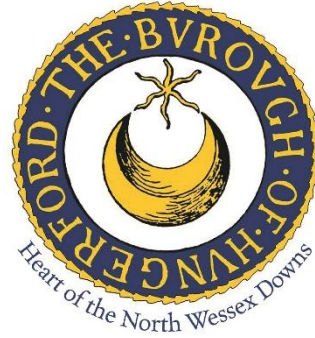


HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** meeting held on Monday 23rd March 2026 at 7.00pm, in the Library, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs, Keates, Hudson, Simpson, Cole, Carlson, Mulholland, Day, Winsor, Alford, Hall, Fyfe. Also in attendance: Town Clerk, Cllr Armstrong, and a member of public.
It was agreed that Cllr Armstrong will join H&T committee.

HT20260011. Apologies for absence – Cllr Reeves

HT20260012. Declarations of interest – None

HT20260013. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on Monday 26th January 2026

Proposed: Cllr Keates

Seconded: Cllr Simpson

Resolution: Minutes agreed as a true representation of the meeting held on 26th January 2026, one abstention, rest in favour.

HT20260014. Update on actions from previous meetings

ACTION: West Berks Council (WBC) are due to install the concrete footing for the new cycle shelter in Church St Car Park on 31st March. The concrete planter will need to be moved out of the way.

ACTION: Some trimming back at the Triangle Field has taken place. Two trees need felling and we are seeking quotes for the other work.

ACTION: Cllr Hudson to obtain permission from WBC to place a SID in the high street.

ACTION: P Porter of Town & Manor to contact us. We wish to use the SID on the Common elsewhere over the winter when the cattle are not present. The cattle are due back on the Common in 2 weeks. Cllr Keates has spent time repairing damage to the SIDs from the cows. Longer poles will sort the problem.

The pot hole at JOG pub is being sorted.

LCRS (Local Council Risk System) amendments are done but a new system is required which will be taken to Full Council or F&GP.

WBC are waiting to hear from Sovereign legal department about taking on ownership of the piece of footway in Church Way.

HT20260015. Feedback from site meeting with West Berks Council on safety and speeding in the High St

Railings

Heather Young (WBC) agreed that we HTC can paint the railings at the top of the high street near Atherton roundabout. Despite being hit and slightly bent the railings' structural integrity is intact. She offered to lock the gate and take out a section of railings and create a slope on the pavement. Cllr Carlson would be opposed to flattening the road and encouraging prams to cross further down. The conservation officer says that the railings cannot be replaced with modern railings. Cllr Armstrong suggested putting a gate at the bottom of school alley. However, pedestrians would then have to cross the road to avoid walking in it. Cllr Armstrong said she would be happy to paint the railings.

Speeding

There is a 20mph speeding survey being done in April and we are awaiting the survey. Jon Winstanley (WBC) has implied we are unlikely to get a 20mph limit on an A road. It is discretionary where WBC apply speed limits and if we want it we need to challenge WBC. We have been informed that the only serious injury accidents in the last 5 years caused by speed happened at the Priory Road roundabout. There have been some accidents with parked vehicles backing out on the high street. Cllr Fyfe is more concerned about the dangers of the motorbike that does 120mph along the A4 and the delivery vans that park on the pedestrian crossings. It is expensive to impose a 20mph and nobody will police it.

Traffic Calming

The consensus of all present, was that traffic calming is needed around Hungerford. Placing a SID camera at the top of the high street will help. Rumble strips would help but be noisy for neighbours. Visual narrowing would also help.

It was suggested that the area to look at should be wider than the High Street and include Church Street and Smitham Bridge Road.

It is thought there is insufficient space for a pedestrian crossing near the railings and if moved down the hill where it is wide enough and not so necessary it will cause the loss of 3 or 4 car parking spaces.

Proposed: Cllr Keates

Seconded: Cllr Hudson

Resolution: Wait for WBC to respond about a crossing by the Burrough.

Atherton roundabout used to be raised and since resurfacing it is flat. WBC are reluctant to install any humps at the Pelican crossing as it's on an A class haul route. Visual markings such as sharks teeth to produce a narrowing effect are possible.

