Village Gates Project

This is a briefing as there is still information and offers of site visits from Dorset Council which this group will pursue.

**Aims of Project**:

* Mark the entrance to the village
* Slow vehicles entering the built up areas of the village

**Existing Road signage:**

* Huntick Road
  + Village sign at Race Farm
  + 30mph – 2 signs and road painting about entrance to Jubilee Walk
* Halls Road/Wareham Road
  + 30mph and village name at this junction
* Colehill Road
  + Village sign beyond entrance to St Mary’s church
  + 30mph - 2 signs at Jenny’s Lane junction
* Wimborne Road
  + Village sign on bend before entrance to polo field (parish boundary)
  + 30mph – British Legion site – 2 signs

**Current suggestions:**

* Place village gates at 30mph signs – to hopefully effect a change in driver attitude on entering more built up area (See Somerset CC report)
* Keep existing 30mph signs place any gates in front
* Only have village name on gate at Halls Road/Wareham road junction
* Other gates – Please drive carefully – as those living outside the signs still live in the village and we did not want to create a division
* Gates to have bars directed towards the road to create an impression of narrowing

**Requirements:**

* Cost of gates and installation –
* Location agreed with DC
* Agreement from local landowners to encourage greater control of hedges in these areas to ensure gates can be seen

**Benefits**:

* Aim to slow down vehicles entering 30mph areas
* Create a visual impact for reason above
* Mark entrance to centre of village

Please read this report by Somerset CC and the associated links. This data reveals these can reduce accidents by 19% in these areas, but that there is also a significant physiological impact of these entrances on driver behaviour.

<https://www.trafficchoices.co.uk/somerset/traffic-schemes/village-gateway-signs-lines.shtml>

**Action:**

* This paper is advisory at present
* We are planning a meeting with DC’s officers to consider these areas
* Costs will then be established for a decision by LMPC