



EYNSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting
held in the Bartholomew Room at 7.30pm
on Tuesday 17 July 2018

MINUTES

Present:

Eynsham Parish Council – Cllr Richard Andrews, Cllr Jane Baldwin, Cllr Gordon Beach and Cllr Tricia Crowley and Cllr Sue Osborne.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) – County Cllr Charles Mathew, Raymond Cheung, A40 Project Sponsor - Major Transport Projects and Mike Wasley, Area Operations.

Thames Valley Police – John Croxton, Traffic Management.

Stagecoach – Trevor Bayliss

West Oxfordshire District Council – Cllr Carl Rylett (also Eynsham Parish Council member).

In attendance: Katherine Doughty, Clerk to the Council. No members of public were present.

18/T1 To elect a Committee Chairman for 2018/19 – Cllr Beach was elected as Committee Chairman for the Council year 2018/19.

18/T2 Apologies for absence – Odele Payne, OCC. District Councillor Ed James and Cllr Jane Baldwin were not present.

18/T3 Declarations of Interest – None.

18/T4 Public Participation – No items raised.

18/T5 To note revised Committee Terms of Reference – The Chairman reported that the new Terms of Reference aim to formalise the current Committee arrangements. County Cllr Mathew recommended that the wording is amended to allow other villages in the County Division of Eynsham to have matters addressed in meetings which was agreed. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Terms of Reference are amended from the 'Parish of Eynsham' to 'County Division of Eynsham.'

18/T6 Correspondence – A resident's correspondence was raised which discussed (a) Bus Tidal Lane Flows and (b) The Zipper moveable barrier system. With regard to (a) it was felt that although there is a traffic tidal flow, it is unpredictable and would cost more than the current scheme being progressed. (b) This is an American system where they have substantial width to their highways. Various options have been considered in the past (on how to improve the A40) and the current system is the most appropriate. Cllr Mathew felt that none of the current designs will work because they are based on incorrect traffic data and that the A40 as a trunk road running from east to west through the County, needs to be considered strategically.

18/T7 To receive a report from Oxfordshire County Council Highways on any outstanding matters – Mr Wasley advised that re-surfacing work at Barnard Gate will commence on 23 July for 5 nights. Unbeknownst to Mr Bayliss, work is also due to be undertaken at Swinford Toll Bridge which will impact on bus services. The replacement pedestrian safety barrier outside Bartholomew School was discussed. Mr Wasley is to check whether the driver's insurance was claimed to pay for the barrier. It was noted that an order was approved for lining work at Witney Road, Star Close and Thornbury Road. It is anticipated the work will be undertaken by the end of October. The pothole repair process was discussed and noted that there is a culture change to fill other adjacent potholes at the same time. Cllr Crowley discussed information that she had received from MV Kelly, on behalf of Taylor Wimpy, regarding pipeline work for the Thornbury Road development. It was noted that the appropriate procedures for work on the highways was not being followed. Mr Wasley is to pursue as necessary.

18/T8 To receive an update report on the A40 Science Transit Scheme Design – Mr Cheung provided an update report. It was noted that planning consent needs to be secured before the full business case is submitted (to obtain funding from the Department for Transport). Therefore, assuming all consents are obtained, the scheme is aimed to be underway by August 2019 with completion by the end of March 2021 at the latest (being the expiry date of the funding). Cllr Beach advised that a copy of the business case continues to be sought by the Parish Council. The draft business case is approx. 80% complete – when it is finished (anticipated late August 2018), planning permission will be sought – thereafter a full business case will be submitted. Cllr Mathew's comments were echoed, that there is no strategic overview of the A40 being undertaken, specifically with the proposed Garden Village and the Eynsham Strategic Development Area (SDA). Furthermore, 'the brow' (re-routing of the A40 north of Eynsham) was discussed and noted that this is not within Mr Cheung's project, but that strategy is being considered by OCC planners. There appears to be no consideration of Eynsham SDA's 1000 homes A40 access as part of the Park & Ride (P&R)/Bus Lane project. On a different note, provision of buses for the project was raised and noted that whilst discussions have commenced, Stagecoach will require significant investment if the P&R project goes ahead (including the relocation of its premises due to growth).

It was felt that an OCC Officer who has a strategic overview and knowledge of the A40 is required to attend a future Full Council meeting to discuss issues that will impact Eynsham. The Parish Council's relationships with other authorities in this respect are at odds because it has not been engaged with from the outset, its' comments have not been taken on board and members are not able to meet with the Department for Transport until the business case has been drafted (which continues to be outstanding).

Mr Croxton queried the P&R access road which will be in a 50mph zone and is currently located after the Eynsham SDA (when travelling from the west) – it should be before the SDA to remove the traffic from the A40. Comment was also made regarding the lack of understanding of drivers on a broad scale, ie those travelling across the country. It was noted that assessments and annual vehicle surveys are being undertaken. Mr Cheung agreed to forward through-traffic data for distribution.

Concern was raised at the current urban design of the P&R. Mr Cheung advised that trees and softening will be added to the design before it is finalised. Mr Cheung was thanked for responding fully to the questions and noted that a number of concerns raised were not within his remit/project. Cllr Beach emphasised the urgent need of the business case.

18/T9 To note recommendations from the Traffic Advisory Sub-Committee (minutes of 10 July 2018 for approval at the Full Council Meeting on 7 August 2018 refer) – The minutes containing the 4 recommendations were noted. Cllr Andrews queried the consultation methods of the two different projects. It was felt that by publicising the Neighbourhood Plan consultation on an A4 sheet in the Eynsham News and 20mph zone consultation on the reverse might help with consultation fatigue. Dorset County Council and Surrey County Council provide good consultation toolkits which may help in this respect.

18/T10 To receive an update from Stagecoach regarding the current timetable and any future plans – Mr Bayliss reported that there are no current plans to change any routes. Swinford Toll bridge continues to cause congestion which is worsened when there are problems with the A34. Cllr Mathew advised he continues to pursue solutions for the Toll Bridge. It was noted that Oxford is going to have an emission zone with low thresholds.

18/T11 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 22 January 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm