



## Sustainable Travel committee minutes

### Minutes

From the committee meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 3 October 2023

At St. Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon

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### Decision making

The **decisions** made by the committee at this meeting are at minutes

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### Present

Councillors:

- Tim Trimble (Chair of the committee)
- Sam Blackwell
- Dave Garwood
- Sarah Gibson
- Simon McNeil-Ritchie
- Katie Vigar

Town Council Officers:

- Ian Brown - Chief Executive & Town Clerk
- Matthew McLaughlin – Communications Officer

Meeting clerk:

- Sarah Howe – Committee Clerk
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### Apologies

From Councillors unable to attend the meeting:

- Jennie Parker
  - Jack Vittles
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## Announcements

Ahead of the meeting there were two announcements:

1. There will be a Domestic Energy Event 2-5pm Saturday 14 October 2023 in St Margaret's Hall including; low energy cooking demos and launch of the Climate Friendly/Town Council low energy cooking appliances loan scheme, update on the domestic heating project with more advice about saving energy, money and the planet.
2. Wessex Water Presentation 'Sewage Spills and storm overflows: spotlight on Bradford on Avon' on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 7pm ahead of the Environment and Green Spaces Committee meeting.

### 22. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 23. Minutes from the previous meeting of the committee

Proposed by Councillor Tim Trimble

Seconded by Councillor Sarah Gibson

And with all in favour it was **resolved**: that the minutes of the last committee meeting held on 25 July 2023 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

### 24. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

### 25. Agenda item 6 – Chair's Update

The Chair presented his update as supplied with the agenda.

Additionally, he reported that Sustrans, who are preparing the strategic outline case for the proposed river crossing, and Atkins, who are preparing the modelling as part of the proposed improved traffic scheme for Bradford on Avon, have a meeting booked to share some insight into how each study might be considered in light of the other.

### 26. Agenda item 7 – Local Highways and Footways Improvement Group (LHFIG)

- new requests from residents for approval.

The Chair confirmed that there were no new requests to note at this meeting.



## 27. Agenda item 8 – LHFIG Highways improvement active proposals and funding requests

The Chair summarised active LHFIG proposals and funding requests which were considered by the members present.

- Woolley Street Parking Permit Request

The Chair confirmed that for two sections of Woolley Street new parking restrictions would allow 1 hour parking or longer parking for residents permit holders.

Councillor McNeil-Ritchie asked what effect this was likely to have on businesses as potential customers might struggle to find a short stay parking space if residents can park for longer. Councillor Trimble confirmed that a Traffic Regulation order (TRO) will give local businesses the opportunity to comment on the changes. The Chair also confirmed that the cost of the scheme, should it go ahead, and TRO would be borne by Wiltshire Council Parking Services.

It was proposed by Councillor Trimble and seconded by Councillor Gibson and with 5 in favour and 1 abstention it was **resolved** to approve the proposed scheme as described above. The abstention was on the grounds that businesses may suffer with the introduction of the proposed scheme.

- Lamb Yard: Bollards and new parking restrictions

2 bollards to deter parking across a driveway along with 'Keep Clear' signage on the ground and adjacent 2-hour parking removed and 'Loading Only' introduced. Proposed cost to the town council is £675.

Councillor Gibson declared that she fully supported this change however Councillor McNeil-Ritchie suggested that the lack of enforcement of the current parking restrictions is the real issue. Councillor Vigar agreed that traffic wardens are seen about once a fortnight which creates a sense that it is worth taking the chance to park inappropriately.

It was proposed by Councillor Trimble and seconded by Councillor Gibson and with 5 in favour and 1 abstention it was **resolved** to approve funding of £675 as a 50% contribution for the scheme as described above.



- Pippets Building bollard on Market Street.

A new bollard to prevent vehicles mounting the pavement on the west side of Market Street following an incident where a pedestrian was clipped with the wing mirror of a vehicle. Proposed cost to the town council is expected to be £390.

