

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
Cllr Helen Simpson
57 Fairview Road
Hungerford
Berkshire
RG17 0BP
Tel: 07920 110380
Cllr.helen.simpson@hungerford-tc.gov.uk



The Town Clerk
Mrs Claire Barnes
The Library
Church Street
Hungerford
Berkshire RG17 0JG
Tel: 01488 686195
townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk
www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk

MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** meeting held on Monday 22nd January 2024 at 7.00pm, in the Library, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs, Hudson, Knight, Winsor, Greenwell, Cusack, Cole, Simpson, Fyfe, Alford and Armstrong (arrived during HT2024005)

In attendance: Claire Barnes (Town Clerk), District Councillor Denise Gaines (DG) (arrived during HT2024005) a representative from Newbury News, and three members of public.

HT2024001. Apologies for absence – Cllrs Schlanker, Carlson

Also, from DC Vickers.

DC Benneyworth attended to give a brief update at the start of the meeting and then left. He advised he has no progress to report on the installation of bollards to prevent parking on the grass. Also, he has no update on the proposed cuts to the rubbish bins, or if HTC will receive the three bins previously promised.

HT2024002. Declarations of interest – None

HT2024003. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on 27th November 2023.

Proposed: Cllr Greenwell

Seconded: Cllr Winsor

Resolution: Agree minutes of 27th November 2023 as a true record, four abstentions.

HT2024004. Update on actions from previous minutes not on this agenda.

As the suggested safety improvements to the High street are not possible, WBC were asked what they recommend. The following feedback was received: There really isn't much we can do along the High Street as its not only an A Class road but such an important haul route. What is left is the possible raising of the junction by the Town Hall and something there subject to clearance to the railway bridge and the continued placing of the SID machines and Community Speed Watch. I will speak to others about the High Street and see if they can come up with anything and let you know.

It was agreed the raising of the junction by the Town Hall would be looked at by the Steering Group as part of the strategy for the Town Centre. They will report back regularly to Full Council.

DG had confirmed by email what the permission process is likely to be for the kerb-o-charge as follows: Planning permission will not be required. The final process is yet to be agreed, but could be along the lines of:

- Resident makes an application via Kerbo Charge website.
- Kerbo Charge (or resident) contact WBC with site information and pay application fee.
- WBC review the application and approve or reject the application.
- If approved, ITS will prepare the licence agreement and Kerbo Charge will then liaise with the resident, Contractor (likely to be Volkers) and Streetworks team to arrange for the channel to be installed.

All other actions are on the agenda or are complete.

HT2024005. Receive any updates on SIDs, new locations, speeding and a 20mph zone including survey of SIDs ahead of warranty expiry.

Copies of the data retrieved from the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) was distributed during the meeting. **Please see attached report.** These were talked through in detail. In particular the following was of note:

ACTION: Contact Traffic Technology about the SID at Charnham Street which has been refurbished but is still not working correctly. The warranty runs out soon. This is the SID with the readout that is connected to the solar panel and receives high traffic volumes. It is funded by BMW.

The residents of Cottrell Close would like a SID located there permanently. There is money in the Ear Marked Reserves of £2.5k which could be used to purchase a new machine in the future, but it also needs to cover maintenance costs.

ACTION: Allocate a maintenance budget line for SIDS for 2025-26.

The SID located on the A4 by the garden centre for traffic coming into Hungerford from Newbury is showing 70% of traffic exceeding the speed limit and has recorded the highest speed.

Cllr Armstrong entered.

ACTION: The Clerk will contact WBC to request extra measures are put in place to slow the traffic coming westbound into Hungerford along A4. A 40mph limit between the current 60mph and 30mph limit is needed. Alternative options include a gateway feature or countdown markers.
DG entered.

HTC own 3 SIDs and have the use of the T&M SID over the winter when the cows are not on the Common. SIDs should be kept at the Garden Centre and A338 south of Priory road northbound permanently as they are particularly effective locations. The other two SIDs can be moved around. BMW has reported a significant reduction in speed of outgoing traffic since the SID has been in place.

DG advised the speed awareness group are reconvening and a 20mph area is being trialled in Theale and it is hoped will be in place by the summer. If successful it will be rolled out.

WBC are collecting speed data using google maps linking to signs. Cllr Greenwell requested that WBC share an overview of this, when available, with HTC.

A discussion took place on the benefits to pedestrians of a 20mph zone as opposed to the negative impact on highways users such as lorry drivers. Should protection of Hungerford residents be priority? Cllr Armstrong commented that the Dept of Transport requires the noting of financial costs relating to accidents not just those involving injury to people.

