

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2022

Item 4: Actions Register

1. Actions continued from 13 November 2019 - Action List

T16/19	<u>Matters Arising Action List</u>
	<p><u>T8.1 - Roundabout sponsorship</u></p> <p>Town Clerk to write to the Chief Executive of Oxfordshire County Council to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) notify them of the disappointment of Abingdon Town Council in not being able to adapt the existing agreement with South Oxfordshire to cover the Vale of White Horse.(ii) make a complaint about the current very poor state of the roundabouts <p><u>25.1.21</u>: Message sent to OCC Chief Executive.</p> <p><u>4.3.21</u>: Response from the Chief Executive of Oxfordshire County Council: 'Firstly I must apologise for the delay in my response. I take full responsibility as this falls short of our normal standards. I have to admit to being a little confused about the situation you raise. It has to be the choice of each separate authority as to whether they wish to take on any third party functions or funding thereof. I am sorry but I am not in a position to answer for the actions of another Authority. OCC would be very happy to receive sponsorship monies to help with the upkeep of specific roundabouts or enter into an agreement to allow a third party to maintain them (subject to suitable experience and insurance). I assure you that OCC do undertake maintenance to roundabouts across the county. This will however be predominantly prioritised on road safety issues in order to maintain a safe environment for road users. We would be happy to work with the Town Council to explore options to help facilitate additional maintenance with them if that would be welcomed.'</p> <p><u>16.6.21</u> Noted that maintenance of roundabouts might be funded by private companies but these companies would like their contribution recognised through advertising on the roundabouts concerned. This would require planning permission but the signage would not be added until the work had been done and Oxfordshire County Council would not do the work until the funding had been provided. South Oxfordshire District Council has set up a single point of contact for companies willing to fund</p>

roundabouts.

Lee Turner noted that there is no agreement between Oxfordshire County Council and the Vale of White Horse District Council and suggested contacting the County Council to note a willingness to work with the Town Council on this. The Town Clerk was asked to enquire of the Chief Executive of Oxfordshire County Council which officer to speak to and Cllr Thompson would follow this up with the Vale of White Horse District Council, asking officers to look into how the scheme operates at South Oxfordshire District Council.

11.8.21

Email from Emily Hamerton, Development Manager, Vale of White Horse District Council to Cllr Max Thompson:

‘You recently asked about roundabout sponsorship as I understand Abingdon Town Council had raised this with you. Having spoken to colleagues about this, the Town Council should discuss this with Oxfordshire County Council. We understand that OCC are willing to discuss this. They can try calling the general number 01865 792422 and asked to speak to someone in Highways who is responsible for roundabouts / maintenance.’

3.11.21

Town Council to contact OCC regarding this outstanding issue. It was suggested that the Town Council contacts the Chief Executive’s office to ask for the relevant officer to speak to, in the light of the Chief Executive’s email to the Town Clerk (above).

2. Actions continued from 17 June 2020

Parking around Larkhill Road area

3.3.21: Lee Turner advised that he had met with representatives of Abingdon School and some residents close to the site and a plan had been agreed to improve parking at the junction. A trial will be undertaken to put some ‘no waiting’ cones where yellow lines are planned to enable officers to see where cars move to so that the parking problem is not simply shifted elsewhere.

16.6.21: Lee Turner noted that the County Council had consulted between 13 May 2021 and 11 June 2021 and the Town Council, the District Council and Thames Valley Police had raised no objections. The comments received are being considered and will be presented to the Lead Member at the County Council. No issues arose at the recent trial. Mr Turner will keep the committee informed.

