

# Witney TAC Report by Oxfordshire County Council

## September 2024

### Place Planning Team Update

Lead officer: Odele Parsons, Place Planning and Coordination West Team Leader,  
[Odele.parsons@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Odele.parsons@oxfordshire.gov.uk).

#### 1. For information

##### Road collisions data clarification

Upon reviewing the accident data between January 2019 and December 2023 (presented at the last TAC) common causes of road collisions have been identified – driver error (due to inexperience, distractions, failing to give way including at zebra crossings, overtaking, and speeding); adverse weather conditions; ped and cycle involvement (crossing between parked cars with poor visibility, and people cycling joining the carriageway from footway).

Fiveways Roundabout is a road collision hotspot and many of these incidents involve school children crossing. The proposed improvements at Fiveways Roundabout look to address this.

#### 2. A40/B4022 Shores Green, Access to Witney (Major Project, funded)

Please direct any queries to: [a40corridor@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:a40corridor@oxfordshire.gov.uk).

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

A Public Inquiry was held in early March 2024 to determine whether the Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) and Side Road Orders (SRO) required to deliver the Scheme should be confirmed. Confirmation of the CPO and SRO will allow the County Council to assemble all the land needed and to make the necessary alterations to the highway to deliver and construct the Scheme. A Secretary of State decision regarding the orders is still awaited. In parallel, the Council is still seeking to negotiate the purchase of, and early access to, the land required by agreement with the landowners.

Detailed scheme design is nearing completion, and the discharge of planning conditions are well underway. Internal approvals have been secured to release the project funding and to enter into a construction contract to begin mobilisation and enabling works. Subject to securing land access and discharge of planning conditions, mobilisation and enabling works are scheduled to commence later this year.

#### 3. High Street and Market Square (Stage 3: Design and implementation – funded)

The public consultation for the Witney High Street and Market Square Enhancement scheme went live on **11 September** and will run for 4 weeks closing on **9 October**. Drawings and information boards and other supporting documents can be downloaded from our [Let's Talk](#) engagement platform. Members of the public are invited to participate in an online survey. We are also happy to receive any comments, feedback and formal representations by emailing [witneyhighstreet@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:witneyhighstreet@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

We will be attending and presenting the proposals at the next TAC in September

#### 4. Bridge Street Area Options Appraisal Report (stage: Investigation/ feasibility)

No significant update from last meeting.

Officers have finalised the Bridge Street/West End Link Options Assessment report from consultants Pell Frischmann. Engagement with all Councillors for Witney from Witney Town Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council has taken place as well as with the developers of the North Witney Strategic Development Area. This has raised a number of queries, which officers are working through and considering undertaking further detailed work in order to respond to these fully.

**5. Fiveways Roundabout, Vision Zero Programme**

Under the Vision Zero Programme, a raised parallel crossing will be installed on Welch Way. Following a review of the roundabout, this was deemed appropriate to address road safety issues at this area of the roundabout. There is no confirmed programme, but construction is anticipated to take place in the latter half of 2025. More details will be provided when they become available.

**6. Corn Street (Feasibility Design, Capability and Ambition Fund)**

We are seeking a range of highway options from term consultants Milestone to improve the space for walking and cycling on Corn Street, as a key route to the town centre and local schools. We are awaiting timeframes for this study from Milestone and apologise that this work has been delayed due to resourcing issues. Once underway, stakeholders will be involved to inform the option generation study.

**7. Fiveways Roundabout (Feasibility Design, Capability and Ambition Fund)**

Following the completion of the concept design of protected space for cycling at Fiveways Roundabout, engagement on this concept is being scoped. It is anticipated that this will be a targeted engagement with key stakeholders and groups representative of Witney's population.

**8. Windrush Place Active Travel Schemes (S106 Funded)**

Atkins Realis will be undertaking ecology surveys at the end of September to determine any constraints/risks to construction phases. This will help to confirm the future programme, but we are broadly anticipating starting works in May 2025.

**9. Madley Park Path Improvements**

Atkins Realis will be undertaking ecology surveys at the end of September to determine any constraints/risks to construction phases. This will help to confirm the future programme, but we are broadly anticipating starting works in May 2025. The path upgrades in Madley Park are subject to statutory consultation for a Cycle Track Order and we must seek consent from the landowner. We have contacted Taylor Wimpey, but they claim no interest in the land and have referred us to WODC. We will be approaching colleagues at the District regarding this matter soon.

**10. Footpaths connecting Richmond Village**

A review of S106 opportunities in this area to support delivery of continuous footways is ongoing.

A scheme is currently be drawn up to address the gap in footway provision on Thorney Leys. Once this has been completed it will be forwarded to our contractor for pricing.

**11. Witney Community Primary School (Hailey Road) – parking, lining and bollards**

Oxfordshire County Council do not typically fund bollards for verge protection. Town Councils can request and fund bollards. More information can be found here: [Verge](#)

[maintenance | Oxfordshire County Council](#) and by contacting [Highway.Enquiries@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Highway.Enquiries@Oxfordshire.gov.uk).

