

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 would be necessary. Following residents' concerns about speeds in the Gatehampton Rd (see 3 below) the Committee agreed to include it as well, and a budget of £760 for speed surveys in Manor Rd, Elvendon Rd, Cleeve Rd and Gatehampton Rd was agreed at the October Council meeting.

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 referred to 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 has now been installed and the marking of a PPL will follow at the end of the month.

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 to ensure they have no objections.

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. Active Travel

The Committee is liaising with the highway authority (OCC) and Mend the Gap to identify the opportunities for Active Travel in the Village (i.e. principally walking and cycling) in support of OCC's Active Travel Strategy. In addition, parish councils have been asked by OCC to develop Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans. The Committee's current terms of reference do not provide cover for that work and the terms of reference are being re-drafted for Council agreement to reflect the progress made as well as these new developments.

8. Community Speed Watch

The Committee was approached by a resident interested in forming a community speed watch. The Committee was supportive of the proposal and suggested funding the cost of a radar speed gun and reflective jackets, subject to agreement by Council when a request was made.

9. Highways Engagement Team

The Highways Engagement Team have asked to meet the Committee to establish contact and understand the Parish's concerns. A meeting is currently being arranged and the Committee will want to raise the lack of enforcement of parking restrictions, especially following the changes to yellow lines in the Village