3.11.21: Yellow lines now in place at Larkhill School and there has been no adverse reaction from residents. **To remove from the action list**

	<p><u>Illegal parking on the pavement in front of Abbey Yard, Old Station Yard</u></p> <p><u>3.3.21:</u> Cllr Briggs visited the site several times but had not contacted residents in person due to current restrictions. This does not appear to be a police matter; the land appears to be owned by the Vale of White Horse District Council. The issue had been with vans parked on the pavement and this appears to have stopped. It may therefore be worth reviewing before contacting residents to avoid raising an issue unnecessarily.</p> <p><u>16.6.21:</u> This item has been discussed and will be reviewed at a further meeting.</p> <p><u>3.11.21:</u> Cllr Briggs reported that the Old Station Yard problem has been addressed. One person was illegally parking two vehicles, the PCSO ticketed the vehicles and the problem has now stopped. This will hopefully continue.</p> <p>Chris Hulme noted that Old Station Yard is private land but it is covered by a traffic order which makes enforcement possible. Civil parking enforcement was introduced on 1 Nov 2021 so police will no longer issue tickets. The private contractor will be empowered to do so if the same traffic order applies. Cllr Briggs will continue to monitor this. To remove from the action list</p>
	<p><u>St Helen's Wharf Update</u></p> <p>Keep raising this issue for future funding.</p> <p><u>3.3.21:</u> Cllr Rooke reported that a section of wall has collapsed at St Helen's Wharf, causing the pavement to collapse. The area has been coned off for a number of months and is likely to be got worse following recent flooding. Lee Turner would look into this and report to Cllr Rooke.</p> <p><u>16.6.21:</u> no update. Lee Turner would follow this up with officers.</p> <p><u>3.11.21:</u> LT contacted the senior bridge technician at Oxfordshire County Council who advised that the bridge had been repaired. A section outside the Old Anchor Inn remained outstanding and is being dealt with by a County Council contractor. To review at the next meeting of the TAC.</p>

3. Actions continued from 26th November 2020

	T16/20	<p><u>Items submitted to the Town Clerk by members or residents ahead of the meeting</u></p> <p><u>Requests for 20mph speed limits in Abingdon</u></p> <p><u>3.3.21:</u> funding identified by the County Council to scope streets to introduce limits across Oxfordshire. The committee should look at Abingdon town centre to decide what it would like and to consult with local groups to see what funding might be available. A budget of £200,000 had been made available to cover initial surveys and consultations. After this, funding may be sought from third parties.</p> <p><u>16.6.21:</u> Lee Turner commented that Oxfordshire County Council is doing some county-wide roll-out on 20mph limits this year. This is very high up the list of priorities for the County Council and communication with towns and parishes is expected soon.</p>
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	<p><u>3.11.21</u>: LT – 20mph across Oxfordshire approved at County Council Cabinet 19.10.21 and will be offered to all towns and parishes – an application form is available on the County Council website for parishes to express an interest. Budget of £8m over three years to commence in April 2022. Funding is for consultations and signage only, with the proviso that it would be prudent to select roads where it would be realistic to expect people to reduce their speeds. If speeds do not fall, further action would need to be funded by towns and parishes.</p> <p>The previous presumption was against 20mph limits and unless traffic on a road was already slow it would not be introduced. The presumption now is that 20mph should become the default in urban areas, with the support of town and parish councils. One option is to introduce this for the whole of Abingdon, which would be cheaper and easier to understand. However, residents will feel that there are some roads which don't feel like 20mph roads and which would require enforcement. There is a list of criteria to consider to justify a 20mph limit, e.g. frontages onto road, shops, history of accidents. If there is strong support for a whole town 20mph zone, there would be strong incentive on the County Council to do this.</p> <p>Chris Hulme commented that the police stance is that 20mph zones should be self-enforcing. If Abingdon went for a town-wide scheme, where there are fixed speed cameras, these will become redundant. This also applies to speed indicator signs, which would need to be physically changed from 30mph to 20mph signs, requiring the purchase of new signs.</p> <p>ATC has an agreed motion on 20mph limits (Town Council 25.9.19). Officers will find the relevant motion and share this with Town Councillors and members of the committee. This might give a steer on further action. To go to Town Infrastructure Committee this month.</p>
	<p><u>Excessive road noise</u></p> <p>Bike riding school – Community Police to liaise with the bike riding school.</p> <p><u>3.3.21</u>: no update was available so the item would be left as an action.</p> <p><u>16.6.21</u>: This item was deferred as no representative from the police was present.</p> <p>No updates so it was agreed to remove this action.</p>
	<p><u>Road resurfacing work in north Abingdon (Wheatcroft Drive/Oxford Road)</u></p> <p>Cllr Emily Smith to respond to the resident.</p> <p><u>3.3.21</u>: Cllr Smith was not available so the item would be left as an action.</p> <p><u>16.6.21</u>: Emily Smith had reported by email that there was currently no plan to resurface Oxford Road. Cllr Ley would follow this up.</p> <p><u>3.11.21</u>: NL – not on any work programme, not a priority compared with other sites. There are some areas of concern on this road but it will not be taken forward as an action currently.</p> <p>Agreed to remove as an action. Cllr Ley will pursue this matter separately.</p>

