

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE AND GROVE TRAFFIC ADVISORY
COMMITTEE HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON
THURSDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 2.30 P.M.**

Present:

Wantage Town Council: Councillors I R Cameron, T Gilhome, JT Hannaby (vice chairman) and S Thwaite

Grove Parish Council: Councillors R Ackers and R Batstone

Thames Valley Police (TVP): C Hulme

Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

Others present: Two members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor J Stock (chairman), Councillor F Parnell, and L Turner of Oxfordshire County Council (OCC). In the absence of Councillor Stock, Councillor Hannaby was chairman for the meeting.

2. To receive any declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests.

None

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2022

The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Statements and questions from the public.

None.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes:

a) Update on installation of dropped kerbs in various locations

Dropped kerb installation had been agreed at the following locations: Denchworth Road (either side of Marns Hey), Newbury Street (outside Blue Boar), Mill Street (opposite the Mill), Charlton Village Road (across Aldworth Avenue), Charlton Village Road (across Barnards Way), Winchester Way/Stockham Park, Little Lane (off Seesen Way). The work was due to begin shortly.

b) Update on 20's Plenty Scheme

The scheme implementation was programmed for January/February 2023. The signing and Traffic Order would be provided free of charge. First draft of proposals completed 28 September for internal officer review.

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

The Road Agreements Team (OCC) were still in discussion with East Challow Parish Council about installing SIDs in the area. There was no update.

d) Springfield Road by the footway connecting to Charlton Road (planning application P21/V3349/FUL)

The developers agreed to provide a levelled access. Amended plans were to be submitted and a consultation would take place.

- e) Update on request for HAMP (Highways Assessment Maintenance Programme) – Mill Street
- A full service treatment maintenance for Mill Street was due to commence on 18 October 2022. An evening closure will be put in place for 4 working days. Communication with the Wessex Mill and the Lamb Inn PH have been made. A letter in relation to the works will be issued to all residents affected week commencing 3 October along with advance warning signs being erected at the location. Remedial works will start at the Camel Crossroads double roundabout on the first evening and will progress down through Mill Street on the second evening onwards.
- f) Update on installation of a crossing near Charlton Primary School
- A consultation had been carried out by OCC. There had been 36 responses in support, 1 objection and 4 concerns. The decision was due to be made on 17 November by the CDM (Cabinet Decision Members).
- g) Raised utility cover – Mayfield Avenue
- The works have been completed. The protruding Thames Water inspection chamber cover was now level with the carriageway surface and areas of surface deterioration near the cover had been addressed under a full road closure on 14 September 2022.
- h) Update on cycle track from Lark Hill to Lockinge
- The design had not yet been created.
- i) Update on signage into the Market Place from Mill Street to stop vehicles from turning right
- The keep left bollard had been ordered and was due to be installed on 20 October 2022.
- j) Update on request for a controlled pedestrian crossing near Fitzwaryn School (upgrade to existing)
- The request cannot be progressed at the present time as there was no budget or design resource available. OCC (traffic south) currently had many other funded schemes in the queue for delivery. An agency technical officer (schemes) was due to start working on the backlog of schemes. It was noted that Fitzwaryn School could investigate raising funds and that some of the County Councillors' Priority Fund could be used. However an estimated cost for the works had not yet been provided. **Action: Turner**
- k) Update on request for a pedestrian crossing at Ham Road (Hamfield to Locks Lane)
- The request cannot be progressed at the present time as there was no budget or design resource available.
- l) Update on request for a pedestrian crossing at Mably Way (near entrance to footpath 13)
- The request cannot be progressed at the present time as there was no budget or design resource available.
- m) Update on speed of traffic Charlton Road – speed survey and repair to existing VAS
- Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) was working, there was an electric supply issue which had now been fixed. A speed survey recently carried out by OCC had shown that there was good compliance with the speed limit. The median speeds in both directions at both locations were in the region of 25- 26 mph.

- n) Buses stopping on Zebra Crossings to pick up and set down passengers Pelican & Puffin Pedestrian Crossing Regulations 1997

A member of the public had raised a question at the last meeting regarding buses picking up and setting down. It was noted that buses were permitted to stop on the zig zags on the departure side of a Zebra crossing. If they were stopping on the approach zig zags then this should be referred to TVP.

6. Matters referred by Grove Parish Council

- a) Issues with traffic passing on Mill Street (narrow road)

There was no scope to widen the carriageway whilst retaining footways. Wessex Mill was due to close so there may be scope to alter the HGV restrictions. OCC Parking Team was proposing to amend the existing yellow lines to further restrict parking (Market Place end) and legalise some of the parking that takes place further down.

- b) Traffic lights on Mably Way roundabout (Downsview Road end)

Concerns about traffic lights on timer and not on demand, resulting in vehicles waiting while no vehicles passed. It was noted that issues relating to traffic management should be reported to Fix my Street.

- c) No corridor fencing present to protect pedestrians while Openreach carryout cabling work

It was noted that issues relating to highway and footway safety should be reported to Fix my Street.

- d) Anti-social behaviour including e scooters and nuisance from drivers racing etc

It was noted that issues relating to anti-social behaviour should be reported to TVP.

- e) Dropped Kerb Market Place/Newbury Street blocked by beer barrels

It was noted that issues relating to highway and footway safety should be reported to Fix my Street.

- f) Diversion Sign (near MacDermid, Grove Road) blocking footway

It was noted that issues relating to highway and footway safety should be reported to Fix my Street.

7. Matters referred by Wantage Town Council and others

- a) Request for SIDs in Ormond Road/Grove Road/Charlton Road

Wantage Town Council to consider the purchase of SIDs and advise OCC of proposed sites which would then be assessed for suitability. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

- b) Drainage issues in Charlton Village Road

OCC had recently reacted/resolved enquiries received via Fix my Street reports in relation to drainage on Charlton Village Road. A new report had come in 23 September which appeared to be an isolated blockage and works will be raised accordingly following a site investigation.

8. Principal Traffic Officer's Report

There was nothing further to report.

9. General Correspondence

None.

10. Date of Future Meeting:

12 January 2023

The meeting closed at 3.40 pm
