



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

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Traffic Advisory Committee

Wednesday 7 June 2023

Agenda

Date of agenda: 2 June 2023

To: All Members of the Abingdon-on-Thames Traffic Advisory Committee

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council:

Cllr Oliver Forder
Cllr Tom Greenaway
Cllr Murali Gunarajah
Cllr Leo Midwinter

Oxfordshire County Council:

Cllr Neil Fawcett
Cllr Dr Nathan Ley
Cllr Alison Rooke

Vale of White Horse District Council:

TBC

Thames Valley Police:

Mr Chris Hulme

Principal Officer, Traffic Schemes – Area Operations South, OCC:

Mr Lee Turner

Abingdon-on-Thames Chamber of Commerce

*Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council Traffic Advisory Committee
Wednesday 7 June 2023*

Dear Member,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **Abingdon-on-Thames Traffic Advisory Committee** to be held on **Wednesday 7 June 2023 at 7pm.**

This meeting will be held online as it is an advisory committee. Any recommendations of this committee which need to be agreed by the Town Council will be considered by the Town Council at its next meeting.

The meeting ID will be forwarded to Members separately before the meeting. Any members of the public who wish to attend should e-mail democratic@abingdon.gov.uk and you will be sent the relevant link.

The meeting will be conducted in the same way, as far as possible, as a meeting in person. Members of the public may view the meeting online and may, with notice, make representations, ask questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business at agenda item 6.

Where a member is unable to attend a meeting they may nominate a substitute member, provided that the nominating member informs the office of the Town Clerk prior to the commencement of the meeting at democratic@abingdon.gov.uk

Any queries on the agenda should also be directed to me.

Yours sincerely

Paula Lopez

Paula Lopez
Town Clerk (Interim, signed electronically)

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council Our Vision

To develop an inclusive community so that Abingdon is the place where everyone wants to live and where the wellbeing of residents is prioritised. In developing this community, the town will be one which is environmentally sustainable, vibrant, resilient and safe.

Our key objectives

1. To respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency.
2. To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future.
3. To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.
4. To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity.

AGENDA

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

To elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the advisory committee. The Chair is to be an elected member of Abingdon Town Council.

2. Apologies

To record any apologies for absence and note the attendance of substitute members.

Apologies were received before the meeting from Cllr Andy Foulsham (Vale of White Horse District Council).

3. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of interest in relation to any items to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the Local Code of Conduct or the Code of Conduct in relation to their authority, as applicable.

4. **Minutes and matters arising**

To receive and consider the draft minutes of the meeting of [8 February 2023](#).

5. **Matters arising**

To consider any matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda, to include the previous meeting and ongoing [actions register](#).

6. **Public participation**

At the discretion of the Chair, Members of the public or representatives of organisations may address the advisory committee. The address shall be in the form of a statement lasting not more than three minutes. The person giving the address shall not be permitted to participate in any subsequent debate by the advisory committee on the matter in question.

Notice of intention to make a statement must be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk no later than 5pm on Tuesday 6 June 2023. This should be sent by e-mail to democratic@abingdon.gov.uk

7. **Items submitted to the Town Clerk by members or residents/public ahead of the meeting**

Councillors and Officers

1. **Path maintenance – Cllr Alison Rooke (Oxfordshire County Council)**

To discuss weeds, the removal of broken street furniture, state of the surface (both cracks/ holes and cleanliness).

2. **Caldecott Chase – Layla Moran MP**

I have been contacted by the Asst Property Manager at Caldecott Chase.

They have an issue with residents complaining about the poor parking at school drop off and pick up, obstructing the road and pavements. They tell me that shutting Caldecott Road will make the problem significantly worse.

They would like to have double yellow lines and parking restrictions applied at the location on the attached map and the management company is willing to fund this. They have responded to the Civil Parking Enforcement Team to confirm that they wish to proceed with the TRO process.

Would this be something that Abingdon Town Council could help with? Can you advise on the best way to progress this?