Speeding traffic and Ock Street

Community Speedwatch

- Organise a group of volunteers
- Purchase equipment, estimated to cost £120-£150
- Training - *CommunitySpeedwatch.org* to register an interest
- Chose sites. The sites will need to be risk assessed by the police.

Speed survey

- All speed survey requests for various sites in the town could be ordered together. A speed survey averages at about £150 per site if requesting two/three survey sites.
- Officer to contact for Oxfordshire County Council speed survey is Richard Bowman (Richard.bowman@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Recommended to the Finance and General Purposes Committee to undertake a speed survey in Ock Street. Lee Turner advised that the Town Council should decide where to undertake speed surveys given local knowledge. He advised that it would be less expensive if the Town Council undertook multiple speed surveys at the same time. Several locations were discussed and local residents had made a number of recommendations. Volunteers would be available to help with speed surveys. The Town Council was asked to prepare a priority list of locations.

16.6.21

The Town Clerk had contacted Richard Bowman at the County Council about this. The County Council had requested advice from local members on precise locations for the monitoring equipment. Suggestions were provided as follows:

Ock Street

- Where Conduit Road joins Ock Street, on the east side of the junction.
- The junction with Victoria Road: it was noted that cars speed through green traffic lights at night. It was agreed that this may be the best location.

Copenhagen Drive

- Beyond Mons Way: it was noted that the 30mph limit had been extended from the Wootton Road roundabout to beyond Mons Way. Lee Turner recommended letting the new speed limit get established before undertaking a speeding survey. This would therefore be deferred to the next meeting.

Oxford Road

- Cllr Lonergan suggested adjacent to layby halfway along, location to be advised.

It was agreed to ask the Finance and General Purposes Committee to recommend to the Urgency Committee that a speedwatch survey on Oxford Road be funded. Cllr Lonergan would advise on the precise location in consultation with Nathan Ley.

October 2021: Speed device for Speedwatch group has been obtained. Chair of group has changed and so awaiting details of new contact.

	<p>Orders for speed surveys placed June 2021 – dates to be obtained with a view to an update at the November meeting.</p> <p><u>3.11.21:</u> speedwatch on Ock Street has stalled because the person heading it has stepped down. Cameras are ready but it is not being taken forward by an individual. A meeting of the speedwatch group will be held shortly. Town Council to update TAC at a future meeting.</p> <p>No requirement for police involvement with speedwatch, now led by residents. ATC has a speed gun. Ock Street supposed to be a speedwatch site, update needed. There is no requirement for a prior speed monitoring scheme (boxes on lampposts) before a speedwatch scheme (cameras) is conducted.</p> <p>Action: Town Clerk to advise if the speed surveys have been completed.</p>
	<p><u>St Helen's Wharf signage</u></p> <p>Lee Turner to investigate painting cycle signs on the road, in both directions: Locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Just before the church• At Old Anchor Inn <p><u>3.3.21:</u> LT advised that cycle symbols were planned for the new financial year and new budget. 'No entry' signs at the bottom of East St Helens Street had been reviewed and new signs would be installed. Mr Turner to look at location of 'no entry' signs to ensure that they are clearly visible.</p> <p><u>16.6.21:</u> LT noted that signage has been planned and will be installed. An update will be provided to a future meeting.</p> <p><u>3.11.21:</u> LT advised that cycle symbols have been painted in, extra 'no entry' signs on East St Helen's Street are still on order.</p>

