## Dorney Parish Council



3 Opendale Road Burnham SLY 7LY

07769704010

Dear Mr Tett,

As Chair of Dorney Parish Council, I am writing to you directly regarding a significant safety issue affecting our parish that I believe may be unique within Buckinghamshire, hence requiring a unique decision.

The matter at hand pertains to the very unfortunate incidents of animal-vehicle collisions occurring on Dorney Common. This area, where between 150 and 200 cattle graze, is intersected by the B3026, an unfenced road with a current speed limit of 60 mph.

Records confirm that 31 cows and calves have been killed in collisions with vehicles on Dorney Common in the 15 years between 2009 and 2023. To date this year, during the first two months of grazing, two more cows have been killed. These fatalities are not recorded by the police but involve sentient animals, like ourselves – and vehicles.

Our research indicates that this dangerous combination is, apparently, not replicated elsewhere in Buckinghamshire.

In light of this, Dorney Parish Council has taken the initiative to gather information from Hampshire County Council regarding their successful implementation of a speed limit reduction in 1990 within the New Forest, aimed at mitigating animal deaths (not human deaths) resulting from similar collisions.

Attached to this correspondence is a detailed proposal outlining our formal request to Buckinghamshire Council for approval of a speed limit reduction from 60 mph to 40 mph on roads traversing Dorney Common, with the objective of significantly reducing animal fatalities on these routes.

Drawing from the evidence provided by Hampshire County Council and the Verderers of the New Forest, we are of the opinion that an extensive and costly £10,000 speed limit change process is not warranted to effect this adjustment. We firmly believe that it can and should be implemented by Buckinghamshire Council promptly.

Our proposal is fully supported by Eton Town Council and the Dorney Commoners Management Committee.

Should you or your colleagues require any additional information to facilitate a decision on this pressing matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely, Jill Dax J.P. Chair, Dorney Parish Council Cc George Sandy, Buckinghamshire Councillor Paul Kelly, Buckinghamshire Councillor Kirsten Ashman, Buckinghamshire Councillor Joy Morrissey, M.P., Beaconsfield