



# B.B.R.A.G.

## THE BROMLEY BOROUGH ROADS ACTION GROUP

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Committee Members: R.W.Lawson, M.J.Stilwell, P.Appleby, D. Andrews

To the Residents of Chislehurst

February 2008

### A Petition to Remove Speed Humps from Watts Lane and Manor Park Road

Dear Resident,

This letter explains why we have organised a petition to remove the speed humps from Watts Lane and Manor Park Road in Chislehurst, and invites you to support it. These speed humps were installed in the road in 1999, despite an inadequate and faulty public consultation. A small minority of residents and some local councillors supported the scheme on the basis of road safety fears, particularly affecting school children, despite the fact that there had been very few accidents in the road itself in prior years and none involving children.

Since then the disadvantages of speed humps have become more widely known. In reality they often cause accidents, increase air pollution and noise, inflict pain and suffering on people – particularly those suffering from certain medical conditions – and are generally disliked by road users. More information on speed humps and objections to them are available on our web site (or we can supply printed copies) at: [www.bromleytransport.org.uk/Humps.htm](http://www.bromleytransport.org.uk/Humps.htm) .

In addition the evidence is generally that if one takes into account traffic diversion to avoid humps, they also provide no benefit in terms of overall accident reduction. Indeed it is now 8 years since these particular humps were installed and the statistical evidence from an analysis of the accidents before and after the humps were installed is that there is no clear benefit whatsoever. A detailed paper that shows the evidence in full on this issue can be supplied if you need it.

As you may know, Bromley Council has adopted a policy of not installing any more speed hump schemes because of the evidence of the problems associated with them, their poor cost/benefit ratio and general public dislike. But they have not decided to remove any existing hump schemes. We are simply asking you to make clear that you would like these particular humps removed.

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Note that the cost to remove them would be relatively small so that is really not a valid objection to doing so. It is of course possible to install other road safety measures such as a zebra crossing that might improve road safety, or other traffic calming measures, particularly where a lot of pedestrians cross this road, but we believe that the speed humps could be removed without increasing the dangers to road users or pedestrians. The petition suggests that the council should replace the humps with other traffic calming measures if they consider it necessary to do so.

So if you want to stop the perpetual discomfort that all residents who drive over these humps have to suffer, please support this petition by signing the form and returning it. We have personally called on many residents in the local roads and have already obtained a great majority in favour of this proposal but we need your support also.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Lawson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Roger Lawson

Chairman

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