4. Actions from 3 March 2021

<u>T27</u>	<p><u>Parking on Northcourt Road and pavement access.</u></p> <p>Chris Hulme commented that the area of concern outside the flats belongs to the District Council. As it is not highway, it is difficult to undertake traffic enforcement. Mr Hulme suggested approaching the District Council to address the issue, perhaps by providing alternative parking arrangements for local residents to avoid the need to park in places which can cause an obstruction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Hulme will refer the matter back to the PCSO to ask them what further actions may be possible, in particular with regard to parking related to the school.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Briggs would raise the matter again in consultation with Cllr Helen Pighills and would report back to a future meeting. <p>UPDATE: June 2021: item added to agenda for meeting as requested by Cllr Grace Clifton.</p> <p><u>16.6.21</u>: update from Cllr Cheryl Briggs awaited.</p> <p><u>3.11.21</u>: no update from CB. Parking on pavement is traffic enforcement as of 1.11.21. The problem of parking on grass verges continues. CB has suggested bollards, these have been requested by OCC but no action taken as the land is not the property of OCC. It is owned by the Vale so OCC would not be able to put in bollards. This has been discussed for a number of years.</p> <p>Civil parking enforcement will enforce any parking rules and regulations but will not cover parking on the pavement, which is still not illegal outside London. If people are causing an obstruction on a pavement, this would be an issue for the police to enforce. It may therefore be useful to ask the PCSOs to attend the site when the problem happens. GC emailed PCSOs, who visited the site but this has not resolved the matter. This is still an ongoing issue, people still parking on pavement, causing access issues for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Double yellow lines apply to the whole of the highway. Illegally parked vehicles can be reported to the Civil Parking Enforcement team.</p> <p>Obstruction is still a police matter and it was hoped that the police would have more time now that parking enforcement has become a civil matter. Obstructions should be reported online and people reporting need to be willing to follow up proceedings. Parking is a problem at many schools and every school cannot be policed. CB will continue to look into this.</p>
<u>T33</u>	<p><u>Wooden bridge at Abbey Meadow</u></p> <p>Cllr Rooke mentioned the condition of the bridge by the mill stream which is in very poor condition and is a potential hazard.</p> <p>Cllr de la Harpe would follow this up with the Vale of White Horse District Council.</p> <p>Some repair work has been done to the bridge but further action is needed. There is still a question over ownership of the bridge so it has been proposed that the County Council and District Council share the cost of the required repairs. The two Councils are in consultation and repairs are scheduled.</p> <p>3.11.21: to update outside the meeting</p>

5 Actions from 16 June 2021

T8/1/1	<p><u>Traffic lights on Abingdon Bridge</u></p> <p>Cllr Rooke had requested that Councillors be kept up to date on progress with the work, including projected timescales and impacts on the town's traffic flows per time of day. Lee Turner would put Cllr Rooke in touch with officers responsible for the work.</p> <p>3.11.21: LT emailed AR after the last meeting to give her details of the officers dealing with that scheme.</p> <p>To remove from list</p>
T8/1/2	<p><u>Traffic lights on Abingdon Bridge</u></p> <p>Cllr Foulsham mentioned cars stopping in the middle of the bridge to pick up or drop off passengers and asked Thames Valley Police to monitor this. Thames Valley Police will be contacted with regard to this.</p> <p>3.11.21 - This has not been reported to police as a problem and has improved significantly.</p> <p>To remove from list</p>
T8/2	<p><u>Speeding in Ock Street and Bostock Road</u></p> <p>Mr Simpson contacted the Town Council to suggest speed ramps to reduce speeding in Ock St and Bostock Road. Lee Turner advised that the first action would be to carry out speed surveys. Officers were asked to request a written update from Cllr Coveney on how Speedwatch works and to report back to committee members and the Town Clerk about future exercises and who the responsible officers would be.</p> <p>3.11.21: discussed above. To include with action above.</p>
T8/4	<p><u>Traffic on Dunmore Road and surrounding roads</u></p> <p>(i) <u>Speeding along Dunmore Road</u> It was proposed by Cllr Halliday, seconded by Cllr Foulsham and agreed that Lee Turner and Cllr Ley meet and commission a traffic survey and take appropriate action arising from this exercise with a view to reducing the speed limit to 30mph if the evidence supports this.</p> <p>3.11.21: NL spoke to LT about plans for developments. Work on new crossings and bus stops on Dunmore Road are due to be carried out in the next 12 months and LT suggested revisiting speed issues at that point.</p> <p>To remove from list.</p> <p>(iii) <u>People parking and crossing Dunmore Road to use playing fields</u> It was noted that more people are crossing Dunmore Road and there are only two controlled crossings: Tilsley Park and Wootton Road roundabout. Cycle and pedestrian paths through Tilsley Park to the Sunningwell bridleway are currently closed due to the current development. In consequence, more people have been</p>

