Witney TAC Report by Oxfordshire County Council January 2025 Place Planning Team Update

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

Please direct any queries to: <u>a40corridor@oxfordshire.gov.uk</u>.

Please see webpage: A40 Access to Witney | Oxfordshire County Council

Works on Access to Witney started in February. This included vegetation clearance, setting up the traffic management (including temporary traffic lights on the B4022) and setting up contractor facilities on site. Work is due to be completed in Summer 2026.

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

Witney High Street and Market Square enhancements scheme | Oxfordshire County Council.

Following the engagement last Autumn, consultant PJA have now completed the preliminary design. The next phase is progressing detailed design and site surveys, which are now underway. We are also progressing the Accessibility Audit of preliminary design, statutory consultation on traffic orders in May, and then construction to follow in July.

The overall project budget is £2 million. The project spend to date is £500,862 across the last 3 financial years, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25. This has funded:

- Community Engagement and public consultation (communications and marketing support)
- Design consultant (Feasibility report, Feasibility design and preliminary design)
- Project fees (OCC officer fees, commercial support, early contractor involvement)

3. Fiveways Roundabout, Vision Zero Programme

The Vision Zero Team are currently reviewing and amending the design of the scheme. Once they have a finalised design the team will be engaging with external stakeholders including Town Council, bus operators, police and emergency services, for comments.

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

Milestone have commenced work redesigning the section of Corn Street between Holloway Road and Market Square for people walking, cycling and two-way buses. This work is due to be completed by the end of April (25). Following this, officers will review the designs and engage with stakeholders (much like the engagement for 5. Fiveways Roundabout)

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

Engagement on the proposals has concluded. Officers are currently consolidating and reviewing comments and writing an officer note with a recommended way forward. This will be shared with the TAC when it is completed.

6. Windrush Place Active Travel Schemes (S106 Funded)

Atkins is due to complete designs for the crossings at the end of April. Public consultation for the crossings will take place in May.

7. Madley Park Path Improvements

Public consultation for the path improvements will take place in May.

8. Thorney Leys Path

The scheme is due to be completed within the next week.

9. School travel

Witney Community Primary School – engaging with school travel team, looking to promote a 5-minute walking bubble for school journeys, will be taking part in Walk to School Week $(19^{th} - 23^{rd})$ May 2025).

Wood Green School – currently working on their school travel plan to support more walking, cycling and bus travel to school and address barriers to this.

10. Parking changes

Proposals were recently approved by our cabinet member for transport that will see the introduction of dual-purpose restrictions on Church Green and Corn Street. Under the proposals the existing time limited restrictions will remain, but residents will be allowed to apply for permits which will exempt them from the limits on time. Preparations are taking place for the necessary sign changes, and it is estimated that residents will be written to in April to start applying for permits.

11. Wood Green School path drainage issue

OCC engineers have reviewed the site and have identified as a first step cleaning of the gully and associated pipework to ensure it is functioning properly. Following this, the team will be able to assess whether this has improved drainage or if further work is required. The team have asked to be kept updated and if the issue is still evident, will explore next steps.