HTC has been advised previously by WBC that we would not get a 20mph zone in the high street so we would need to be considering side roads.

HT2024006. Update on plans for installation of a Changing Places facility – refer to attached report. Cllr Simpson added that the trees have been trimmed ready for the installation.

ACTION: Clerk to request more information on the resident notification process and sight of method statement.

HT2024007. Discuss impact of rubbish bin removal – refer to report. Cllr Schlanker had put together a list of the locations of the bins which may be removed as a result of the proposed budget cuts. It was agreed to wait for the result of the WBC Budget Consultation.

ACTION: Defer to the H&T March agenda

HT2024008. Progress on EV Chargers, since meeting with Adrian Abbs – Stuart Gourley has taken over the portfolio from Adrian and has advised the following: By way of an update you are correct, a supplier has been appointed, and we are awaiting for the completed documents from the supplier to be able to proceed with our rollout plan. The team have been working to pull together the priority sites, of which Hungerford is at the top of the list, and as soon as we have confirmed the supplier arrangement, I will come back to you with the rollout plan, and timeframes. I appreciate that this is taking time to come to fruition.

It was agreed that this is less than satisfactory. John Downe commented that it would be good to know some details such as a date of installation, location, type and number of charger and an idea of the charging infrastructure they intend to put in place.

ACTION: Office to send email pushing for the above.
Details were passed to the press present.

HT2024009. Receive any updates on footpaths, signage and footway works including to The Croft.

It was noted that the wall at Atherton Crescent is crumbling. There is loose mortar, and the top coping is coming away. The bus stop there is fenced off.

Cllr Fyfe outlined some of the actions from the Town Centre Steering Group that have been passed to the office to chase as they are maintenance issues. These include cutting back of shrubbery in Station Car Park and along the Cuttings, clearance of rubbish, cleaning and maintenance of lantern type lights, unnecessary road markings and height barriers that are constantly left open. The Clerk is in touch with Network Rail and WBC. It was noted that much enforcement comes from Parish requests. The Clerk asked for a schedule of WBC planned maintenance for Hungerford. Revised plans for The Croft footway works are awaited from WBC.

HT20240010. Review of Local Council Risk Systems documents for H&T as required by auditor.

Proposed: Cllr Simpson

Seconded: Cllr Greenwell

Resolution: Agree Local Council Risk Systems for H&T. Two abstentions.

HT20240011. Parking on footways and verges – update on installation of bollards. Refer to update in HT2024001 above.

HT20240012. Any H&S issues of concern

A business on the high Street that was recently ram raided has reported problems getting a response from WBC on their request for bollards to be installed for future protection. The Clerk has since put them directly in touch with the relevant contact at WBC who can help. The Mayor has invited them to attend Full Council if they wish to raise the issue further. DG commented that the footway is too narrow so the only option would be to reduce or lose a parking space.

We have received a complaint from the user of a mobility scooter who is having problems with transitions from footways to highways and vice versa due to badly damaged footways, overgrown shrubbery and lack of lowered access points. The specific areas of concern have been highlighted and reported to WBC. These have since been photographed so we can track the improvements made.

ACTION: DG requested details are sent to her on the above two issues.

A report and video of a post van driving on the already cracked York stone footway near the co-op has been received. WBC will be writing to the Post Office to ask them not to do this. WBC are having difficulty accessing more York stone, but it will be replaced once sourced.

Scaffolding has been in place on the Denford Bridge for months/years and it was questioned what is being done. WBC have confirmed the owner is Canal & River Trust and they will chase them for a progress update.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.

CHANGING PLACES FACILITY UPDATE

Having just had a progress meeting with Andy Davies (Danfo – Contractor) on Teams, in follow up to a site meeting we had with Ian Martinez on Friday afternoon (12th January) to finalise the re-positioning of the parking bays and bicycle racks, he has notified me of their provisional site dates as follows:

- 05/02/24 – start on site

- 26/02/24 – w.c. – delivery of Pod
- 08/03/24 – proposed handover date

Please accept my sincere apologies for the short notice, but we have struggled to gain confirmation from suppliers on equipment availability etc, given the demand brought about in part at least, no doubt, by the 31st March commissioning deadline.

Please note that every effort is now being made to formalise the programme as soon as possible, subject to equipment, materials, and third party contractors' availability which have all yet to be confirmed; these include such things as the necessary tree pruning work that will be required for clear access for the crane (installation) and the re-painting of the parking bays, which has been agreed with Ian as per the sketch attached.