	<p>crossing Dunmore Road at the end of the Long Furlong footpath to the Sunningwell bridleway, with increased risks. A new 'Pegasus' crossing is planned there as part of the North Abingdon development and it may be useful to put in place a temporary crossing earlier than scheduled. Lee Turner would speak to the Transport Development Control team to see if this could be done. Cllr Foulsham would provide photos for Lee Turner.</p> <p>3.11.21: AF noted the planned changes to Dunmore Road but noted the current issue of crossings and the closure of the route through Tilsley Park to the bridleway. LT would look into planned traffic management while development goes ahead to ensure that pedestrian safety would be taken into account.</p>
T10	<p><u>Parking on Northcourt Road</u></p> <p>Re minutes of the meeting on 4 March 2021 (T27) Cllr Clifton asked for parking issues outside the flats on Northcourt Rd to be considered as they are still ongoing. This was reported again to the neighbourhood policing team on 21st May 2021 but an update has not been received. Cllr Clifton requested a further update from the neighbourhood policing team, as well as Cllr Briggs and would like to consider whether it might be worth looking at enforcing parallel parking in the lay-by. The Town Clerk would follow this up with the neighbourhood policing team.</p> <p>3.11.21 – no update</p>

6 Actions from 3 November 2021

T18/1/a	<p><u>Safety of Faringdon Road at Larkmead/St Helen and St Katherine schools</u></p> <p>The issue of traffic calming and crossings on Faringdon Road to improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists was discussed. Issues identified included an increase in parking in this area and the lack of pavements on both sides at some parts of the road. It would be worth considering road safety along the length of the road from the bridge to Faringdon Road.</p> <p>ACTION: Lee Turner would meet with Cllrs Ley and Fawcett to review the area</p>
T18/1/b	<p><u>Safety of crossing Wootton Road at the southern exit of the Wootton Road roundabout</u></p> <p>The two-lane roundabout is causing issues for people trying to cross the road. Vehicles approaching from Copenhagen Drive using the inside lane of the roundabout often speed out of the roundabout blind when using the third exit, heading south down Wootton Road.</p> <p>ACTION: County Council to look at vegetation on roundabout, to be reviewed at the next meeting. Lee Turner will meet Cllr Ley on site.</p>

T18/2/2	<p><u>Crossing Caldecott Road at the junction of Turberville Close</u></p> <p>Cllr Bowring raised the issue of difficulties crossing Caldecott Road at the junction of Turberville Close where pedestrians on the north side of the road are faced with a choice of crossing the road at a dangerous place or of walking along the road until they reach St. Amand Drive because there is no pavement.</p> <p>ACTION: Lee Turner agreed that the pedestrian crossing facilities need maintaining and improving and he would meet with Cllr Bowring to look into this.</p>
T19	<p><u>Civil parking consultation</u></p> <p>County Council Cabinet Member Cllr Tim Bearder had contacted the Town Council with regard to Civil Parking Enforcement, which commenced on 1 November 2021. Committee members were asked to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Feedback on where in the town enforcement of current restrictions would make a difference.ii) Requests to review restrictions. <p>ACTION: It was agreed that the new arrangements should be reviewed when the scheme has been established and that all Councillors should be able to contribute. Information will be sent to all Councillors for review at the next meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee.</p>