

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.