

**Notes of the Informal Property and Amenities Meeting Held Remotely on MS Teams
26 May 2021**

Present Councillor H Belcher (Chair)
Councillors S Abbott, A Brown, A Crockford, S Driver, N Farmer
and A White

In Attendance D Martin (Chief Executive)
J Whittleton (Head of Technical Services)

1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor T Ellis.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were none.

**3) Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Property & Amenities Committee
meeting held remotely on 10 March 2021**

There were none.

4) Public Realm Update (*Minute P&A 33/20 and others*)

i. Public Realm Strategy

The Head of Technical Services gave an update on efforts to develop the Public Realm Strategy.

The Town Council had recently commissioned Atkins to commence a public realm project in the Newlands Road area. Atkins will follow the RIBA plan of work and this project will deliver stage 1 of this process. Atkins will produce a technical report identifying potential solutions and initial designs, a cost estimate for the whole project and a high-level project delivery programme. The project will begin with a site visit on 3 June and is expected to take 2-3 months to complete. Atkins will be allocating resources including project management, quantity surveying, highways expertise and landscape design to the project, which will cost £49,168.

It is likely that the delivery of a substantial public realm scheme for the Newlands Road area will go into seven figures and will require the Town

Council to access funding from outside sources. Having initial plans in place should place the Town Council in an advantageous position when it comes to applying for funding.

Agreed:

To note the update.

ii. Cross Keys

Members noted that the only outstanding element at the Cross Keys was the public art. The work to finish and install the artwork had been taken over by the Community Services Officer (Arts) and the Head of Technical Services. In April a meeting had been held between the three contractors building the work to establish timelines and sort out snagging issues. Officers had given the go-ahead to begin production and it was hoped that the work might be installed in the early autumn.

Installation was likely to prove tricky but Wiltshire Highways had been very supportive and had offered to assist with traffic management if necessary.

Issues discussed included:

- The importance of engaging with experienced persons (including Bath Spa University) when shortlisting public art projects to determine how feasible the delivery of each proposal will be; and
- The possibility of producing a flow chart for the procurement of public art.

Agreed:

To note the update.

5) Meriton Recreation Ground Play Area (*Minute P&A 34/20*)

Councillors noted that a contractor had been selected to replace some of the play equipment at Meriton Recreation Ground. Hags' design had been chosen from amongst six proposed schemes. It was not the cheapest design, but was felt to provide value for money, to improve the visitor experience and was popular with residents who took part in consultation via Survey Monkey. The new equipment was likely to be installed towards the end of the summer.

Issues discussed included:

- That consultation took place after the schemes had been drawn up, rather than to draw up a specification; and
- That Corsham Youth Council had been involved in drawing up a specification for the Springfield play area and that they would welcome the opportunity to be involved in such work in the future.

Agreed:

To note the update.

6) Update on Community Area Transport Group Issues (*Minute P&A 35/20 and others*)

i. 20mph Proposals

The Head of Technical Services had been in contact with Wiltshire Council's Senior Engineer who supports the CATG, to enquire about when the traffic surveys for the proposed 20mph zones might take place. The Senior Engineer had stated that there was no timetable for these surveys yet, that there was a backlog of schemes to work through caused by covid and that and that she couldn't guarantee they would take place before the school holidays.

Issues discussed included:

- Whether the proposed zone at Neston should be extended to include Church Rise down to the Triangle.

Agreed:

To contact Wiltshire Council to ask if the traffic surveys can include Church Rise down to the Triangle.

ii. Cross Keys A4 Speed Limit Assessment

The Committee considered comments from Wiltshire Council Senior Engineer concerning the speed limit assessment at the A4 either side of the Cross Keys. Wiltshire's contractor had carried out a survey and determined that a 50mph limit was advisable. In response to observations from the Town Council, the Senior Engineer had commented that:

- There was no obligation to carry out an environmental impact assessment as part of the speed limit assessment;
- That concerns about people crossing the road would be more appropriately dealt with via engineering measures rather than the speed limit;
- That although there was housing nearby, most of the road does not have direct frontage development onto the A4; and
- That Wiltshire Council's contractor had completed the assessment in accordance with circular 01/2013.

Issues discussed included:

- The possibility of a 30mph limit throughout the town;
- That the road was used by pedestrians and cyclists; and
- Pedestrians crossing the A4 to access Hartham Lane.

