

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 3 July 2023

Title: Leys Traffic Calming

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk - Adam Clapton

Background

For the benefit of new Members of the Council/Committee, traffic calming at The Leys has been discussed at town and county council level since 2018. A proposed scheme was designed by the County Council and presented to this Committee in January 2023 (attached as **Appendix A**).

The scheme was passed by the County Council, subject to a final design during the Spring. Minute no. 116 of the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting held on 6th March 2023 refers to the last input to Oxfordshire County Council on the scheme,

'Members discussed the additional informal survey responses received from residents of the surrounding area at The Leys on an Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) designed traffic calming scheme, as requested by the town council in 2018.

Further information was required following an OCC consultation in 2022 if the town council still thought the scheme was warranted. Members felt the responses pointed more to the calming being installed for road safety, rather than the reduction of Anti-Social Behaviour, although this was still noted as an issue.

Members asked if the scheme could be redesigned to incorporate safety measures around the crossing point between the church path and the tree lined avenue across the Leys.

Members voted, the proposal to support the scheme was carried, with voting as follows:

Resolved:

- 1. That, the report be noted and,*
- 2. That, a response is sent to Oxfordshire County Council advising support of the scheme with a request to re-evaluate the crossing from the Church to the Recreation Ground.'*

Current Situation

A final updated design on this scheme was presented to the Witney Traffic Advisory Committee on 13 June. The update from County Officers is included below and the updated design is attached as **Appendix B**.

'The Leys' Traffic Calming

We are currently finalizing the design, please see attached, if the Committee is happy with the attached then the design will be submitted for quotation, then subsequently orders placed with the contractor for delivery.

Just to note: -

- LTN 1/07 Traffic Calming & LTN 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design has been referenced during the design and as such the clearance from the cushions to the edge of carriageway will be 1m max. to accommodate cyclists, tricycles (0.8m wide) & Class 3 mobility scooters (0.85m wide) which are allowed to be used on the highway.*
- Some areas of structural patching were included in the original GA and have been extended to incorporate the newly added road hump (additional 2m). The road surface is in a general state of disrepair and the existing construction unknown; however, observations suggest it is unlikely to adequately support the new features and significant reconstruction will be required.*

The Witney Traffic Advisory Committee was supportive of the plans.

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

There is a financial risk should the road surface not support the new features; additional funds may be requested towards the scheme.

There is a risk that if this scheme does not take place now, there may not be a further opportunity and it helps towards improving safety of Leys users.

Financial implications

- £5,000 was originally earmarked towards this scheme by the Town Council. Oxfordshire County Council agreed to cover the remaining cost.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the following:

1. Agreement to the updated Leys Traffic Calming Design.