

The note below was considered at Full Council on Monday 8th September

Council noted that permission from OCC Highways was needed and that a Highways sign (as illustrated in Option A) would be provided by them if allowed.

The request was remitted to The Travel and Transport Committee to take forward.

Proposed direction sign to the Catholic Church

Father Kenneth Macnab has requested the Council's agreement to attaching a sign, directing to the Catholic Church in Ferry Lane, on the lamp post at the junction of Manor Road and Station Road (at the top end of Ferry Lane). The lamp post currently has a sign directing to the Wheel Orchard Carpark, a 20mph speed restriction sign and a dog waste bin attached to it.

Father Macnab makes the following points in support of his request:

- the Church of Our Lady and St John in Ferry Lane cannot be seen from the main roads through the village;
- services such as funerals and weddings often draw people who do not know the village;
- the parish covers 30 square miles and 16 Oxfordshire villages, not just Goring, so people also travel a distance to regular services;
- visitors to the church and village frequently confuse the far more visible St Thomas's Anglican parish church with the Catholic church. On two occasions recently people attending funerals found themselves in St Thomas's by mistake;
- the church and its new building are used by a range of community groups; in recent years there has been a number of concerts and other events; it was used as a venue for the last Goring Gap festival and will be again in 2026;
- the junction of Ferry Lane, Manor Road and Station Road is a dangerous one with tricky sight-lines; some drivers take the bend too fast, some slow to a halt trying to read street names; a road sign to the church would improve Health and Safety for drivers, other road users and pedestrians as the pavements narrow at that junction.

Two options are suggested:

Option A: A Highways sign matching the sign to the carpark



Option B: A finger post



In Option B alternative Colours e.g. white lettering on green or brown would be possible.

The cost of the signs and necessary fixings would be met by the Church. The Council is only asked to agree to the attachment of a sign and its size and design. Father Macnab has contacted OCC Highways to see if they have any objection but has not had a response.