The road is quite wide northbound from Priory roundabout then becomes much narrower as you head towards the high street.

Changing the roundabout back to a junction was considered dangerous and therefore a no.

The majority agreed the Atherton roundabout should be raised as it was before.

ACTION:

Cllr Hudson offered to draw up a scheme. He can request access to the database of speeds for specific locations. Cllr Mulholland offered to help.

He suggested what we want is a visual narrowing, a gentle raised pedestrian crossing, and a conversion to a zebra from the current pelican.

HT20260016. Update on options for improving the safety of the slippery footways in the high street

Cllr Keates advised the salt didn't touch the slime. A bio-friendly product will be trialled focussing on the black sap and green areas. The footway will be treated before winter and halfway through.

HT20260017. Further to previous discussions last year (refer to report), agree whether the telephone box in the high street should be moved and if so agree any necessary budget.

The box is listed and planning permission is needed to move it. It was agreed it needs to be moved. A few locations were suggested being outside the library, outside Roxtons or near the ticket machine by the town hall. The telephone box could be used to swap seeds or be filled with flowers.

Proposed: Cllr Carlson

Seconded: Cllr Day

ACTION:

Resolution: Obtain quotations to re-site the telephone box.

Cllr Armstrong and the member of public left the meeting.

HT20260018. Problems with overflowing recycle centre, Station Road Car Park

Kofi (WBC) is going to meet on site to observe the problems. The reason the bottle recycling was taken away was because pubs were using it. Cllr Fyfe said we should use CCTV to catch the fly-tippers. Regular emptying times are needed.

HT20260019. Discuss options to improve Welcome Signs – WBC have considered the moving of the welcome sign to include Lancaster Park and submitted a plan showing the new location. The cost to undertake the proposed works is approximately £2500 including the relocating of the

Hungerford Liguail signs. However, WBC have advised with their current Spending Review Protocols in place it is almost certain that internal funding for these works would not be approved. They suggested Town Council may wish to fund the costs. Committee did not wish to pay for moving the signs but agreed we would apply a patch over the GWW logo with wording about our Britain in Bloom award.

HT20260020. Timescale for upgrade of Marsh Lane lampposts – The work has been appointed to Volker, and we are awaiting a timeline.

HT20260021. Update from Smarten Up Hungerford and dates for two litter picks – Cllr Keates encouraged members to attend the litter picks. The first organised by Town & Manor will take place on the Common on Sunday 29th March, meeting at the Downgate at 10am. The event will last around 1.5hrs and there will be coffee. The second will take place on Thursday 23rd April at 11am on the Network Rail land to the north of the station platform. Cllrs Day and Hudson were interested in attending. Members of Smarten Up Hungerford team will be there.

HT20260022. Update on parling restrictions and road closure for REME parade – The high street will be closed between 11am and 1pm. Approximately 300 REME personnel will attend including the band. They will march from the Football Club and halt by the Plume. The stage will be set up in the centre, opposite Naked Grape. The Full Colonel will be taking the salute with the mayor and standard bearers either side. A ceremony will take place lasting around 20 minutes after which equipment will be handed in and a buffet will follow in the town hall for REME and invited guests only, numbers being limited due to capacity and security.

HT20260023. Any H&S issues of Concern –

ACTION: The office will report the Post office and delivery vans that are parking on the pedestrian crossing again and write to them.

ACTION: Cllr Hudson will contact Stuart Gorley at WBC about the new parking signs that have appeared in the high street. The size and number of them is not in keeping with a conservation area.

ACTION: Cllr Hudson offered to do a survey of signs in the centre of the town as some are unnecessary and need to be removed.

More physical barriers are needed to stop cars mounting the pavement.

Drug use is taking place in the footpath near Lindley Lodge and Redwood House. The Mayor met with Sovereign who said there is unlikely to be a budget for lighting and they need to focus on their residents first. Sovereign are netting (bird-proofing) the outside of the building at the moment.

Concern was raised over a couple of sovereign houses where fences have been put up short of the boundaries with areas left uncared for. Sovereign have recently sold these houses.

Meeting closed at 8.37pm