

Traffic Committee Report to Charlbury Town Council

The Traffic Committee met on 20 (hybrid meeting) and 21 July to discuss a range of matters including correspondence received from Charlbury Speedwatch. Richard Fairhurst and Cllr Leffman were present for the site visits on 21 July.

Recommendations

1. That a response to Charlbury Speedwatch is taken whether an individual Councillor should become the registered point of contact for the new outsourced service
2. That, if precepted, a decision is taken on the purchase of new equipment to monitor speeds as previously requested by Speedwatch
3. That the Town Council indicates a view on whether to proceed with a Traffic Regulation Order containing some or all of the actions set out below.

Future of Charlbury Speedwatch

A report has been provided separately. I have written to the PC formerly serving Charlbury and the civilian who was supplying support. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

Matters to include in a Traffic Regulation Order

Richard Fairhurst set out the recommended changes on parking regulation at Nine Acres Lane, Market Street and Grammar School Hill, all of which received support in the informal consultation conducted in 2020.

We discussed a number of additional items requested for inclusion. It was clear that if statutory consultation resulted in significant opposition or recommendations for change, the TRO could be amended and options with broad support would not be lost. On the morning of 28 July there is a site visit which provides the opportunity for informal discussion about whether these can be included in a TRO. Again, a verbal update will be given.

Items for consideration are:

- Parking restrictions at the foot of Nine Acres Lane, parking restriction on the crest of Grammar School Hill [subject to further consultation with Charlbury Preschool and residents] and creation of additional spaces on Market Street.
- Extending the 30mph limit on Spelsbury Road to the end of the settlement. Previously requested by residents.
- Cycle contraflows for Browns Lane and potentially Market Street and Sheep Street [discussed over many years]
- White line across the access to Cotswold View [requested by residents] and creation of an extra space by the white line marking opposite The Old Post House on Market Street [these may be progressed without a TRO being required]
- Creation of a 1-hour shoppers' parking area on Market Street during the day
- Extension of yellow lines on the West side of Church Street to the former butcher's shop, removing one parking space that can cause a pinch point for buses.

It is understood that any extension of 20mph limits may be a different process. There is a desire to extend the 20mph limit to cover Dyers Hill, Church Lane, Thames Street, Pound Hill and potentially the foot of Nine Acres Lane. Current County Council policies provide a challenge to extending the limits in other parts of the town. We recommend that we further explore an extension with OCC.

Bus operators would like to remove 1 parking space at the Bull end of Browns Lane (bus obstruction).

It was not quite clear whether including build-outs on the approach roads into Charlbury might be possible in the TRO, even if we have not yet identified funding to carry them out, if approved. We recommend that options for physical calming at Banbury Hill, Woodstock Road and The Slade be further explored with OCC, with a view to identifying and costing a scheme.