Residents/public

1. Copenhagen Drive traffic – Tony Betteridge

Message 1 - 11 April 2022

It's been a busy year for all of us, so I haven't attempted to bother you about the problems of speed/density of traffic on Copenhagen Drive and difficulty of exiting Mons Way, etc. - but the problems haven't gone away and, of course, are soon to increase in intensity when the houses on the new developments begin to be occupied; I would therefore like to appraise you of certain things which I have observed in the hope that you are able to provide me with a positive response or to bring them to the attention of the Abingdon Traffic Advisory Committee, as appropriate, vis:

a. In the "Actions Listed" (16 June 2021) from the Advisory Committee and at its meeting of 3rd November, it states that the 30mph limit had been extended from the Wootton Road roundabout to "beyond Mons Way" - this is incorrect, in fact this is what I was asking for at the meeting of 3rd March 2021 to assist in reducing traffic speeds past the Copenhagen Drive/Mons Way junction and thereby making it easier and safer to exit. The fact is that the 30mph limit extends just past Bourlon Wood and the Copenhagen Drive/Mons Way junction is still a "free for all" in terms of speed - can the record please be corrected to "just past Bourlon Wood"?

b. Regarding Mr. Turner's recommendation to "let the new speed limit get established" (Actions 12 November 2021 refer), I make day-to-day observations of traffic speeds on Copenhagen Drive and I can tell you that the majority of drivers make very little attempt to adhere to the 30mph limit from WRR (Wootton Road Roundabout) - they simply exit WRR and accelerate away, passing Bourlon Wood at 40mph, often reaching speeds of c.50mph by the time they reach Mons Way and occasionally much higher speeds. Also (on limited occasions), both cars and motor cycles "open up" when travelling north from Larkmead Bridge to an estimated 60 -70mph and they don't decelerate until after they have passed Mons Way.

c. In my e-mail of 2nd August 2021 to Andrew Coveney (copied in), I referred to the fact that the Finances & General Purposes Committee had approved funding for a speed survey on Copenhagen Drive (Item F156 Matters Reserved refers) and, in the same e-mail, I offered to volunteer my services to help with the project; I've heard nothing since on this matter and would therefore appreciate your advice on the current situation regarding this - I am willing to give time and effort to assist in making this happen. I am wondering, in view of the fact that other roads in this area (Colwell Drive - outside side Army married quarters, Wootton Road - just north of Sunningwell Road and recently on Boars Hill) all have speed monitors, if there is some valid reason why Copenhagen Drive is not receiving a similar service in order to protect everyone using Copenhagen Drive, but especially Wildmoor residents who are exposed EVERY day to the dangers of excess speeds of vehicles passing the Mons Way junction? In the foreseeable future, SOMETHING needs to be done at this junction, be it 30mph speed limit extending to a point south of Mons Way, traffic lights, a roundabout or speed camera(s), so great is the volume and speed of Copenhagen traffic

d. I have been monitoring the numbers of traffic movements in the area and have figures at various times of the day for several months, which I will compare with those occurring when the houses at the Wootton and Dunmore Road developments begin to be occupied and the Aldi store comes on stream - 1,100 houses + a mini-supermarket = a lot of extra vehicles..... the stretches of road I'm referring to are :

Larkmead bridge to Mons Way junction
Mons Way junction to Wootton Road roundabout

and, as a matter of interest,
Wootton Road roundabout to Long Tow - for what it's worth, I think that the density of traffic on this road (where many drivers simply ignore the speed limit) is going to ultimately throw up a lot more in terms of congestion, but only time will tell.

These matters may appear to be "disjointed ramblings" of a nervous or under-confident driver to the casual observer, but may I assure you that they are not, they are the considered concerns of an experienced and highly-confident driver who reasonably expects (in return for his taxes) the responsible

authority to apply the controls which allow him to use the highway network without constant delays and exposure to danger which are part of daily life for Wildmoor residents.

Message 2: 17 August 2022

I'm writing to express my extreme disappointment in that you haven't replied to my comprehensive e-mail of 11th April 2022 regarding the problems of traffic on Copenhagen Drive and the surrounding area (see below).

Taking the matters raised in order, may I enquire as to whether or not the correction to the "Actions listed" on 16th June from the Advisory Committee meeting of 3rd November regarding the extension of the 30 mph on Copenhagen has now been actioned? I think that this incorrect statement in the recorded minutes should be amended, even though it may be a "moot point" to press for an extension to the Bourlon Wood 30mph zone in the not-too-distant future if OCC's plans to implement a blanket 30mph limit on the peripheral road (Dunmore and Copenhagen) come to fruition. Perhaps you can advise me of progress in due course?

Item "C" of the e-mail under refers to the approval of and the funding for the speed survey on Copenhagen Drive - is there a reason why this speed survey has not been implemented, when other roads in the area are now well served with these monitors? I refer, of course, to the three monitors on Wootton Road (+ a speed camera) and three on Boars Hill (my previous e-mail on the subject should have read "Cholswell Road" and not "Colwell Drive" - apologies!). I am still available to volunteer my services to assist in this project when it is brought on stream.

The last point I'd like to make involves the potential traffic jams which I have every confidence will occur just as soon as the Wootton Road (David Wilson) development becomes more fully occupied and the Aldi store commences trading, vis:

To the north of the keep-left traffic island between Aldi and the development is a turning lane of 30m length (taking a maximum of 6 cars) and (I believe) another of similar length will be created to the south of the island for access to Aldi (at present there are hatched lines here), which will also accommodate a maximum of 6 vehicles. Because, at various times of the day, the traffic on Wootton Road is so heavy, I believe that there will be more than 6 vehicles trying to turn right into Kingsgate and Aldi (sometimes simultaneously) and, as a result, further traffic will begin to back up on Wootton Road to Long Tow in the north and to the roundabout to the south - this has the potential to create gridlock at the Long Tow/Wootton Road junction and at Wootton Road roundabout, where traffic will be prevented from entering Wootton Road (north) from both Dunmore Road and Copenhagen Drive".

I'm bringing this potential gridlock situation to your attention in advance because I think that, at some stage in the not-too-distant future, the Advisory Committee will become involved in finding a solution to what (I think) will become a serious local traffic problem.

Thank you for reading this and I look forward to hearing from you in due course. Perhaps you can advise me of the date of the next Advisory Committee meeting, as I'd like to attend as an observer.

2. Zebra crossing request – Jean Belzung, 4 March 2023

I am writing to express my concern about the safety of the children in Abingdon who need to cross the road to access the skatepark near the Leisure centre. Between Audlett drive bicycle path and the wooden bridge leading to the skatepark, there is no designated crossing area, and the road can be busy during peak hours. I have attached a picture showing the location.

I would like to request that the council consider installing a zebra crossing on this road to ensure the safety of the children in the area. With a designated crossing, drivers will be more aware of the presence of pedestrians and take necessary precautions to avoid accidents. This will provide much-needed peace of mind for parents and guardians in our town.

The skatepark is a popular destination for kids of all ages and is a valuable resource for Abingdon. However, the current lack of a safe crossing point is a major concern for parents and guardians. We believe that the installation of a zebra crossing would greatly enhance the safety of this area, making it a more inviting place for families to visit.

I would appreciate it if you could give this matter your urgent attention and let us know the steps that will be taken to address our concerns. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.



8. **Report from the Principal Officer, Traffic Scheme South Team, Oxfordshire County Council**

Mr Lee Turner to report at the meeting.

9. **Dates of future meetings**

To note the dates for future meetings of the Traffic Advisory Committee:

Wednesday 8 November 2023

Wednesday 21 February 2024

The law allows members of the public and press to record meetings of the Council and its committees. Should you wish to record at any meeting which is open to the public it is requested that you inform the Town Clerk of your intention to film or record before the day of the meeting, by emailing democratic@abingdon.gov.uk or telephoning 01235 522642.