[@Andy Davies](#) is in the process of having a final set of drawings made up to reflect this plan, which I will share with you as soon as possible.

[@Ian Martinez](#) has agreed to organise the necessary notifications where restricted access to the site area of the car park during construction is concerned and to arrange both the provision of a temporary disabled parking bay whilst the realignment work takes place and to organise the necessary re-painting of the bays once the pod installation is completed. [@Ian Martinez](#), please can you share details of this plan with [@Hungerford Town Council](#) and myself once they are finalised? Thank you in advance.

In parallel, please can I ask [@Hungerford Town Council](#) to use what means you have available to notify your residents and amenity users of this plan? Thank you too, in advance.

This plan does mean that we will comfortably meet the commissioning deadline of 31/03/2024 in order to qualify for the grant allocated to the project.

Kind Regards,

Rachel Reddington
Projects Officer

Projects Delivery Team, Property Services, West Berkshire Council, Market Street,
Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5LD
HT20230088 Request for a Controlled Pedestrian Crossing Facility – 56 - 58 High Street, Hungerford

SID Sites in Hungerford: Data Summary															
Site	Direction	Speed Limit	Site Ref	SID No.	Date from	Date to	ave speed	max speed	Speed 15%ile	Speed 50%ile	Speed 85%ile	% > speed limit	Speed In	Speed out	% reduction
A4 Charnham St, West of BMW	Westbound towards Marlborough	30		749	23/07/2022	27/07/2022	28	72	22	29	34	36.7	28	28	0
				751	30/11/2022	15/12/2022	25	77	19	26	32	28.6	25	26	-4
				19577	15/05/2023	24/07/2023	27	98	21	29	34	35.1	27	28	-4
A4 Cotterell Close	Eastbound towards Newbury	30		749	27/07/2022	22/10/2022	24	86	16	24	31	18.7	24	26	-8
				749	22/10/2022	30/11/2022	24	77	16	26	31	18.8	24	25	-4
				749	30/11/2022	24/12/2022	24	64	16	24	31	17.3	24	26	-8
				749	09/03/2023	12/03/2023	23	62	14	24	31	16	23	25	-8
				749	10/07/2023	24/07/2023	24	70	16	26	31	21.2	24	25	-4
A4 Garden Centre	Westbound towards Hungerford	30		749	16/05/2023	16/06/2023	34	101	26	34	44	69.6	34	28	18
				749	16/05/2023	10/07/2023	34	90	26	36	45	71.4	34	28	18
				749	17/11/2023	18/01/2024	34	101	26	34	44	70.3	34	27	21
Site	Direction	Speed	Site Ref	SID No.	Date from	Date to	ave speed	max speed	Speed 15%ile	Speed 50%ile	Speed 85%ile	% > speed limit	Speed In	Speed out	% reduction
A338 Salisbury Rd, south of Priory Rd	Northbound towards town centre	30		750	18/07/2022	27/07/2022	26	55	8	29	34	40.9	26	24	8
				750	27/07/2022	22/10/2022	26	82	3	29	34	39.7	26	24	8
				750	22/10/2022	30/11/2022	21	86	3	26	31	26.3	21	20	5
				750	30/11/2022	15/12/2022	23	60	3	26	32	30.3	23	21	9
				750	10/03/2023	17/03/2023	25	65	3	29	34	38.3	25	23	9
				15067	10/07/2023	24/07/2023	32	72	27	31	37	70.3	32		
				15067	02/08/2023	26/08/2023	30	82	26	29	36	49.7	30		
				19577	09/12/2023	19/01/2024	25	72	3	29	34	38	25	24	4
A338 Salisbury Rd, south of Priory Rd	Southbound away from town			750	17/03/2023	SID DATA ERROR									
Common, 100m west of Kintbury Gate	Westbound towards town centre	30		751	22/07/2022	21/09/2022	27	70	16	29	36	39	27	26	4
Common, Park Street, 100m west of Inkpen Rd	Eastbound towards Kintbury	30		751	21/09/2022	22/10/2022	29	72	21	31	37	53.4	29	26	10
				751	22/10/2022	30/11/2022	28	75	21	31	37	50.5	28	25	11
				751	16/05/2023	16/06/2023	29	73	21	31	37	51.2	29	26	10
				751	16/05/2023	09/07/2023	28	72	13	31	37	51	28	26	7
				751	09/07/2023	24/07/2023	25	67	3	29	37	46.9	25	23	8
				751	10/08/2023	17/11/2023	25	68	3	29	36	42.2	25	23	8
Notes: See Explanation page for details. The highlighted rows refer to recent data.															