School keep clear markings for Broadhill Pre-School are being considered for a future programme of lining work, the Council's lining budget is limited, however. It should also be noted that lining around schools can often be ineffective due to a lack of permanent enforcement leading to the lines and signs being ignored.

The issue of parking associated with the school has also been passed onto our Travel Plans and Behaviour Change Team. The team supports schools in encouraging more active and sustainable travel to school, thereby reducing the need to drive and the negative consequences of this (recognising that schools have an important role to play in the journey to school). The next step is for the team to engage with the school to understand the issues, what the school are doing already regarding active and sustainable travel, and then to come up with an action plan.

## 12. Parking changes

In response to historic requests from residents to introduce options for all bay parking near their homes, we are currently finalising proposals for public consultation that would see residents of Corn Street and Church Green being able to apply for a permit that would allow them to park in existing time limited bays (2 hour/ 4 hours) without time limit. These bays would effectively become dual purpose, permit holders or time limited (non-permit holders).

This type of arrangement is in place in a number of towns across Oxfordshire including Henley, Wallingford, Wheatley and Woodstock.

We are aiming to bring the public consultation forward for the end of September where feedback will be invited.

## 13. Bus services

Bus service improvements from 1 September 2024

- Route X15 (previously 15) (Witney - Abingdon) – now runs hourly and continues beyond Abingdon through to Oxford (now run by Oxford Bus Company)
- Route 19 (Witney – Bampton – Carterton) – now runs hourly
- *An effect of the 15/19 changes is that Ducklington and Standlake now have a half-hourly service to Witney*
- Route X9: New Sunday service has started

From Spring next year, route H2 is planned to increase in frequency to half-hourly

A new multi-operator ticket for Oxfordshire has been introduced. It's called Mybus Oxfordshire and there are day and weekly versions for adults and young people. It is valid on most buses in Oxfordshire and also includes the whole length of many routes that operate into neighbouring counties – full details of which operators and routes are included are here: <https://www.mybusoxfordshire.org.uk/>. An example of where the ticket could offer a saving would be a journey from Bampton to Oxford, using Pulhams route 19 to Witney, then Stagecoach S1 to Oxford. A day ticket can be bought on the Pulhams 19 bus and will be valid on the Stagecoach S1, offering a saving and convenience compared to buying separate tickets on each bus.

Witney Bus Users Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 6-8pm Corn Exchange: Attendees will include representatives from OCC, Pulhams, Stagecoach and West Oxfordshire Community Transport.

**14. Lime Walk/ Harvest Way lining**

Apologies, we are still awaiting an update on these works.

**15. Drainage footpath issues behind Wood Green School and Windrush Health Centre**

This has been flagged to OCC's maintenance team. We are awaiting an update from them on this.

**Items which status has not changed since last meeting:**

**16. Traffic Lights on Woodford Way**

This scheme remains unfunded. Detail discussed at September 2023 meeting.

**17. Pedestrian Crossing/zebra crossing at West End (unfunded)**

This scheme was put forward to the Road Safety and Accessibility budget for 2024/25 on this occasion the scheme has not been awarded funding. This scheme remains unfunded. Other funding opportunities will be considered as they arise.

## Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) Update from John Charlton, Civil Enforcement Team Leader

Summary of Penalty Charge Notices issued in Witney from 01/06/2024 to 31/08/2024.

### Penalty Charge Notices Issued split by location.

Location	PCN Count
Church Green (Witney)	71
Corn Street (Witney)	43
High Street (Witney)	18
Holloway Road (Witney)	1
Langdale Gate (Witney)	1
Market Square (Witney)	73
Oxford Hill (Witney)	3
The Crofts (Witney)	4
Welch Way (Witney)	1
West End (Witney)	1
Oxfordshire County Council	216

### Penalty Charge Notices Issued split by contravention type

Contravention Description	PCN Count
01 - Restricted Street	123
02 - Loading / Unloading	1
23 - Wrong Class Of Vehicle	2
24 - Not Within Markings	1
30 - Parked Longer Permitted	19
40 - Disabled Bay No Badge	69
99 - Pedestrian Crossing	1
Oxfordshire County Council	216

## Civil Enforcement Officers Deployed and time spent in Witney

Parent Location = Witney and OSL Date Time Between 01/06/2024 and 31/08/2024

Oxfordshire County Council										
Month	Staff Deployed	Patrol Count	Tickets Issued	Issued Spoiled	Issued VDA	Obs Started	Spoiled Prior	VDA Prior	VRM Entered	
2024 Month 06	12	550	67	0	2	0	5	30	171	
2024 Month 07	6	155	51	2	0	0	7	12	88	
2024 Month 08	4	427	96	0	0	0	1	53	211	
<b>Oxfordshire County Council</b>	13	1132	214	2	2	0	13	95	468	
<b>Totals:</b>										
<b>Grand Totals:</b>	13	1132	214	2	2	0	13	95	468	