Agreed:

1. To ask the CATG to examine the issue again at their next meeting and for the CATG to have sight of the data collected during the assessment.
2. To ask Full Council to consider supporting the Committee in calling for a 40mph limit along this section of the A4 and to consider supporting a 30mph policy throughout the town.

7) Requests for Highway Improvements and Traffic Surveys (*Minute P&A 37/20 and others*)

i. Velley Hill, Gastard. Request for traffic calming at Velley Hill.

Agreed: To support the request going forward to the Community Area Transport Group.

ii. A4, Pickwick. Request for a pelican crossing and speed camera.

Agreed: To support the request going forward to the Community Area Transport Group.

iii. Groundstone Way. Request for 'No Through Road' signage.

Agreed: To support the request going forward to the Community Area Transport Group.

iv. Beechfield Road. Request for hatched painted lines to prevent parking in front of garages.

Agreed: To support the request going forward to the Community Area Transport Group.

v. Potley Lane. Request for the CATG to look at measures to reduce speeding and congestion.

Agreed: To support the request going forward to the Community Area Transport Group.

vi. Traffic Survey Request at Pickwick Road.

Agreed: Not to support the request at this time.

8) Proposed Traffic Regulations Order

Consideration was given to a proposed Traffic Regulations Order which sought to prohibit motorised vehicles on a short stretch of Easton Lane and Byway 108. Councillors noted that Easton Lane was part of the proposed Corsham to Chippenham cycle route and questioned whether this Order was part of this process.

Agreed:

- 1) To note the proposed Traffic Regulations Order.
- 2) To ask Wiltshire Council whether further measure are planned in Easton Lane with regard to the cycle route.

9) Leafield Bus Shelter

Consideration was given to a request to use the Leafield Bus Shelter as a book and seed swap location. This would require entry into a simple legal agreement with a volunteer.

Issues discussed included:

- The maintenance of the shelter; and
- The possibility of erecting a noticeboard to communicate with residents if the shelter becomes a community hub.

Agreed:

To support the request.

10) Park Lane Trolleys Proposal (*Minute P&A 5/20 and others*)

The Chief Executive provided an update on the project to place two old stone trolleys and turntable at the entrance to Park Lane off the A4. It had been intended that the Town Council would enter into a loan agreement concerning the trolleys. However, it had been discovered that the trolleys were not on the asset list of the Bath Stone Quarry Museum Trust and so could be given to the Town Council as a gift.

Agreed:

To note the update and to agree to take the stone trolleys as a gift.

11) Lacock Road Cemetery Regulations (*Minute P&A 6/20 and others*)

Consideration was given to a set of draft regulations for the Lacock Road Cemetery.

Agreed:

To recommend to Council that the draft regulations be adopted.

12) Copenacre Trees

Consideration was given to trees and planting on the Copenacre development. It was reported that Wiltshire Highways had asked that a number of trees which were situated in kerbed traffic-calming areas be removed before they would adopt the road as highway.

Issues discussed included:

- The views of local residents; and
- The landscape plans submitted as part of the planning application.

Agreed:

To ask Wiltshire Council's Chief Planning Officer and Highways Department to consult with residents to ascertain their views before taking any action.

13) Transport Monitoring (*Minute P&A 40/20 and others*)

Consideration was given to the Transport Monitoring Sheet. A discussion took place about whether the Committee should continue to receive monitoring sheets at future meetings, or whether updates could be given through other channels.

Agreed:

- 1) To note the Transport Monitoring Sheet.
- 2) To not receive updated Transport Monitoring Sheets in future.

14) Update on the Speed Indicator Device (*Minute P&A 41/20 and others*)

The Committee noted that the Speed Indicator Device had developed a fault and that it had not been possible to extract data from it. The Head of Technical Services had been in contact with Elancity (the manufacturer) who are likely to have to replace some of the software in the device.

Prior to the fault, the SID had been placed in Katherine Park on Groundstone Way near the open space between 3 and 18 March. It had recorded average speeds on 19.93mph in a northerly direction (leaving the development) and 21.25mph in a southerly direction.

Agreed:

To note the update.

The meeting began at 7.30pm and ended at 8.56pm. There were no members of the public present.