



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Traffic Advisory Committee

Wednesday 8 November 2023

Actions Register

Updated 13.6.23

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>

16.6.21

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 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 – Update provided. 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. 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. **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.**

7.6.23: LT: no appetite for this within OCC highways. The highways team has so many other priorities to deal with that there is limited capacity to deal with this. TG to contact NF to ask for an update and request that he follows this up.

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. <p>Speed survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) <p>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.</p> <p><u>16.6.21</u> 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:</p> <p><u>Ock Street</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. <p><u>Copenhagen Drive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. <p><u>Oxford Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cllr Lonergan suggested adjacent to layby halfway along, location to be advised. <p>It was agreed to ask the Finance and General Purposes Committee to recommend to</p>

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.

7.6.23: Agreed to defer until June 2024, add to agenda.

8 February 2023

TA6/22

Speed indicator signs

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.

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.

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

	<p>locations so that the town council is prepared for the installation of signs.</p> <p>22.3.23 - Town Clerk emailed councillors to request suggestions for locations. One reply received to date (1.6.23).</p> <p><u>7.6.23:</u> Suggestions were made for locations and an email sent to town councillors (15.6.23) to request any further suggestions.</p> <p>Dear councillors, the traffic advisory committee on 7 June 2023 considered a previous decision to introduce speed indicator signs in the town to encourage safe driving. These signs would be funded by the town council – for which there is a budget (town council 26.1.22, item C85) - and managed by town council staff. Posts will be installed at various locations and the signs rotated between them. Locations which have been suggested to date are:</p> <p>Opposite Lucca Drive. Audlett Drive, for south-bound traffic before the junction with Eason Drive (30mph) Preston Road, for west-bound traffic (20 mph), Top of Wootton Road Copenhagen Drive Drayton Road Oxford Road Dunmore Road</p> <p>If you have any suggestions for locations please email me by Friday 23 June 2023.</p> <p>LT: the county council has a parish support budget to provide 50:50 match funding with parish and town councils. Councils purchase equipment, OCC installs posts. OCC may have spare funds after introducing 20mph limit. If the town council wishes to proceed, email LT and a county council officer can undertake a site visit and advise on the type of units needed.</p> <p>26.10.23 – discussed by the town council Town Infrastructure Committee (minute IF52/23).</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>Action: Cllr Halliday would liaise with town council officers, county councillors and James Whiting at the county council to request this.</p> <p>7.6.23: JH has spoken to officers but this remains ongoing.</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</p>

	<p>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> <p>7.6.23: LT shared the OCC response at the meeting. If a response has been sent from the town council, close the item.</p>

7 June 2023

TA6/23	<p><u>Path maintenance</u></p> <p>Query raised about path maintenance and weed clearing. It was noted that this is the responsibility of the district council. A related query was raised about a damaged sign in Peachcroft by Budgens.</p> <p>ACTION: LT asked AR to email him about the sign and EdIH would look into this at the district council.</p>
TA6/23	<p><u>Caldecott Chase School parking issues</u></p> <p>Comment received from Layla Moran MP re parking problems during busy periods. LT advised that he was looking into this and that a traffic regulation order and the installation of yellow lines would cost approaching £5,000 and would take around 6 months to install. County Councillor Neil Fawcett may be able to advise further on the traffic changes and the specific circumstances which fall in his division.</p>

Updated 16 August 2023