

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE AND GROVE TRAFFIC ADVISORY
COMMITTEE HELD REMOTELY AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM, ON
THURSDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER, AT 2.30 P.M.**

Present:

Wantage Town Council	Councillors I Cameron, T Gilhome, and S Thwaite (part)
Grove Parish Council	Councillors F Parnell and J Stock (chairman)
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	Councillor J T Hannaby
Thames Valley Police (TVP)	C Hulme
County Council Officer (OCC)	L Turner M Francis
Deputy Clerk	S Sanders
Others present	Two members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

2. To receive any declaration of pecuniary interests.

None

3. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Councillor Hannaby

SECONDED BY Councillor Cameron

IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Stock be Chairman for the ensuing year.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Councillor Stock

SECONDED BY Councillor Cameron

IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Hannaby be Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2021

The minutes were approved

5. Statements and questions from the public.

None.

6. Matters arising from the previous minutes:

a) Update on road conditions at new developments

There was no update. It was agreed the item can be removed from the agenda.

b) Update on strengthening signage etc, to stop vehicles from entering Market Place from Newbury Street – installation of illuminated bollards

The illuminated bollards were due to be installed by the end of the current week.

- c) Update on request for dropped kerbs in various locations – including a new request at Mill Street/Limborough Close junction.

The dropped crossings at Mill Street/Limborough Close have been installed with an additional individual crossing point opposite Wessex Flour Mill. A further five pairs of crossings and one individual drop at Winchester Way/Stockham Park have been ordered.

- d) Update regarding Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE)

CPE is on track to be implemented on 1st November 2021. A document detailing the latest information had been circulated to members of the committee prior to the meeting. It was noted that for the first two months a warning will be given without a fine.

- e) Update on speed restrictions in Wantage and Grove – 20mph speed limit in all built up areas

A report is due to go to The Cabinet on 16 September 2021, following this all parish councils will be contacted and asked if they would like to participate in the initiative.

- f) Update on speed of traffic on A417 near King Alfred's school (West Site)

A replacement VAS (vehicle Activated Sign) has been ordered for Main Street, East Challow. After S238 works have been completed on the carriageway and footways, a speed survey will be carried out and discussions will take place regarding how to move forward.

- g) Update on suitability of access for mobility scooters and wheelchairs to the East Gate site, Springfield Road by the footway connecting to Charlton Road.

It was noted that the land has not been adopted by Highways. The issue had been raised with planning enforcement at the District Council. Councillor Hannaby agreed to follow this up.

Action: Hannaby

- h) Update on school buses parking on Portway and Seesen Way

There was no update regarding the legal agreement required to enable a parking area at Wantage Leisure Centre. It was agreed that a letter was to be written King Alfred's Academy/Wantage Football Club to get an update.

Action: Deputy Clerk

- i) Update on request for a safe crossing to access the new sports field (Denchworth Road)

The Deputy Clerk was to re-send the approved drawings from the Road Agreements Team, provided by Mr Turner, detailing three separate uncontrolled crossings to all committee members.

Action: Deputy Clerk

- j) Update on loose manhole covers in Wallingford Street and Portway

The loose manhole covers in Wallingford Street were reported in January 2021 by an OCC officer. A record of this could not be found by the contractor who had been issued the works order. The work required is being priced and the issue escalated to management because of the delay involved. The loose manhole covers in Portway were the responsibility of British Telecom. An S81 notice had been issued by OCC for the repair to be carried out.

- k) Update on potholes – Mill Street

It was reported that there are several potholes on Mill Street that need repairing. These were to be reported to Highways and requested that this issue is put on the Highways Assessment Maintenance Programme (HAMP).

Action: Deputy Clerk

1) Update regarding improvements to signage near Charlton Primary School

Further to investigations regarding signage, funds from OCC had become available to install a crossing. Speed surveys will be carried out to ascertain what the most appropriate crossing would be for the area. The timescale for the works was not known.

7. **Matters referred by Grove Parish Council**

a) Markings on paths around Grove (reading TX2)

It was not known what the markings were. Mr Francis was to investigate.

Action: Francis

b) Speed of traffic – Mayfield Avenue

Grove Parish Council have considered the purchase of three SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices). The Deputy Clerk was to forward Mr Francis' contact details to the Clerk of Grove Parish Council so further discussions could be had.

Action: Deputy Clerk

c) Raised utility cover – Mayfield Avenue

Mr Francis was to investigate the issue.

Action: Francis

d) Problems with footpath from the aeroplane at Denchworth Road to Recreation Lane

It was noted that the work was still in progress but there were concerns that the new footway is not continuous resulting in pedestrians having to cross the road twice. Councillor Hannaby was to contact the Road Agreements team.

Action: Hannaby

e) Blocked Drains

It was noted that several drains were blocked around Grove. The problem areas should be reported to Fix My Street.

Action: Chairman

8. **Matters referred by Wantage Town Council and others**

a) Cycle Track from Lark Hill to Lockinge

It was noted that the Ramblers Vale Path Volunteers had cut back the foliage. It was hoped that Oxfordshire County Council would use their funds to start work to extend the track to link with Harwell.

b) Installation of benches – Charlton Village Road and Mably Way

Mr Francis to meet with Wantage Town Council to authorise the installation in the locations identified.

Action: Deputy Clerk

c) Update on temporary pedestrianised area (western end of Market Place)

It was reported that technical work was being carried out by a highway consultant to address issues around the current road layout to enable a permanent pedestrianised area. Councillor Hannaby was to contact OCC about extending the TTRO, if required, which is due to end in January 2022.

Action: Hannaby

d) Maintenance to roundabouts Mably Way

Overgrown vegetation on the roundabouts was causing visibility issues. Mr Francis to issue an order for work to be carried out. **Action: Francis**

e) Ickleton Road – speed data from VAS

Following concerns from a resident of Ickleton Road about the speed of traffic entering the 30 mph zone, data was downloaded from the VAS. The data showed a mean speed of 30 mph which Chris Hulme said showed very good compliance.

f) Parking issues Haven Vale

A resident of Haven Vale had requested parking restrictions to be implemented. It was determined that the road was owned by Sovereign Housing, not a public highway and therefore not the responsibility of OCC.

9. Principal Traffic Officer's Report

There was nothing further to report.

10. General Correspondence

None.

11. Date of Future Meetings:

13 January 2022

The meeting closed at 3.50 pm.
