

Traffic Management Parking and Pedestrian Safety Committee – Report

1. Yellow Lines/ Station Road Pedestrian Lane: Revised proposals, following discussions between the Council and OCC Highways were approved on 20th June. It is currently anticipated that the changes will be made in the New Year. OCC Highways are willing to do some refurbishment of existing yellow lines where they are particularly worn as well as replacing missing signs. These have been identified and notified to OCCH. The work will include the resurfacing of Station Road to bring it up to the standard required for a footway.

2. Flashing speed signs and speed surveys: When consideration was given to introducing flashing speed signs in the Village, several potential sites were identified. Including Manor Rd, Cleeve Rd and Elvendon Rd. When the decision was made to install signs on the High Street and Wallingford Rd, it was agreed that speed surveys should be carried out on those other roads to see if further measures to control speeds are necessary. Following residents' concerns about speeds in the Gatehampton Rd (see 3 below) the Committee agreed to include that and a request for a budget has been made to Council.

3. Extending the 20mph speed limit for the length of Gatehampton Road

Residents have concerns that the proposed housing development in Gatehampton Rd would exacerbate the existing volume and speed of traffic in the road. The Committee agreed that the unrestricted length of the Road was narrow and used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders and that it would be appropriate to consider extending the 20mph speed limit to the full length of the road. This would be for a resolution by Council and the Committee would establish what would be required, including a speed survey as included in 2 above.

4. Pedestrian Crossing at Gatehampton Rd from the station: Council had agreed £4.7K funding for a pedestrian priority lane to be marked on the Station car park and for a dropped kerb on the Gatehampton Rd opposite. The work to mark a PPL is to be done by GWR's contractor and OCC Highways are to provide the dropped kerb. OCC Highways subsequently submitted a costing which exceeded the budget due to additional work being required and July Council agreed to increase the budget to £7.8K. The dropped kerb is now on order and is expected to be installed in November. Once the dropped kerb is in place the PPL will be marked by GWR.

5. Community Centre Carpark and Sheepcot Field: A Risk Assessment recommended marking a pedestrian priority lane (PPL) along the edge of the Community Centre car park, The Committee has also considered that a PPL along the Sheepcot Field access road would improve safety. Quotes for both have been obtained and a proposal for a budget was agreed at the September Council meeting. Undergrowth needs to be cleared, and the landowners (OCC) notified.

6. Accessible access to Ferry Lane Open Space

The Committee considered a proposal for a boardwalk connecting Ferry Lane and the Thames Path. This would make an all-weather circular walk, accessible for wheelchairs and push chairs, via Station Road, the Thames Path and back along the High Street. Details of the scheme would need to be worked up before putting it to Full Council. Planning permission and Environment Agency agreement would be required.

7. Proposal for a budget for conducting Speed Surveys

At its 17th September meeting the Traffic Management, Parking and Pedestrian Safety Committee (TMPPS) agreed to conduct speed surveys at four sites in the Village. This follows on from earlier discussions by the Committee about the need for flashing speed signs in the Village where a number of locations were considered. Speed signs have now been installed on the High Street and on Wallingford Road by the School. The other potential sites for speed signs that were considered were Manor Road, Cleeve Road and Elvendon Road (prior to the junction with Icknield Road). At the time the decision to order speed signs was taken it was agreed that speed surveys should be carried out on the remaining sites to establish if there was a case for signs there also. It was further agreed that there should be a delay before speed surveys were carried out on the expectation that the newly installed speed signs would have the effect of reducing vehicle speeds across the Village over time.

The speed signs were installed in July this year and it is now timely to consider carrying out speed surveys. In addition, following the Planning Application for 16 houses on the Neighbourhood Plan site GNP8 in Gatehampton Road, residents have raised concerns about the current speed of vehicles in the road. They have asked for the 20mph limit to be extended for the whole of Gatehampton Road. The GNP8 site lies just beyond the end of the 20mph limit. TMPPS has not taken a view on the need for an extension of the speed limit, but evidence from a speed survey would be needed before making a decision.

The speed surveys are carried out by securing roadside monitoring equipment (usually to a lamppost) with a tube crossing the road which records speed, class and flows. Surveys would be in place for seven days and are provided by Oxfordshire CC Highways. Each survey costs £190 plus VAT (which is recoverable).

Council is asked to agree a budget of £760 excluding VAT for four speed surveys in Manor Road, Cleeve Road, Elvendon Road and Gatehampton Road. The exact locations of the surveys within those roads will be determined by TMPPS.