

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE AND GROVE
TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE BEACON,
PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON THURSDAY, 16 JANUARY 2020 AT 2.30 P.M.**

Present:

Wantage Town Council	Councillors I Cameron and T Gilhome, and Ms S Thwaite.
Grove Parish Council	Councillors J Nunn-Price (part), F Parnell and J Stock (Chairman).
Oxfordshire County Council	Councillor J T Hannaby.
Thames Valley Police County Council Officers	C Hulme L Turner and S Dix
Deputy Clerk	S Sanders.
Others present	Seven members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019

The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Statements and Questions from the Public

Two members of the public raised concerns about the illegal parking in Newbury Street and Church Street preventing access to businesses and residential properties.

Councillor Nunn-Price arrived and joined the meeting.

A member of the public spoke about the number 38 bus only going round one way. Could the timetable be adjusted so that the route can be reversed? **Action: Nunn-Price**

Currently there were no safe crossings at Camel crossroads. No dropped kerbs. Mr Turner agreed to consider. **Action: Turner**

A letter from the Newbury Street Practice Patient Group had been received, requesting a bus stop near St Mary's convent on Denchworth Road. A suitable location had been previously identified, but funds were not available to implement this.

Two members of the public from Wantage Chamber of Commerce spoke about traffic ignoring traffic signs when entering the Market Place from Newbury Street and Wallingford Street.

Councillor Hannaby gave an update regarding Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE). A feasibility study had been carried out and a business case was being developed. Every traffic order had to be looked at and agreed, or maybe changed or removed. It was likely that the process would take two years. There was a cost implication. Wantage Town Council had offered to fund a PCSO but this had not been accepted by Thames Valley Police.

5. Matters Arising

- a) Update on VAS for Mill Street.
The Deputy Clerk reported that the installation of the VAS could not proceed due to new legislation brought in by Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions which does not allow signs to be less than 600mm. The intended site for the VAS was not able to accommodate this.
- b) Update regrading replacing bollards to avoid HGVs damaging buildings on the corner of Newbury Street/Market Place.
Three bollards had been received. Six more were to be ordered from County Councillor Hannaby's Priority Fund. **Action: Deputy Clerk**
- c) Update on enforcement actions relating to road conditions at new developments e.g King Alfred's East Site and Crab Hill.
Wheel washers had been used in the wrong place at the former King Alfred's East site causing mud to be transferred to the road. To be monitored.
- d) Update on problem of speeding vehicles entering 30mph road section in Ickleton Road from East Challow and obscuring of 30 mph sign.
The bushes obscuring the vision of the 30mph sign had been cut back.
- e) Update on meeting re cars parking inconsiderately.
A meeting between Mr Turner and Councillor Hannaby had not yet taken place. **Action: Hannaby/Turner**
- f) Update re crossing at Oxford Lane, Grove.
The crossing had been approved and was due to be installed in February.
- g) Update on complaints about the speed and the volume of traffic on the A338 between Main Street and Oxford Lane junctions causing noise nuisance for properties backing onto and facing the roadway. There is a particular problem with the noise caused by motorbikes in the evening.
A speed survey had been carried over 7 days. The average speeds were between 43 & 44 mph.- this is compliant with the speed limit of 50 mph. Higher speeds were recorded in the minority and therefore the road cannot qualify for 40mph speed restriction. It was felt the current speed limit of 50mph was realistic and appropriate.
- h) Update on Road Infrastructure (roundabouts near the Nelson Public House & hospital).
Mr Turner had no update regarding the suggestion that the double roundabouts were to become a single roundabout. **Action: Turner**
- i) Update on repairs by dragon patcher to Denchworth Road.
Work had been carried out.
- j) Update on Ickleton Road/Ham Road resurfacing.
Mr Turner had not received a response from his investigation into the disruption caused during the resurfacing. Residents had been told by the contractors that the diversion route was along Priory Road to Church Street (along a one-way road).

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- k) Update on re-marking of white lines at the Royal Oak crossroads.
There were currently no funds available to carry out the white line marking or provide an additional pedestrian crossing on the north side of the crossroads.
- l) Update on request for restrictions to prevent HGVs entering the section of Newbury Street from the Royal Oak crossroads.
Mr Turner reported that the signs were adequate.
- m) Update on bus stops, including provision of new bus stop in the Wantage Market Place.
The scheme had been approved and will be operational by the end of the financial year.
- n) Update on suitability of signage for vehicles entering Market Place from Newbury Street (vehicles observed travelling along the wrong way on the one-way system in Market Place).
White lines were to be re-marked. Signage was to be looked at in the new financial year along with the Royal Oak traffic scheme/layout.
- o) Update on traffic hold ups arising from buses using stops in Grove Road as staging points for driver changes.
The bus operator (Stagecoach) agreed to change the timing point. It will now take place at Mandhill Close, Grove.
- p) Update on requests for bollards adjacent to post box by Costcutter in Wallingford Street to prevent vehicles parking too close Post Office Lane access and obstructing sight lines for vehicles exiting Post Office Lane.

Wantage Town Council had agreed not to support this request.

- q) Update on request for resurfacing on Chain Hill – Viewed as dangerous for two-wheel transport.

Patching of the road was to be carried out before the end of the financial year (2019/20).
Resurfacing was to be carried out during the next financial year (2020/21).
- r) Update on request for traffic calming measures to reduce speed of vehicles entering Ormond Road from Wallingford Street.
Mr Turner to investigate **Action: Turner**
- s) Update on overgrown trees at Chain Hill Cemetery.
Councillor Hannaby had not yet contacted Ms Buckley at Oxfordshire County Council.
Action: Hannaby
- t) Update on foliage near Fitzwaryn School, Denchworth Road
Councillor Hannaby had not yet contacted Ms Buckley at Oxfordshire County Council.
Action: Hannaby

6. Matters Referred by Grove Parish Council

None.

7. Matters Referred by Wantage Town Council and others

Ms Thwaite gave a list of requested kerbs to be dropped to Mr Turner.

Action: Turner

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8. Principal Traffic Officer's Report

There was nothing additional to report. Reporting had been made throughout the duration of the meeting.

9. General Correspondence

None.

10. Dates of future meetings

16 April 2020.

The meeting closed at 4.07.pm

SS