



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

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Traffic Advisory Committee Wednesday 28 January 2026 Draft Minutes

In attendance online:

Cllr Elio Astone	Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Cllr Mark Giddins	Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Cllr Tom Greenaway	Oxfordshire County Council
Cllr Jim Halliday	Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council
Cllr Eric de la Harpe	Vale of White Horse District Council
Mr Chris Hulme	Thames Valley Police
Mr Lee Turner	Team Leader - Traffic & Road Safety, Oxfordshire County Council
Jo Blackmore	Clerk to the meeting

TA19/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Neil Fawcett (Oxfordshire County Council), Cllr Oliver Forder (Vale of White Horse District Council), Cllr Murali Gunarajah (Abingdon Town Council), Cllr Nathan Ley (Oxfordshire County Council),

TA20/25 Declarations of interest

None.

TA21/25 Minutes and matters arising

It was **proposed** by Cllr Halliday, **seconded** by Cllr Giddins and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee of [26th November 2025](#) be confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

TA22/25 Public participation

None.

TA23/25 **Actions register**

The actions register was reviewed and updated where possible. Please follow this [link](#) to the updated actions register.

TA24/25 **Report from the Principal Officer, Traffic Scheme South Team, Oxfordshire County Council**

LT provided a report for the meeting responding to the actions register and agenda items which have been minuted with the relevant item.

Other work

- Rush Common school is not part of the 'School Streets' scheme as there is concern that this will just move traffic issues to Norman Avenue. Instead, Rush Common school has a 'School Zone project' with the design ongoing to improve road safety in Hendred Way outside the school entrance and programmed to be installed this financial year.

TA25/25 **Items submitted to the Town Clerk by members or residents ahead of the meeting**

1. **North Abingdon - Radley Reach Development (Bovis Homes) - Cllr Mike Pighills (VWHDC)**

Residents living at Radley Reach have expressed concerns about the lack of road crossings, a stipulation of the original planning conditions granted to Bellway for the development, or other safety measures to allow residents and other pedestrians to safely cross the Twelve Acre Drive road. Cllr Pighills wrote to County Councillor Nathan Ley on 16 October 2025 to raise the issue, noting that the development currently lacks dropped kerbs or marked crossing points and that as the estate currently lacks facilities, residents need to leave regularly for shopping, education, medical appointments and public transport. The current situation is especially hazardous for residents with children and those with mobility issues.

Cllr Pighills sought information on the timescale for installation of crossings and mitigation measures such as dropped kerbs if a delay is expected. He also asked about possible enforcement action.

The Chair, EA had an update after having received copy of an email from the Transport Development Manager Regulatory Planning & Enforcement Economy and Place at Oxfordshire County Council, who advised on plans for a temporary crossing arrangement which was being worked on ahead of the toucan crossing going in.

28/01/2026 meeting update:

The temporary crossing has been installed. The developer was asked to create a better vision spray (cut back vegetation) and improve warning signage which has been completed. However, the signage was only installed on the development

side and there is no warning signage for drivers coming off the Oxford Road roundabout and onto Twelve Acre Drive to warn drivers. This is more difficult to sign as the roundabout is also under development. With the dark evenings it has been suggested that a temporary light could be installed so that people could be seen, however this is not easy in practice but is being looked into.

LT advised that Michael Deadman, Transport Development Manager for OCC was providing weekly updates to Town, District and County councillors.

The toucan crossing was approved by OCC cabinet members delegated authority on 22nd January 2026.

2. Safety Barriers at Caldecott school – resident

A resident requested that the barriers on Caldecott Road are repaired.

The barriers were installed to reduce a very high risk of 'school-run accidents' at/around the junctions between 44/46-54/56 Caldecott Road; the service road running the length of Caldecott Road; and the main length of Caldecott Road.

As a result of greatly-reduced vehicular access to the school site, motorists dropping and collecting children in attendance at the school had taken to using the 'built' grassed areas on either side of these junctions as improvised car parks. This saw them (and still sees them) clambering up and down the kerbs in their vehicles and onto the grassed areas in search of a suitable parking spot.

The installation of safety barriers greatly reduced the potential for serious accidents in the immediate area, but the barriers have been in need of repair for a number of years, now, and all the evidence (e.g. tyre tracks and growing bald patches on the grassed areas - easier to see when the ground is wet) points to the likelihood that the junctions are becoming dangerous again if repairs to the safety barriers aren't carried out very soon.

LT notified the meeting that this will be added to the highway maintenance works schedule in the new financial year.

It was suggested that trees could be planted. If this was the case a County Councillor for the area would need to contact the OCC tree team to request the trees.

3. 20 mph limit in the Wootton Road and Bath Street – resident

A resident requested a SID is installed in Wootton Road/Bath Street as the 20-mph speed limit is regularly being broken.

This is a particular problem in Bath Street which doesn't have humps or pedestrian crossings and where the removal of the parking and the extension of double yellow lines has had the unfortunate effect of speeding up the traffic. I have now given up cycling in Bath Street because of the lack of cycle space and the increase in the amount and speed of traffic.

Also, why doesn't the camera located in Wootton Road, close to John Mason School ever work. If it was operating, it might deter some of the speeding.

LT advised that more SID units could be installed if Town Council funding was available as the unit cost is not currently covered by OCC.

It may be possible to set up a community speed watch group. CH to send Cllr Astone the contact for the Community Speed Watch for instructions and equipment required to set up a community speed watch group. Volunteers would also be required to operate.

CH informed the meeting that the Fixed Safety Cameras cannot currently work in a 20-mph speed limit, but the housing is a deterrent. This may change and the police are currently looking at new systems for enforcing speed limits however mobile vans are more flexible and are around randomly enforcing speed limits.

Before any enforcement will be considered the police require speed data so that they can identify the speeding hot spots and the time of day. Speed data can be acquired by the SID units and by handheld cameras as part of a community speed watch group. The police look at the mean speed, the 85th percentile speed (look at the speed of 85% of the vehicles and not the top 15% who will always speed) and the speeding prosecution threshold which currently is 10% plus 2 before a stretch of road is considered for enforcement.

LT mentioned that the success of the new 20-mph speed limits is considered a victory if people are driving two or three mph slower than they were when the speed limit was 30-mph.

TA26/25 **Future Agenda Item**

The meeting would like to thank the county officers for responding and resolving the Fix My Streets reports raised by the public and would like to encourage more residents to use this system of reporting issues.

The meeting noted that the closure of East St Helen Street at St Helen's street appeared to be heavily impacting the Drayton Road which is making it difficult for anyone coming into Abingdon from this direction with Ock Street also blocking up as it appears to mirror the Drayton Road. This information is from the Radio Oxford traffic reports.

Items for the next meeting:

- Educating people on cycling safety before next winter.
Cycling without lights, dressed in dark clothing, cycling on the pavements and cycling the wrong way up roads.
- Fix my Street
To encourage wider public use of the service.

TA27/25 **Dates of future meetings**

24 June 2026 25	November 2026	24 February 2027
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The meeting closed at: 20:33

Signed:

Date: