

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE AND GROVE  
TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE BEACON,  
PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON THURSDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 2.30 P.M.**

Present:

Wantage Town Council	Councillors Mrs J Nunn-Price and S Trinder (part) and Ms S Thwaite.
Grove Parish Council	Councillors F Parnell, Mrs J Stock (Chairman) and I Weeden
Thames Valley Police County Council Officer	Mr C Hulme. Mr L Turner.
Deputy Clerk	Miss S Sanders.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Grove Parish Councillor R Pollock, District Councillor Mrs J Reynolds and County Councillors Mrs J Hannaby and Mrs Z Patrick.

**2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2018**

The minutes were approved and signed.

**4. Statements and Questions from the Public**

None.

**5. Matters Arising**

a) Update on pot holes in the Lime Tree Close/Hardwell Close area of Grove

The repairs had been satisfactorily carried out.

b) Update on local bus service no.38

Thames Travel had extended services on a trial basis to cover Charlton Road, Charlton Village Road, Harcourt Road and Harcourt Way. Timetables at the bus stops had not yet been updated. It was requested that consideration to be given to an additional bus stop in Denchworth Road, near the convent. **Action: Turner**

c) Update of parking enforcement and provision

The District Council was exploring whether it could take responsibility for on-street parking enforcement in the district.

d) VAS for Mill Street

Mr Turner reported that the VAS could fit onto the existing lamp post and was happy to proceed. He suggested a sign measuring 450mm should be considered. The Deputy Clerk will obtain a picture of the proposed VAS from Westcotec to refer to Mr Turner. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

e) Update on bus congestion in Wantage Market Place

A test to see if the lay-by by Nationwide Building Society could be used as a bus stop had been successful and would leave one bay available for disabled drivers' vehicles. It was agreed that three spaces for the vehicles for disabled drivers could be accommodated at the disused bus stop in Newbury Street. There would be a need to relocate the bus shelter elsewhere. It was felt that a bus dropping off space could be accommodated in front of TSB where passengers could alight from the bus. The bus could wait for an available space on the south side. Traffic orders would need to be consulted upon before progression to scheme. It was possible that the flower bed by Barclays Bank would need to be removed to enable a bus to manoeuvre. **Action: Turner**

f) Update on lack of bus stop flag at the bus stop by Fitzwaryn School

The bus flag is now in place. Bollards had been ordered to be placed adjacent to the bus stop to prevent cars parking on the hardstanding.

g) Update on request for an explanation about why not all marked potholes in roadway are not filled at the same time

This item was still being investigated.

h) Update on request for a crossing over Oxford Lane for school in North Drive

Mr Turner reported that funds were unavailable from the S106 fund for a crossing over Oxford Lane for the school in North Drive.

i) Mobility group update

The group had met at the fire station on 16 July and six people had attended. A reporter from the Wantage Herald was present. The next meeting was to be held on 23 October 2018. It was suggested that the sessions could be advertised in What's On in Wantage.

j) Update on bus stop area in Seesen Way

The bus stop in Seesen Way was marked as 'Buses Only' rather than local buses, meaning it was not illegal, but inconvenient for school coaches to park there. There were no other places for buses to park.

**6. Matters Referred by Grove Parish Council**

a) Maintenance of roundabouts at Mably Way

The roundabouts at Mably Way were full of vegetation and needed cutting back. They need to be low enough to enable vision in all directions. Mr Turner was to arrange for this to be done.

**Action: Turner**

b) Road works traffic lights malfunctioning

During recent roadworks at Grove Airfield it had been reported that the 3-way traffic lights were stuck on green. Mr Turner advised that it was the responsibility of the contractors and not Oxfordshire County Council. He also advised that there was a telephone number on the back of lights to contact in the event of a malfunction. Alternatively, Thames Valley Police should be contacted.

c) Other matters

Complaints had been received regarding loud noises from lorries using Springfield Road to access the building development at King Alfred's East Site. Mr Turner believed this to be noise from the heavy plant and machinery hitting the pot holes.

**7. Matters Referred by Wantage Town Council and others**

a) Traffic closures in and around Wantage and Grove

Item deferred.

b) New technical initiative at County towards potholes

Item deferred

c) Deep dive into potholes and other road issues update

Item deferred..

d) Report by Councillor Mrs Hannaby on visit to Grove and Wantage by County Highways Officer

Item deferred due to Councillor Mrs Hannaby's absence.

e) Complaints regarding diversions from road works A34

Complaints had been received regarding the disturbance from HGVs caused by diversions from the A34 through Wantage. Mr Turner advised that Highways England plan routes and these were intended to avoid developed areas.

f) Lorries damaging buildings on corner of Newbury Street/Market Place

It was reported that lorries had been damaging buildings on the corner of Newbury Street/Market Place. Mr Turner thought it was possible that missing bollards on the pavement might be the cause. The Deputy Clerk was to investigate.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

g) Speedwatch

This was not currently being taken forward by the Wantage West Police Neighbourhood Action Group.

**8. Principal Traffic Officer's Report**

The A338 at Grove Road/Seesen Way was to be resurfaced. Minor patching was currently being looked into. Denchworth Road had been resurfaced and the zebra crossing at Fitzwaryn School had been remarked.

**9. General Correspondence**

a) Illegal and inconsiderate parking in Church Street

A complaint had been received about illegally parked cars causing obstructions in Church Street. It was noted that this was not a police priority and civil enforcement will be the only way to improve.

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'Fix My Street'

The Deputy Clerk had informed Mr Turner that 'Fix My Street' did not appear to be functioning correctly. The website indicated that issues had been dealt with when no action had been taken. The Deputy Clerk had given Mr Turner an example for him to investigate. **Action: Turner**

**10. Dates of future meetings**

Next meeting: 17 January 2019 at 2.30pm.

The meeting closed at 15.48 pm.

SS/ME

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