

Witney Traffic Advisory Committee



Tuesday, 11th January, 2022 at 2.30 pm

To members of the Witney Traffic Advisory Committee - H Eaglestone, D Enright, M Johnson, C Hulme, J King, J Aitman, L Duncan, A Coles, T Fenton, K Hickman, A Lyon, A Prosser and M Upton (and all other Town Councillors for information).

You are hereby summonsed to the above meeting to be held in the **Virtual Meeting Room via Zoom** for the transaction of the business stated in the agenda below.

Admission to Meetings

Witney Traffic Advisory Committee is administered by Witney Town Council. Admission to this Advisory Committee is by invitation only.

Zoom login details of this meeting will be circulated to members and attendees prior to the meeting.

Recording of Meetings

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 the council's public meetings may be recorded, which includes filming, audio-recording as well as photography.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Town Clerk or Democratic Services Officer know before the start of the meeting.

Agenda

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive and consider apologies for absence.

2. **Public Participation**

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting. Any member of the public who so wishes may speak, at this point in the meeting, for a **maximum of five minutes** on any matter relating to an item on the agenda.

3. **MINUTES**

a) To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2021 (copy enclosed) (Pages 3 - 10)

b) Matters arising from the Minutes not covered in the Action Plan or subsequent items

4. **Action Plan** (Pages 11 - 14)

To review the current action plan. (enclosed)

5. **Climate Emergency**

This is a standing item on the agenda to discuss how the Committee might support the Town Council, which has declared a Climate Emergency.

6. **Report of the Principal Officer - Traffic Schemes Area Operations (North) - Oxfordshire County Council** (Pages 15 - 20)

To receive and consider the report of the Principal Officer – Traffic Schemes Area Operations (North)

7. **Items Submitted to the Town Clerk**

To receive any traffic or highway related correspondence submitted to the Town Clerk since the last meeting.

a) Tower Hill Roundabout (Pages 21 - 22)

To consider correspondence from a resident regarding safety concerns at the roundabout on Tower Hill.

b) Curbridge Road Traffic Issues (Pages 23 - 24)

To consider correspondence from the Richmond Witney Residents Association.

c) Pedestrian Safety Concerns in High Street (Pages 25 - 26)

To consider correspondence from a resident regarding pedestrian safety, following the vehicle restrictions in High Street.

8. **Items Raised at the Meeting**

To receive and consider any pressing matters from members which may be added to the next meeting agenda for consideration.

9. **Date of the Next meeting(s)**

To note that the next meeting of Witney Traffic Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday 22 March 2022 commencing at 2.30pm.



Town Clerk

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3a

WITNEY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 28 September 2021

At 2.30 pm in the Virtual Meeting Room via Zoom

Present:

Councillor A Coles (Chair)

Councillors:	A Prosser	J Aitman
	T Fenton	Oxfordshire County Council
	D Enright	Oxfordshire County Council
	H Eaglestone	West Oxfordshire District Council
	M Johnson	West Oxfordshire District Council
Others:	T Bayliss	Stagecoach Oxfordshire
	K Hickman	Windrush Bike Project
	A Lyon	West Oxfordshire Comm Transport
	D Miles	Parish Transport Representative
Officers:	Adam Clapton	Witney Town Council
	Claire Green	Witney Town Council
	Odele Parsons	Oxfordshire County Council
	Kim Sutherland	Oxfordshire County Council
	James Wright	Oxfordshire County Council
	Will Barton	West Oxfordshire District Council
Others:	5 members of the public.	

T799 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Nominations were sought for the position of Chair for the municipal year.

It was proposed and duly seconded that Cllr Andrew Coles be elected Chair. There being no other nominations it was:

Resolved:

That, Cllr Andrew Coles be elected Chair of the Committee for the municipal year.

T800 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Liz Duncan, Chris Hulme from Thames Valley Police, Mark Upton from the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind and Maria Wheatley from West Oxfordshire District Council.

T801 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Committee adjourned for Public Participation.

Jan Van de Helvang addressed the Committee concerning agenda item 10 on behalf of the Windrush Valley Traffic Action Group (WiVTAG).

Richard Stevens & Rae Cather addressed the Committee concerning agenda item 11 on behalf of residents of Church Green, Witney.

Charlotte Tremain addressed the Committee at a later juncture concerning agenda item 12 (d).

T802 **SCHOOL STREETS - CHURCH GREEN**

The Committee received and considered documentation from residents of Church Green, Witney concerning potential options to increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Members welcomed the document and praised the residents on the professionalism and scope of the options presented. The suggestions were sensible, would amend the current access and make the area a safer, less noisy and less polluted place for residents and schoolchildren. The Committee heard that the document was not necessarily setting out solutions; these were what had emerged from what residents had said and was open for discussion.

It was agreed there was scope for these proposals to be considered as part of the County Council's developing LCWIP. In addition, there were further possibilities to interact with other immediate areas such as Corn Street and the Market Place.

Resolved:

That, County Council officers consider the suggestions included within the document provided by residents and report back to the next meeting.

T803 **BURFORD A361 - EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (ETRO)**

The Committee had received an update on the Burford A361 ETRO scheme through public participation which was reiterated by the Chair.

Members heard the County Council had agreed to continue with the Order until January 2022 and were engaging with parishes and gathering as much data as possible to make an informed decision at that time. Further information was needed on air quality, which was already poor in the Bridge Street area. Upcoming traffic surveys, with traffic nearing pre-covid levels, might offer more evidence.

The Committee agreed that the interim data in June had shown an impact on areas of Witney and it re-affirmed its earlier resolution to continue asking that the order be withdrawn and alternative options explored.

Resolved:

1. That, the update on the Burford A361 ETRO be noted, and

2. That, Witney Traffic Advisory Committee supports the cessation of the order at the earliest opportunity, and
3. That, Witney Town Council considers re-affirming support for the Windrush Valley Traffic Action Group through its committee process.

T804 **TO ADOPT AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JUNE 2021**

Resolved:

That, the minutes of the Witney Traffic Advisory Committee held on 8 June 2021 be approved and signed by the Chair.

T805 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED IN THE ACTION PLAN OR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS**

T795 – Hailey Road/Farmers Close Safety Concerns – A member advised that the hedge in this area which was hindering visibility had been cut down since the last meeting which had been welcomed by residents.

There were no further matters arising from the minutes of 8 June 2021.

T806 **ACTION PLAN**

The Chair advised several issues were covered under later agenda items.

T762 – Ducklington roundabout – The Chair advised he would look at this issue with officers and the County Councillor for Ducklington before the next meeting. Ducklington Parish Council had also been active on this issue and discussions on the potential installation of barriers had not been successful due to safety concerns.

T807 **WITNEY HIGH STREET - SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES**

The Committee received a verbal update on the Witney High Street social distancing measures from the District Council's Business Development Officer.

Members were advised that a public survey, run by the District Council had taken place and the responses on how to move forward with the measures were split. Options would be prepared and debated at the District Council in the coming weeks and would include, continuing the current measures until January, keeping the measures without walking barriers in the road, or supporting the County Council on more permanent restrictions.

Members were asked their thoughts and the consensus was that the restrictions had made shoppers feel safer and less polluting environment. A shift had been made towards walking, cycling and improving pedestrian access and that business had not suffered due to the lack of thru traffic. There was optimism that permanent restrictions could help breathe new life into the town centre. Comments made from the public on reduced footfall did not seem to be borne out by the evidence.

There was some concern in recent weeks, due to an improving national situation, that restrictions were being adhered to less than they were and if permanent measures were to

remain, the Corn Street/High Street junction would need to be re-considered and the planters may need to be relocated further down the road in the interests of safety. There would also need to be some thought given to enforcement of any new regulations.

The Committee also discussed how the future of the town centre could be looked at as a whole, all three tiers of local government were stakeholders on how to bring about improvements.

Resolved:

That, the verbal update provided by West Oxfordshire District Council's Business Development Officer be noted.

T808 WOODSTOCK ROAD - TRAFFIC ISSUES

The Committee received and considered correspondence from a resident of Woodstock Road concerning road safety.

Members were sympathetic to the concerns and were disappointed no reply had been received from Thames Valley Police who were responsible for traffic speed enforcement. County Council officers were asked if the epicormic growth at the zebra crossing could be looked into and members agreed this area could be considered as an area of interest for Community Speedwatch.

The Town Council was supporting 20mph zones and the County Council were taking the lead, but enforcement would be an ongoing issue without speed cameras and required resources from the police.

Resolved:

1. That, the resident correspondence be noted, and
2. That, the Town Council writes to Thames Valley Police on behalf of this committee regarding the speeding issue in Woodstock Road and lack of response thus far, and,
3. That, County Council officers investigate the visibility around the zebra crossing adjacent to Wood Green School, and
4. That, this area be referred to the Community Speedwatch task and finish group.

T809 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The committee was notified of bi-annual reports and regular bulletins which are issued to residents from West Oxfordshire District Council containing the latest climate updates.

Resolved:

That, the climate update reports provided by West Oxfordshire District Council be noted.

T810 **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER - TRAFFIC SCHEMES AREA OPERATIONS (NORTH) - OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Committee received and considered the report of the Principal Officer concerning updates on several projects underway in Witney.

Members were updated on the Active Travel scheme which was nearing the completion of its implementation. It was still early days and several snagging issues on lining and positioning of 20mph signs would be addressed as soon as possible. The exit from Corndell Gardens would also be investigated further. Members were advised that lighting near to the Town Council's allotments would be considered moving forward into the next funding phase to improve safety.

Further updates were provided on the Windrush Bike Project Barriers Report, Windrush Place s106 contributions, Public Transport at Centenary Way, the emerging Local Transport Connectivity Plan, and the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. A planning application was expected early in 2022 in relation to the Shores Green junction. To implement a Low Traffic Neighbourhood Scheme at Burwell, members were advised traffic surveys would need to be undertaken and the County Council had no budget in place for this. Usually carried out through numberplate recognition, there was discussion on whether volunteers could be used to carry this out but it was agreed there would need to be some end product.

Resolved:

1. That, the report be noted; and,
2. County Council Officers carry out a road safety visit on exiting Corndell Gardens; and,
3. That, options on a traffic survey at Burwell are brought back to the next meeting – whether it could be included as part of the LCWIP; and,
4. Whether volunteers could be used to carry out traffic surveys.

T811 **COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

The Committee received and considered the report and an update bulletin concerning Community Speedwatch.

The Chair advised that progress on the project had been slow but there were offers of funding for the equipment and several areas of interest had already been identified.

It was agreed that a task and finish group should be established to progress the project between the quarterly meetings of this committee to avoid further delay.

Resolved:

1. That, the report and Speedwatch Bulletin be noted, and
2. That, a Task & Finish Group of this Committee be established to progress the project consisting of Cllr Andrew Coles, Cllr Joy Aitman, Cllr Ted Fenton, Cllr Mark Johnson and Chris Hulme (TVP).

T812 SAFETY CONCERNS - WEST END, WITNEY

The Committee received and considered correspondence from a resident of West End concerning road safety.

County Council Officers advised they had already looked at the issues of concern, including accident data on this stretch. While there were no direct funds to address these immediately, the developing Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan would address issues raised and it was possible a 20mph speed limit may be extended into this area in the future. In addition, the committee agreed this area should be looked at by the Community Speedwatch task and finish group.

Resolved:

1. That, the resident correspondence be noted, and
2. That, the response from Oxfordshire County Council officers on this issue be noted, showing both mid and long-term solutions, and
3. That, this are be referred to the Community Speedwatch task and finish group as an area of interest.

T813 ROAD SURFACING ISSUES

The Committee received correspondence from a resident of Chestnut Close/Vanner Road concerning the deterioration of the road surfaces there.

Members were advised by County Council Officers that there was a very limited budget for road repairs which was stretched; areas had to be prioritised on safety. There was sadly no current capacity to carry out repairs of a lesser nature.

Resolved:

1. That, the resident correspondence be noted.

T814 VERGE PARKING IN DANGEROUS LOCATIONS

The committee received correspondence from Cllr Enright concerning verge parking at dangerous locations including Crawley Road and Madley Park.

Members agreed this was a problem, emanating from the growth of Witney and the number of car users in each household. There was a possibility posts or planters could be installed in these areas, possibly funded from Councillor Priority Funds, but it was felt this might exacerbate the problem by shifting it to other areas.

The consensus was that residents and members should continue to contact the police and the committee would write to Thames Valley Police stressing the problem.

Resolved:

1. That, the correspondence from Cllr Enright be noted, and

2. That, the Committee contacts the police regarding the issue.

T815 ITEMS RAISED AT THE MEETING

A member brought an active County Council parking consultation at Avenue Two, Station Lane to members' attention. The Proposal, tied to an adjacent planning application being considered by the District Council would introduce no parking along the road leading to Witney Lake & Country Park. Members agreed on opposition to this proposal as the County Council policy was to promote walking and cycling and this appeared to be a step in the wrong direction, the area providing disabled, pedestrian and cycling access to this important amenity and beyond.

A member raised road surfacing at Edington Road on the Deer park estate and asked that if Valence Crescent was being re-surfaced, that the top area of this road was included.

Resolved:

That, the Town Council writes to oppose this consultation on behalf of this committee.

T816 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING(S)

Members were advised the next scheduled meeting of this committee would be on 11th January 2022.

Members were generally in favour of making this an in-person meeting but asked whether there was a possibility of holding this in a hybrid way, perhaps even at the District Council Offices. The Town Council hoped to be able to hold hybrid meetings in the future, but it was unlikely this would be available from January.

Resolved:

1. That, the date of the next meeting be noted, and
2. That, this meeting should be held in person subject to any restrictions pertaining to, or prevalence of the Covid-19 virus.

The meeting closed at: 4.42 pm

Chair

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Minute no.	Issue	Action	Responsible person	Further Action	Date complete
T700	Problems with ‘Baffle Barriers’ for mobility scooters	Kevin Hickman has now submitted comprehensive review doc to WTC. Only one barrier was owned by WODC. None were WTC’s. Others either private developers or OCC.	Odele Parsons	On the OCC work plan for the new financial year.	
T700	Shores Green Junction	Preliminary surveys complete; topographical surveys due later this month; engagement taking place with utilities; initial strategic and local traffic modelling complete; 3 short listed option to be assessed further; Scheduled to meet East Witney SDA developers mid October; view to public consultation in late 202/early 2021	Mike Wasley/Odele Parsons	Further consultation to be held during the summer.	
T700	Request for yellow lines at Compton Way and Judds Close	Ongoing issue. County Councillors looking into funding for this.	Mike Wasley	A consultation on yellow lines at Compton Way and Judd’s Close had taken place and a report was being presented to an OCC Committee in April.	
T760	Parking at top end of Corn Street	Members to look into how this could be alleviated, with the active travel coming on line.	All members	Still causing access problems, particularly for buses, and West Oxfordshire District Council looking at increased enforcement.	

T762	Concerns on Ducklington Roundabout	Members to look into possibly dangerous issues on Ducklington roundabout	All members	Ducklington PC had raised ongoing concerns regarding the operation of the roundabout following new development in the vicinity. Pedestrian/cycle safety was an issue and the bus stop had been moved.	
T781	McDonalds/Tesco Express/Pure Gym service road, Ducklington Lane	That a meeting is held between interested party's (including the police and Chair) to see if anything further can be done in this vicinity concerning traffic build up in Ducklington Lane.		Meeting has yet to be held but relaxation of coronavirus restrictions may improve the situation. The problem seems to have been better in recent weeks.	
T782	Holloway Road – Traffic Calming	That a meeting is held with a resident to understand the issues in the road.		Councillor Cole has visited the site and would continue to liaise with TVP.	
T794	Low Traffic Neighbourhood – Burwell Meadow	Request from residents for an LTN at Burwell Meadow.		Matter be discussed further by officers and added to the list of sites for Community Speedwatch.	
T795	Hailey Road/Farmers Close – Safety Concerns	Concerns around a number of safety issues	Odele Parsons	OCC officers to investigate.	
T796	West Witney – Deer Park Speed Limit	Concerns on speeding particularly at night.	Community Speedwatch Task & Finish Group	The site to be added to the Community Speedwatch list and other issues considered by OCC.	

Witney TAC – Action Plan

T802	School Streets – Church Green	Documentation from residents of Church Green, Witney concerning potential options to increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists	Odele Parsons	County Council officers to consider the suggestions included within the document provided by residents and report back.	
T808	Woodstock Road	Correspondence from a resident of Woodstock Road concerning road safety.	OCC/Community Speedwatch Task & Finish Group	Write to TVP about concerns. OCC officers to look at Zebra crossing visibility. Community speedwatch site.	

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Oxfordshire County Council Infrastructure Locality Team and Traffic & Road Safety Team Update to Witney TAC

January 2022

1. Infrastructure Locality Team Update – contact Odele Parsons/Kim Sutherland

1.1 Witney Active Travel scheme

The shared space at Corn Street was approved by CMD 14 October 2021. Snagging has been completed throughout November and December and seeking resolution of all issues as they arise.

New monitoring sensors have been installed and will be used to monitor volumes of pedestrians and cyclists.

The engineer has reviewed and reports that the active travel scheme hasn't altered the visibility exiting from Corndell Gardens to Corn Street.

1.2 Windrush Bike Project Barriers Report

A brief has been written based on the report produced by Windrush Bike Project and an officer site visit. This is with the traffic and road safety team who have identified some budget through their Road Safety and Accessibility Fund to contribute to delivering this work. They will assess what needs doing against the budget they have and suggest actions to be prioritised.

1.3 Windrush Place S106 West Witney

Engineers have now reviewed and provided high level costs for the different walking and cycling schemes proposed to connect Windrush Place to other key areas of Witney. As expected, the cost estimates exceed the available budget of £280,000 from developer funding S106.

It has been agreed with the Local Member to prioritise:

- Pedestrian crossing at Deer Park Road close to the Curbridge Road/Thorney Leys roundabout.
- Pedestrian crossing at Deer Park Road south of Range Road on the desire line of the bridleway from Windrush Place.
- Upgrade of the bridleway from Windrush Place through the nature reserve to Deer Park Road.

1.4 Witney Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

The Active Travel Board approved the Witney LCWIP Scoping Report setting the geographic scope as informed by the Steering Group. Consultancy support in preparing and writing the LCWIP is being sought utilising the DfT Capability funding. Officers have found the information gained from the Steering Group to be invaluable, with a further meeting planned for 20 January which will focus on the network planning and audit criteria. Provisionally, the plan will be approved by Cabinet in October 2022.

Progress will be reported to TAC, however, if there are members of TAC who would like to join the LCWIP steering group please contact odele.parsons@oxfordshire.gov.uk and we will add you to the list.

1.5 A40/B4022 Shores Green, Access to Witney

A report "Access to Witney Engagement report June 2021" has been published summarising the responses from the optioneering and feasibility design consultation held in May 2021. These responses will inform the preliminary design phase which has now commenced and nearing completion (March 2022).

In July 2021 Cabinet approved in principle the use of compulsory purchase order (CPO) powers to acquire the land required for the scheme, and also approved the preferred option.

The preparation of final drafts of the Environmental Impact Assessment as part of Planning Application is underway for submission in early 2022, as part of an overall programme to reach scheme completion by the end of 2023.

The procurement of Detailed Design consultant is being progressed with OCC internal teams to award contract in early 2022.

Please direct any queries to a40corridor@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Please see webpage [A40 Access to Witney | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

1.6 High Street, Witney

The proposal to make permanent the prohibition of motor vehicles and conversion of general parking to blue badge parking was approved by Cabinet Member Decisions 16 December 2021. Design work will commence in 2022 to make the signage clearer, remove the planters and replace with a more functional point restriction, improve the accessibility of the blue badge parking bays, and look to improve and provide dedicated areas for loading/unloading. Going forward we will engage further, particularly frontage businesses and the bus operators, to help inform the design stage.

OCC is awaiting the outcome of the Active Travel Tranche 3 bid to Department for Transport.

1.7 Emerging Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP)

The LTCP and supporting strategies for Freight, Active Travel and Innovation were endorsed by OCC Cabinet for public consultation on the 19th October 2021. The consultation will run from the 5th January to 16th March 2022 and is hosted on the council's Let's Talk Oxfordshire webpage. Members of the TAC are invited to respond to the consultation and provide any feedback on the draft LTCP and supporting strategies to help shape them before they are presented for adoption by the County Council in summer 2022.

The LTCP will be supported by a set of place based area and corridor strategies. These will outline how the LTCP vision and policies are delivered in locations across the county. The LTCP area and corridor strategies will be produced as a 'part 2' in 2022, following adoption of the main document. Further engagement work will be conducted on these in due course. The approach and strategies for development are included in the LTCP document.

1.8 LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD (LTN) - BURWELL MEADOW

We suggest that the concept of an LTN at Burwell Meadow is consider further in the Witney LCWIP and potentially the emerging Witney Area Transport Strategy during 2022.

We would not recommend volunteers carry out traffic surveys due to the potential errors in the data and health and safety issues of working close to the highway.

In the meantime, Cllr Fenton (County Councillor for the Burwell Meadow area) suggests the following which have been passed to the Traffic Team:

- A 20 mph speed limit
- "SLOW" markings in the road where the S bend is towards the Thorney Leys end of the road
- A Playing Field warning sign either side of the point where the path to the sports field crosses the road
- Potentially, traffic calming measures (not universally popular with all residents – suspension considerations)

1.9 Public Transport via Centenary Way at Windrush Place

Discussions are ongoing with the developers of Windrush Place to establish a bus service onto the development as soon as reasonably practicable. Bus stops are being installed in their agreed locations, but the Council and Stagecoach await the removal of speed humps which will cause discomfort to bus users and increase journey times between Carterton and Witney. It is hoped that a resolution to this matter will be forthcoming in the near future so that services can commence.

1.10 Burford Experimental Weight Restriction

The Cabinet Member for Travel and Development Strategy on 5 January 2022 APPROVED officers to consider the costs and benefits of developing area wide restrictions across Oxfordshire including close working with neighbouring authorities, as part of the county wide freight strategy, as soon as practicable. Noting any future approval of area wide weight restrictions would likely see existing environmental weight restrictions revoked subject to consultation.

And

REVOKED the Burford Experimental Traffic Regulation Order of 7.5t weight restriction. Therefore, not making a permanent order.

1.11 Church Green

Officers met to review the Church Green residents' proposals and consider the other proposals that have been made here particularly the School Streets initiative and the WODC parking strategy. We recommend that a study to look at Church Green and Corn Street together is probably the best approach, with due regard to High Street and Langdale Gate also. The LCWIP will look at this area from an active travel perspective, but probably not in enough depth. Officers propose to escalate the need for the Witney Area Transport Strategy within the emerging Local Transport and Connectivity Plan to look at this area of the town in depth.

1.12 Speeding at Curbridge Road (letter from Richmond Residents Association).

The County Council unfortunately doesn't hold any relevant speed data for this section of Curbridge Road.

The 5 year accident record shows there were no recorded incidents.

The Richmond Residents Association request for one VAS to be installed on the approach to Witney along the A4095 near the A40 overbridge. This section of road is 40mph.

Regarding the request for a vehicle activated sign (VAS), OCC are unable to fully fund these. We aim to support town and parish councils with match funding; a VAS is in the region of £3,000.

2. Traffic & Road Safety Team Report – contact Mike Wasley/James Wright

2.1 Upcoming and completed carriageway works

Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Woodstock Road	Minor Patching	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Moor Ave-Dark Ln	Minor Patching	Completed
Carriageway Improvements	Witney	A415 Ducklington Lane – Thorney leys/Ducklington roundabout	Minor Patching	Completed
Carriageway Improvements	Witney	Lowell Place	Minor Patching	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Pens Close	Patching/Resurfacing	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Corn Street	Structural Patching/Resurfacing	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	West End/Hailey Rd/Witney Rd Rbt	Structural Patching/Surfacing	2022-23 Programme
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Valance Crescent	Micro Asphalt	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Moorland Ave	Micro Asphalt	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Woodgreen/Narrow Hill	Micro Asphalt	Completed
Footway Improvements	Witney	Burwell Drive – Curbridge Rd – Burwell Meadow	Footway Slurry	February 2022
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Woodford Way	Surface Dressing	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Burford Road	Surface Dressing	Completed
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Corn Street – 200-230	Carriageway Micro	2022-23 Programme
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Orkney Place	Carriageway Micro	2022-23 Programme
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Park Road	Carriageway Micro	2022-23 Programme
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Burwell Meadow	Carriageway Micro	2022-23 Programme
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Saxon Way	Carriageway Micro	2022-23 Programme
Carriageway Improvement	Witney	Swinburn Place	Carriageway Micro	2022-23 Programme
Footway Improvement	Witney	Quarry Road	Footway Slurry	2022-23 Programme

2.2 Lining

The lining programme has now been completed for this year and we are now putting together next year's programme, if there are any specific sites that our feel need refreshing then your input would be appreciated.

Current Projects

2.3 The 'Leys' Traffic Calming

Traffic Calming scheme currently being designed and estimated. Subject to Witney TC approval, scheme will then be put out for consultation.

Agenda Item 7a

Sent: 02 December 2021

To: Communities

Subject: Accident hot spot- Witney roundabout

Dear Claire,

Thank you for our conversation today.

I would appreciate you raising the issue of Witney road safety with the traffic advisory committee.

My son was hit by a car today on the roundabout at the bottom of Tower Hill. The same roundabout where my mother was knocked off her bike this year. It's a well-known accident hotspot.

I believe some traffic calming measures are now needed on this roundabout given the large volume of traffic, pedestrians and cyclists using it. The traffic flow is simply too fast and the visibility poor in areas. The crossings and pathways are still inadequate.

I appreciate you putting this to the committee and hope to hear that some action will be taken to make Witney softer for the community.

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RICHMOND WITNEY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION FOR VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN ON CURBRIDGE ROAD

Submission

We have made various enquiries regarding the installation of a Vehicle Activate Sign with some information coming from our area County Councillor, Mr Ted Fenton. In our case the local authority is Witney Town Council and as suggested, this application is being submitted care of Mrs Claire Green at Town Hall, Market Square, Witney OX28 6AG for the attention of the Traffic Advisory Group.

Adjoining Roadway & Developments

The sole vehicle entrance to the Richmond Retirement Village is from a busy section of the A4095 road on the south-western outskirts of the town. Although there is a four-way roundabout not far away, residents have been experiencing for some time vehicles approaching from the Curbridge direction exceeding two speed limits in quick succession. Some 300 yards from the Village they encounter a 40mph sign, followed by a 30mph sign only 28 yards south of the only Village entrance. Both limits are repeatedly ignored by drivers, putting at considerable risk those vehicles slowing to turn right into the Village and pedestrians trying to cross the road.

It is believed the two limits were set about the time of the Richmond development but consideration cannot have been taken of the massive Windrush Place development of some 1500 homes on the west of Curbridge Road between the two speed limit signs. We understand that making any changes to the speed limits, is a very costly job and involves a long-drawn-out procedure requiring a Traffic Regulation Order through the Legal Team of the County Council and agreement of Thames Valley Police who would require current accident rates. In the meantime, all these new homeowners share the same difficulty and risks as our residents in joining and exiting the Curbridge Road.

Proposal to Moderate Undue Speed

We notice that Vehicle Activated Signs are used in West Oxfordshire with several already installed further south along the A4095. These signs indicate the speed of a passing vehicle by means of illuminated numbers. Although these are not official speed checks, we believe that they are effective in making many drivers slow down and becoming aware that there is residential occupation in the vicinity.

At any one time there are some 300 staff, residents and visitors in this retirement Village. In addition, there are other residential developments in the area, including Spring Meadow adjacent to the same stretch of the A4095. There is currently a planning proposal for a large extension of warehouses in a nearby trading estate; and we are only a few miles from the biggest RAF Station in the country at Brize Norton, with a complement of some 7,000, thus making a big volume of vehicles using neighbouring roads including the A4095.

Application

In view of the above, we ask that a Vehicle Activated Sign be installed on the approach to Witney along the A4095 road near to the bridge over the A40 and that the installation be progressed urgently for the well-being and safety not only of our residents and staff but also of some 2000 or so nearby residents and road users.

We would be pleased to attend any hearing on this matter with due notice, and if we can assist in any negotiations or enquiries, please let us know.



Professor Ronald C King, Chair, Richmond Village Residents' Association Committee
(RAC)

Dr Hilary Eggington, Secretary RAC

Mr James Ruddock-Broyd, Chair, External Issues Sub-Committee, RAC

7 December 2021

Sent: 23 December 2021 15:39

Subject: Traffic violation.

To: Traffic Advisory Committee

Re: Pedestrianisation of High St, Witney

I am writing to the committee because my life was at risk recently due to the inadequate design of the traffic management in High Street, Witney. My concern stems from an incident where I was nearly knocked over by a car driving on the wrong side of the road on Saturday 18th December at about 4.30pm.

I was walking along Welch Way towards the High Street in order to cross the High St at NatWest Bank. As I stepped off the pavement a small car suddenly appeared from the left (from Bridge St. direction) and swerved towards me, clearly in order to get around the traffic blocking method - the 'planters' - and passed at speed mere inches away from me. The driver either did not see me about to cross the road, or chose not to brake to avoid me. Fortunately, I was able to step back quickly and wasn't injured, however I was badly shaken and shocked. The car was travelling at quite a speed and I was so shocked and stunned at what had happened, I was unable to get the car registration number and despite later telephoning Thames Valley Police, they were unable to do anything about it.

Clearly the road layout as it stands is totally unsatisfactory and someone is going to be killed unless something is done immediately. Drivers entering the High Street at either end, must cross to the opposite side of the carriageway to avoid the planters, and so transgressing the 'keep left' signs - in itself a moving traffic violation. Note that even local busses must do this! There isn't even a sign advising pedestrians to 'look both ways' as they cross to the pedestrian refuge in the middle of the street - this in itself could lead to tragedy. Elderly or infirm pedestrians are obviously at great risk in crossing the road at either end of the High Street by the planters as things stand.

As I understand the traffic restrictions in the High Street are to be made permanent I think the design requires serious and immediate reconsideration. Furthermore, will a camera be installed like in High St Oxford, in order to catch drivers who break the traffic restrictions? Clearly the restrictions are being heavily abused as drivers ignore the signage.

I would urge the council to make changes right away or they could be faced with a totally unnecessary tragedy and all the bad publicity that would attract.

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