold community consultation (HWC/25/021b) before spending the £6,000. The survey ran for 6 weeks in the Autumn of 2025.

The results of the survey did not demonstrate community support for the proposal. There were 67 responses from Headbourne Worthy residents but only 30 supported it.

The Committee agreed (HWC/25/50b) to invite other members of the community to join the Working Group in order to explore other options for dealing with the problem.

The role of the Working Group

The Working Group will look at all aspects of the problem of speeding traffic coming down DFL and entering the village where the road meets Springvale Avenue. The Working Group will also consider what mitigations could be put in place to encourage speed reduction.

The Working Group will consider how any proposals may be progressed with HCC, the Highways Authority. Any proposals to be presented to HCC will need to be agreed at a meeting of HWC.

The Working Group may meet with HCC. The Clerk will need to attend any such meetings. Communications with HCC will need to be via the Clerk unless agreed otherwise with HCC.

The Working Group will present any proposals of HCC's at a meeting of HWC and it will be the decision of HWC whether the proposals may be taken forward.

The Working Group will consider any appropriate funding streams.

The Working Group will update the HWC at their meetings as to the Working Group's progress.

The Working Group will not hold any budget and any expenditure will need to be agreed by HWC. The budget proposal will need to be agreed by HWPC.