

THE GUILDHALL, CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE OX7 5NJ

TEL: 01608 642341

Email: townclerk@chippingnorton-tc.gov.uk Office Hours: Mon – Fri 9am – 1pm

MINUTES OF A TRAFFIC ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 3rd OCTOBER 2024, ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS AT 2PM

PRESENT: Cllrs Steve Akers (Chair), Sandra Coleman, Alex Keyser.

ALSO PRESENT:

Luci Ashbourne, Town Clerk Nigel Rose, Representative for Chippy News Cllr Geoff Saul, OCC and WODC Natalie Moore, OCC Odele Parsons, OCC

TAC13	Opening words The Chair noted that this meeting would be the last one that the current Town Clerk and CEO would attend due to the fact she is leaving in November. Members thanked the Town Clerk for her work on the committee and wished her the best for her new role. Apologies for absence
	Apologies were received from Cllr Jo Graves, Cllr Tom Festa, Cllr Walker, Maria Wheatley (WODC), Lee Turner and James Wright (OCC). Members noted that Mike Dixon has resigned from the sub-committee as the bus users rep and noted thanks for his work on the committee over the past few years.
TAC15	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations
TAC16	 A. RESOLVED: That pending correction of three grammatical errors the minutes from the sub-committee meeting held on the 27th June 2024 will be signed as an accurate record by the Chair at the earliest convenience. b. Members noted the minutes of the Cycling Action Group meeting held on the 15th July 2024.
TAC16	Public Participation None received
TAC17	Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) Natalie Moore (OCC) noted that she is working on network for walking and the cycling scheme. A number of site visits have taken place in Chipping Norton to help shape these schemes. A draft LWCIP should be ready for public consultation in early January. Officers will keep members of TAC appraised as things progress with this. Cllr Akers asked about the 4-6 week consultation time, and time for Cabinet approval and enquired about time for completion. Officers confirmed that the document should be presented to Cabinet for Approval in April.



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TAC18 County Officer's Report

Cllr Sandra Coleman asked if the traffic cameras in town were part of this scheme. Officers and Cllr Geoff Saul confirmed that they're HGV monitoring cameras for the Windrush Valley study area and will be in place for two days.

Cllr Coleman also asked if there is any need for extra support re the anti social behaviour reported in back alley in the report. Officers confirmed that the reports are of general anti social behaviour and not specific incidences.

Members and officers discussed the New Street/High Street/West Street Options Appraisal. Cllr Akers enquired as to whether there is a recommendation regarding a specific option. Officers confirmed that the consultants are assessing each scheme under the designated criteria and that while it is looking likely that recommendation will be option 2b, it will be a few weeks before this is final.

Odele Parsons presented an overview of option 2b which includes:

- Installing zebra crossings
- Remove central refuge at the top of New Street and widen the one further down
- Widen the footway
- Built out curb line to slow vehicles down turning into west street
- Vegetation cut back to improve visibility
- Remove left turn on West Street

The Chair asked members to feedback and ask questions. Cllr Alex Keyser enquired as to whether the access from the new street car park would be dangerous for pedestrians. Cllr Alex Keyser also noted that a full one way system would address the issue more comprehensively and noted that the road markings are worn out and there are no markings the let drivers know who has priority at the top of New Street, and also that he would support pelican crossings instead of zebra crossings.

The Chair noted that the Guildhall staff have written to OCC re the road markings and have not heard back. Officers confirmed they will chase this up.

Cllr Geoff Saul asked if there is room for a small path between the town hall and the pelican crossing. Cllr Saul also noted that while he supports Cllr Keyser's comments that it is important to focus on this junction.

Nigel Rose raised the point that when the MOP fair was there was a near miss with a HGV an several pedestrians at that junction because there is not enough space for the HGV to swing round without the rear of the HGV mounting the pavement. Officers noted this and will feedback to the consultants.

The Chair noted the proposal of one lane in one direction and how helpful that will be for safety reasons.



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The Chair asked if there was time line for next steps with this proposal.

