

BANBURY TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Banbury Traffic Advisory Committee held at The Town Hall, Banbury on Wednesday, 04 December 2019 at 2.00pm.

Present:	Cllr K Mallon	Oxfordshire County Council
	Cllr Tina Wren	Banbury Town Council
	Cllr Nick Harrison	Banbury Town Council
	Colin Clarke	Banbury Town Council
	Gordon Ross	Banbury Town Council
	Dr. Sheila Gover	Cherwell Rail Users Group
	Trevor Bayliss	Stagecoach
	Andrew McCullum	Civic Society
	Robert Wingrove	Banbury Association of driving instructors
Officers:	Robert Duxbury	Banbury Town Council
	Matthew Brain	Banbury Town Council
	Mike Wasley	Oxfordshire County Council
	Jacqui Cox	Oxfordshire County Council
	Ian Connick	Oxfordshire County Council

16/19 Apologies

John Croxton (Thames Valley Police), Yasmin Kaduji (Banbury Chamber of Commerce), Peter Monk (Civic Society) and Mark Recchia (Town Clerk).

17/19 Declarations of Interest

None.

18/19 Minutes

IT WAS AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2019 be received.

19/19 Oxfordshire County Council – Combined Report on Transport Policy/Strategy & Area Operations

Tramway Road accessibility scheme

The design team had completed the feasibility design work for this scheme and produced their technical report. The project planned to deliver a bus and taxi-only route from Tramway Road through Station Approach past the station forecourt; to re-route cars wishing to park at the Chiltern Railways western car park to access via Tramway Road, and to signalise the Tramway Road/Swan Close Road junction and provide any necessary enhancements to walking and cycling routes along Tramway Road. The design team had also begun to look at the Station Approach/Bridge Street junction and what could be done within its tight constraints. More detail on all these elements will continue as the project moves into the preliminary design phase.

The opportunity had also been taken to use the detailed model and the signal design team to advise on complimentary measures for the existing signalised junctions along the Cherwell Street corridor.

Officers were advised not to undertake consultation during purdah, therefore the consultation period would start on 13th January for four weeks, with officers and plans available at the Town Council on 16th January.

The intention was for any amendments that came out of this process to feed into the preliminary design stage, which was due to start in April following business case approval.

The documents would also be sent to the BTAC members.

IT WAS AGREED that it be noted that the consultation period starts on 13th January for four weeks.

A422 Hennef Way

The project aimed at providing relief for Hennef Way and improved connectivity with the strategic road network for the northern parts of the town, was launched in November. Balfour Beatty were the main consultants for the project. The project focussed on the proposal for new slip roads onto the M40 from Southam Road and improvements to the junction of Southam Road/Hennef Way/Ruscote Avenue, plus any amendments required along the Southam Road itself between these two key areas.

As discussed at the last meeting, the opportunity would be taken to consider Lockheed Close junction and its interaction with the Southam Road junction, although the funding for delivery of a scheme did not include this element at this stage.

The optioneering work was expected to conclude in July 2020, but the programme for this work would be clearer once an initial review of the transport modelling tool for Banbury had been undertaken. Updates would be brought to future TAC meetings and details discussed with local Members and other stakeholder groups at appropriate points in the work plan.

Members also discussed the impact of HS2 on traffic movements.

IT WAS AGREED that OCC officers would ask their consultants to speak with Tesco about alternative access to their site from Southam Road; and would also bring back information on traffic flows resulting from HS2 construction. **JC**

Longford Park s278 schemes and works onsite

Approval had been granted for OCC to pay for the redesign of the Bankside traffic calming and related improvements. The developers' consortium's engineering consultant would progress this so that the scheme could be implemented in the Spring. These works would also include the signalisation of Bankside/Hightown Road. The timescales for acting on the parking restrictions Traffic Regulations Order had slipped and therefore needed to go out for consultation.

Options and feasibility work for the Farmfield Road/Oxford Road/Sainsbury's junction had just recently concluded. The outputs would be discussed with local Members and a decision taken on the works to be delivered by the Longford Park consortium under their s278 obligations.

Other local scheme work within the town

Officers were actively seeking additional resource and funding to assess, design and deliver schemes along Warwick Road (from the Stratford Road junction down to the Orchard Way junction) and along the A361 Bloxham Road (Springfield Avenue and Queensway junctions). These were schemes where s106 funding was gradually coming in that would at least partially fund improvements.

Local Transport & Connectivity Plan (LTCP5)

The first stage of consultation on LTCP5 was delayed and would now be undertaken in January; this would concentrate on themes, visions, and ideas gathering. With the increasing emphasis on climate action the focus would be on sustainable solutions as the key priority.

Defects and maintenance

No defects were overdue in the period. Details of various highway maintenance schemes were noted. It was also noted that the annual programme for signing and lining maintenance was now mainly complete.

20/19 OCC Consultation**A361 Bloxham Road (Banbury) Proposed 40mph Speed Limit**

OCC were seeking views on the proposal to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the A361 Bloxham Road, leading south-westwards out of Banbury. This 'interim' proposal amended a previous consultation in respect of extending the 30mph limit on the A361 out of Banbury, which may be revisited in the future. Any objections or other representations on the proposal were to be submitted by Friday 06th December 2019.

