



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Traffic Advisory Committee

Wednesday 7 June 2023

Actions Register

13 November 2019

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</p>

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 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).

9.2.22: Cllr Halliday- This has been discussed many times, we have spoken to County and the Vale – we are about to come up to vegetation season, plants could be planted, people want to sponsor roundabouts. Is there any way we can achieve something as it has been going on for over 2 years. There was not update.

Cllr Fawcett -new interim CEO in place in the County suggest contact him, copy in Cllr Tim Bearder (relevant Cabinet member) and himself and they will chase.

8.2.23 – on agenda, so not discussed.

26 November 2020

T16/20	<u>Items submitted to the Town Clerk by members or residents ahead of the meeting</u>
	<p><u>Speeding traffic and Ock Street</u> Community Speedwatch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise a group of volunteers • Purchase equipment, estimated to cost £120-£150 • Training - <i>CommunitySpeedwatch.org to register an interest</i>

- 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.

Orders for speed surveys placed June 2021 – dates to be obtained with a view to an update at the November meeting.

3.11.21: 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.**

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.

Action: Town Clerk to advise if the speed surveys have been completed.

Cllr Halliday asked if there was any update on this – No further update.

Action: Town Clerk to chase.

8.2.23 – Speedwatch group is no longer meeting. Lee Turner: if the application from the town council is agreed by the county council, Ock Street will have a new 20mph street. There is little point in undertaking a speed survey until this new speed limit is confirmed. The application will be considered by the County Council Cabinet member on 23 Feb 2023. This item will be deferred until the new speed limits are determined.

3 March 2021

T27

Parking on Northcourt Road and pavement access.

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.

- **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.
- **Cllr Briggs** would raise the matter again in consultation with Cllr Helen Pighills and would report back to a future meeting.

UPDATE: June 2021: item added to agenda for meeting as requested by Cllr Grace Clifton.

16.6.21: update from Cllr Cheryl Briggs awaited.

3.11.21: 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.

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.

Double yellow lines apply to the whole of the highway. Illegally parked vehicles can be reported to the Civil Parking Enforcement team.

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.

9.2.22: Suggestions from Cllr Clifton regarding possible restrictions for Northcourt Lane and Northcourt Road parking with the suggestion of double yellow lines on both sides of the road. Cllr Briggs was concerned that double yellow lines could lead to more parking on grass verges. Cllr Ley advised a Northcourt Lane residents survey should be undertaken if this was to be progressed.

The Chair stated that the committee would be in a better position to discuss this matter at the next meeting in June and it was suggested that James Whiting the Parking Officer for the County be invited.

ACTION – The Town Clerk to extend the invite to Mr Whiting.

8.2.23 – Mr Whiting was invited to attend the meeting but was unavailable. He sent the following response:

I think if I did attend, I would only re-iterate what has been said before. Under civil powers we can only enforce parking contraventions where there are formal parking restrictions in place (i.e. double yellow lines) and this is where the vehicle is parked on the public highway. If they are parked off the highway, e.g. district council or private land it's for the land owner to make their own provisions for managing the parking. The police do have powers under section 137 highways act 1980 to tackle wilful obstruction of the highway, but when it comes to footway parking this can be subjective as to what is classed as an obstruction. Any plans for formal restrictions would need to be externally funded and current TRO fees are around £3255 I believe? The physical works would be additional to this, and lining costs are dependant on how much is put down.

8.2.23 - Cllr Clifton asked for the issue of parking on pavements on Northcourt Road in front of the flats near to Dunmore School to be considered further. This issue has been raised with the Traffic Advisory Committee before but there has been no progress in relation to this issue.

Cllr Ley has met with Cllr Briggs and Cllr Pighills to tour the road to identify possible solutions. Cllr Ley has been able to use some of his priority fund to pay for bollards on a section of grass verge near to Dunmore Primary School which has been damaged by cars parking on it. A parking bay in which cars park at an angle, sometimes obstructing the pavement and the road, is more problematic.

Issues along Northcourt Road are complex and difficult to resolve simply and are reflected in many areas. They primarily arise from inconsiderate parking and an information campaign could be considered.

Cllr Ley has proposed a new zebra crossing on Northcourt Road near to Dunmore

	<p>School which would help to reduce speeds along the road. The county council is working with the district council to resolve land ownership issues at the site to enable the crossing to be installed. Cllr Briggs would look into this with Cllr Pighills and liaise with Cllr Ley.</p>
<u>T33</u>	<p><u>Wooden bridge at Abbey Meadow connecting to Barton Fields</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> <p><u>9.2.22</u>: Cllr Fawcett advised that there was funding in the Vale budget from CIL money which could be used for this bridge.</p> <p><u>8.2.23</u> – NF: a new bridge is on a list of priority projects for the Vale of White Horse District Council and money has been identified in the district council budget from CIL funding. Planning work is ongoing and district council officers are consulting with the Environment Agency to determine whether the river should be navigable at this point, which would affect the design of the bridge. There is now clarity about the ownership of the bridge and work is expected to proceed soon.</p>

16 June 2021

<u>T8/4</u>	<p><u>Traffic on Dunmore Road and surrounding roads</u></p> <p><u>People parking and crossing Dunmore Road to use playing fields</u></p> <p>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 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 Sunningwell bridleway. LT would look into planned traffic management while development goes ahead to ensure that pedestrian safety would be taken into account.</p> <p><u>8.2.23</u> – Cllr Ley: developers have prepared the crossing site but it may be some</p>
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	<p>time before the crossing is installed due to its proximity of the works and temporary lights making a crossing at this point hazardous. LT: the whole of the road will be dropping to 30mph if the new speed limits are introduced.</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 9.2.22: Cllr Briggs has contacted properties again; the previous postholder has left and is trying to find out who the replacement is. No further update. 8.2.23 – on agenda.</p>

3 November 2021

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> <p>8.2.23 – on agenda</p>
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8 February 2023

TA6/22	<p><u>Boxhill Road parking and speeding</u></p> <p>Cllr Ley raised concerns from residents over cars speeding on Boxhill Road and parking causing a hazard, in particular on the junction with Oxford Road. Suggestions to ameliorate the problem include new 20mph limits which are under consideration, yellow lines on the junction and bollards on corners. The county council officer consulted on this advised that a large number of bollards would be</p>
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	<p>needed as the junction is very wide and the maintenance cost for bollards would be unlikely to make this a cost effective option.</p> <p>Chris Hulme from Thames Valley Police advised that the nature of the road does not lend itself to traffic calming as it is a dead end. This is likely to mean that most of the traffic will be local residents. Any issues on this road are likely to require local solutions.</p> <p>Lee Turner advised that yellow lines cover the whole of the highway, which would include cars parked on pavements and tarmacked areas. Any parking infringement could therefore be enforced.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Foulsham would speak to Cllr Ley about the process of requesting double yellow lines. LT noted that such requests would normally be made by town councils.</p>
TA6/22	<p><u>Speed indicator signs</u></p> <p>A budget for speed indicator signs had been agreed by the town council. A query has arisen over whether town councils have the power to install these signs. It is understood that this power rests with the county council, although it can be delegated to town and parish council. The county council has a small third party support budget to provide match funding for town and parish councils and to help with the installation of sign posts and moving signs between posts.</p> <p>ACTION: It was proposed by Cllr Halliday, seconded by Cllr Lonergan and agreed that the town council would liaise with Lee Turner over speed indicator signs and the installation of sign posts and the town council would identify some potential sites through its Town Infrastructure Committee.</p> <p>9.3.23 – Town Infrastructure Committee asked officers to email town councillors to request suggestions for locations to site speed indicator signs and to liaise with the Chair of the Town Infrastructure Committee and the county council on these proposed locations so that the town council is prepared for the installation of signs. 22.3.23 - Town Clerk emailed councillors to request suggestions for locations. One reply received to date (1.6.23).</p>
TA6/22	<p><u>Civil parking enforcement</u></p> <p>Cllr Halliday asked for an extension of residents' parking in the town centre to be considered, in particular on Bath Street between Stratton Way and Letcombe Avenue. This would help to address pressure on parking in the area which has become worse with the partial closure of the Charter car park.</p> <p>Cllr Halliday would liaise with town council officers, county councillors and James Whiting at the county council to request this.</p>

TA6/22	<p><u>Maintenance and sponsorship of roundabouts in Abingdon – Cllr Jim Halliday</u></p> <p>Roundabouts are owned by the district council and there are organisations willing to sponsor them, subject to their contribution being acknowledged. This would require a sign to be installed on the relevant roundabout, for which planning permission would be needed. Abingdon councillors have sought to introduce an agreement similar to one which operates in South Oxfordshire whereby sponsorship, signage and planning could be dealt with as part of a single process.</p> <p>The issue of Abingdon roundabouts has been in the news recently, in particular with reference to the Abingdon Monk sculpture on the Marcham Road roundabout, which has fallen into disrepair. A local company has offered to refurbish the monk. Issues were identified with the ability of the county council to take action on this matter which LT would seek to resolve with colleagues.</p> <p>ACTION: LT would work with Cllr Foulsham to seek to identify a process for carrying out the work on the monk, in consultation with the Town Clerk and the county council.</p>
TA6/22	<p><u>Traffic pollution in Abingdon, with particular reference to Drayton Road</u></p> <p>The committee considered a comment from a resident with regard to traffic and resultant pollution in Abingdon, especially Drayton Road. The phasing of crossing lights by the Ock Mill pub and outside the hospital may be reviewed to help traffic flows. LT will look into this. LT noted that the resident had contacted the county council and a detailed response had been sent. LT would share the response to be added as an appendix to the minutes.</p> <p>ACTION: A response will be sent to the resident to note that the item was discussed and enquiries would be made about the level of pollution before and after crossings installed on Marcham Road. The committee will review the impact of the new Lodge Hill junction and the cycling plan (LCWIP). Officers to prepare response, to be signed by Cllr Foulsham as Chair of the current meeting.</p>