Officers confirmed that this is the concept design stage, then a feasibility design will take place. After that a preliminary design will take place, the a consultation before final detailed design for engineers.

Cllr Sandra Coleman noted support for many aspects but is concerned that taking out a lane may increase the traffic coming up West Street and that the zebra crossing being further away from the top of the junction may mean drivers and pedestrians take more risks than they currently do. Officers confirmed there are physical conditions that mean the crossing cannot be where the current central refuge is.

Cllr Alex Keyser noted that he works in an industry with HGVs and confirmed that building up the footways may make the HGV swing more exaggerated and agreed that the zebra crossing may be less safe than a pelican crossing. Officers confirmed that the positioning of the zebra crossing is designed so that motor vehicles can see it, that funding is a consideration and that zebra crossings promote the 20mph scheme. Cllr Alex Keyser noted that he has witnessed motorists ignoring zebra crossings and feels that lights are respected by drivers more. Officers confirmed that safety assessments will be carried out on any proposed action.

Cllr Geoff Saul noted that the proposals are all pro pedestrian safety and not about traffic management. He asked if removing the central refuge at the top will help HGVs navigate the turn easier. Officers confirmed that this could be helpful indeed.

Cllr Sandra Coleman asked about trees being taken down on the Leys and if any will be replacing them. OCC Officers confirmed that trees are generally replaced, but they will put members in touch with the tree team at OCC.

TAC19 District Officer's Report

No written reports were received.

TAC20 Update from Cllr Saul on OCC Highways matters including the HGV working group

Members received a progress report from Cllr Saul. Cllr Saul confirmed that data collection is being carried out for the Windrush Valley HGV study area. Once this is complete it will take ten weeks to collate data into results. Officers confirmed that a steering group will take place in the first half of 2025 to discuss the outcomes.

Cllr Geoff Saul noted that a resident has asked if there is going to be a review of the 20mph scheme and asked if officers could investigate if this will be happening and if so what that will look like.



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	Cllr Saul also noted that he has had reports of vehicles speeding from Salford into Chipping Norton into the Worcester Road and wondered if a speed indicator device could be put up, but noted that these devices aren't usually installed in national and 50mph speed zones. Officers confirmed they will consult the safety team and come back with information about this.
TAC21	Cycling The Town Clerk noted that the Rusty Riders initiative has been paused now until March 2025.
TAC22	Pedestrian and Road Safety Members received a data analyses report from the speed indicator device (SID) on Churchill Road. The report shows that the average incoming speed is 25.84mph, with the average outgoing speed at 31.59mph. The Chair noted that the SID has improved the speed at which traffic is entering the town. The Chair also noted that there is now an active Speedwatch team that work within Churchill Road. Members noted thanks to Cllr Geoff Saul for the funding.
TAC 23	Parking No updates have been received from WODC re car parks. Cllr Sandra Coleman noted that when the Town Council close the road outside the Town Hall for community events that a levy has now been placed on road closures with parking spaces which means a cost circa £1000 per event and that this feels unreasonable and costly, and is a policy that works for roads in general but not for areas where "off road parking" is more like a large car park. Cllr Geoff Saul confirmed he will look into it and report back.
TAC24	Air Quality The West Oxfordshire Air Quality Action Plan have been approved by cabinet. Cllr Saul confirmed that many of the action points lie with other authorities. The levels at the moment are below the national thresholds, and if they stay at that rate for three years then there will be no need for an air quality action plan. The reason for the improvement seems to be largely due to modern less-polluting diesel vehicles. Members noted that the improvement in air quality is welcome. The Chair noted that the Town Council has been considering installing a living moss air filter and enquired as to whether that formed part of the action plan. Cllr Saul confirmed that it does contain that as am aspiration but that it would be unlikely to receive any grant funding due to the safe levels now being reported.
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	The Chair noted that the Council are running events in town for Road Safety Week which runs 17 th -23 rd November and invited County Officer along.
TAC25	Date of the next meeting Thursday 16 th January 2025, 2pm via TEAMs.

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:39pm