It was **AGREED** that the 40mph proposal be supported from the edge of town to beyond Wykham Lane. **MR**

Noral Way (Banbury) Proposed Parking Restriction

OCC were seeking views on the proposal to make adjustments to the existing parking restrictions along Noral Way in Banbury. Specifically the proposals comprised of extending the existing sections of 'No waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions (double yellow lines) along the entire length of the road. The proposals are being put forward as a result of the road (which services the 'Hardwick Business Park') being subjected to an increased level of HGV movements in recent years, and the current areas of permitted parking along the road created an obstruction to the safe and effective movement of traffic.

It was **AGREED** that the Noral Way parking restrictions proposals be supported, provided that a "yellow box" is provided at the eastern end for turning vehicles and that OCC be asked to confirm that they had considered the displacement of the cars/vans parked. **MR**

21/19 Matters Raised by Members**Civic Society**

1) Lockheed roundabout - the capacity problem at this feature continued to have an adverse effect on local movement and accessibility. A long term solution was hinted at during the last meeting but the situation requires a short term solution to be developed with energy and imagination. **Noted**

2) O.C.C. Project updates

- a) Oxford Road / Sainsbury's junction - progress
- b) Station access - progress?
- c) Hennef Way / M40 - progress and timetable
- d) LTP 5 - progress

The Chairman advised that these matters had already been covered under the OCC Officers' report.

e) Bankside / chicanes and Hightown Road signals

It was **AGREED**

- That OCC consider the Bankside parking restrictions to Lyme Avenue/Western Crescent to address displacement problems; **JC**
- That a letter be sent to TVP regarding dangerous parking on Hightown Road. **MR**

3) a) Traffic signals Oxford Road / New Windsor Street - the double secondary aspects frequently cause confusion for drivers. A green arrow for the left turn movement, as at Bloxham Rd. and elsewhere, might be less confusing.

It was **AGREED** that OCC would investigate the signal sequencing. **JC**

b) Bloxham Road/A361 roadworks

The two sets of temporary traffic signals at the Bloxham Road works should be better co-ordinated to minimise delays, especially to bus services. One set frequently back up at peak times, blocking access/egress for the other set and leaving traffic at a standstill.

Also the co-ordination of signals in Cherwell Street needs to be revisited to eliminate 'tail;-backs' from the Bridge Street utility works spreading onto the main route. There have been extended delays to certain movements at this point - up to 40 mins to get out of Bridge Street (west) have been reported in the recent past.

It was **AGREED** that OCC would ask their contractors to co-operate in co-ordinating the lights on Bloxham Road. **JC**

c) Bloxham Rd / Harriers View Pelican crossing.

The Civic Society asked what was the significance of the 20mph signs and yellow 'wig-wag' lights at the crossing and whether these were necessary at a Pelican and enforceable?

4) Bus Timetable information

The Civic Society asked where in the Bridge Street area could a resident, or visitor, find bus times and departure points?

It was **AGREED** that the voluntary sector operator of the community bus service now running on this route be asked to display timetables at stops. **IC**

5) Town Centre car parking

The Civic Society felt that availability was dire at present and this was likely to affect Christmas trading. It was estimated that the loss of the Multi-storeys at Bolton Rd. and Castle Quay (north), together with the Spiceball gravel car parks had resulted in a deficit of approximately 1000 spaces. These concerns were appreciated and it was understood that CDC and the BID were working together on ideas for Xmas park and ride and worker parking at the College.

6) Carriageway resurfacing at George Street / Broad Street/ and at Warwick Road / Orchard Way require attention - these have been reported before. **Noted**

7) Banners and Illegal Signs :

The Civic Society's suggestions regarding these had been sent to Cherwell DC.

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Clarke raise this issue with CDC Planning Enforcement team and that a report be brought to the next meeting. **CC**

8) Utility works:

The Civic Society asked:

- Why are carriageway 'openings' not 'plated' when no work is being done (e.g. evenings and weekends), and
- Can there be a policy that new utilities (e.g. fibre broadband) are routed primarily under pavements to minimise future disruption and that sufficient duct-groups are provided to minimise the need for further 'openings' in the future. It is appreciated that some extra excavations may be necessary for additional junction-boxes and the like but extended trenching for additional routes must be avoided, if possible.

It was **AGREED** that these matters would be taken back to appropriate teams at OCC. **MW**

22/19 Other Items

Member of the public

There has been a growing concern about cars being raced around the Grimsbury area, particularly the Cattle market estate. This had been expressed through various social media platforms, and to the Town Council both via Website Feedback and at the Councillors' monthly surgery. The Committee considered what action could be taken to improve the situation, but concluded that this was a Police enforcement matter.

Members were also reminded that an item was raised at the last meeting about an excessive number of cars and vans, and also cyclists using the pedestrianised area of High Street and Parsons Street and it was agreed that a letter be sent to TVP about this. A response had now been received from TVP and this was circulated and at the meeting. Members also considered this to be a Police enforcement matter.

It was **AGREED**

- (1) that the correspondent raising the concerns about cars racing in Grimsbury be advised that this was a Police enforcement matter **MR**
- (2) that OCC officers investigate the reported shortage of cycling prohibition signs within the Pedestrianised area. **JC**

23/19 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 26th February 2020

The Meeting ended at 3.15pm.