It was highlighted that the proposed bollard did not appear to be in a heritage style but there was agreement that the positioning on the pavement was good and the slim style appropriate for the location.

It was proposed by Councillor Trimble and seconded by Councillor Vigar and with all in favour **resolved** to approve funding of £390 as a 50% contribution for a slim bollard positioned as described, preferably in a **heritage** style, but in the proposed style if a heritage style slim bollard is not available/suitable for the location.

- St Margaret's Street roundabout tactile paving on St Margaret's Street and Station Approach.

Councillor Gibson stated that she believed the laying and treatment of the renovated roundabout was non-compliant from an accessible point of view and that tactile paving should have been included in the original scheme. The Chair confirmed he would go back and discuss this with Wiltshire Council and that funding for tactile paving should have been part of the original substantive bid.

- Holt Road 30 mph signage extension

Two proposals: firstly, for a new 30mph sign and road roundel (road markings) in a new location on the Holt Road further out from existing signage. Secondly, the first proposal with a coloured road surface gateway treatment. A TRO will also be required.

The TRO with signage, road markings and gateway treatment £3,900 cost to town council. The TRO with signage and road markings only £2,400 cost to the town council.

There was a discussion around why the town council is paying for road signs to which the Chair stated that a historic precedent has been set with 50% contributions made by BoA Town Council for some while. There was also a discussion around whether the Sustainable Travel



budget can stand all this expense, the Chair stated that the cost of materials has risen by around 30-40% in the last couple of years so perhaps the budget might need to be increased. There was also a discussion over whether the gateway road treatments should be considered across all the A roads coming into the town collectively as a TRO and associated cost would be needed for each one otherwise.

It was proposed by Councillor Trimble and seconded by Councillor Garwood and with all in favour **resolved** to approve funding of £3,900 as a 50% contribution for TRO, signage, road markings and gateway road treatment but with the option to take the cheaper signage and road markings proposal if budgets do not allow.

- Ashley Road and selected surrounding roads 20mph scheme with a cost to the town council of £6,500.

Following on from the Asley Road speed assessment programme a map of a zone in the north of the town which is approved to go 20mph was shown. The eastern end of Winsley Road cannot be included in the proposal due to Wiltshire Council's interpretation of the rules for 20mph sections on A roads. It was felt that both Bradford on Avon's MP should be made aware of this situation and that Bath and North East Somerset traffic engineers should be consulted try and gain better understanding of these rules as the A4 London Rd in Bath is mostly 20mph.

It was speculated that making the whole town 20mph could be more cost effective, might have some influence on the amount of through traffic and a petition in that regard might be a way forward. The outcome of the current traffic modelling might also have some bearing on whether it would be acceptable for the town to go fully 20mph.

It was proposed by Councillor Trimble and seconded by Councillor Gibson and with all in favour **resolved** to approve the scheme to increase the number of roads with a 20mph limit as outlined by the speed assessment programme and potentially spend £6,500 as a 50% contribution towards the cost.

## 28. Agenda item 11 - Auto Speed Watch (ASW) Camera and SID Update

The Communications Officer provided a few statistics on the ASW camera, which revealed that over the last month of the 9,831 vehicles



captured by the camera, there were around 163 speeders. Speeders are reported to Wiltshire Police. Meanwhile the SID is being investigated due to technical issues.

29. Next meeting

The next committee meeting was provisionally arranged for Tuesday 23 January 2024.

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**End of the meeting**

The meeting finished at 8.45 pm



## Appendix A: Comments and questions from the public

There were various comments and questions from the public at the meeting.

Comments and questions of a general nature

(Comment 1) The latest version of the Local Plan for Bradford on Avon was presented in the library yesterday. Under sites for future development: 'The A363 through Bradford on Avon is identified in the Department for Transport's major road network consultation (MRN). The MRN status provides the potential opportunity to secure funding to improve the function of this section of the MRN'.

After extensive consultation in 2017, the MRN was officially adopted in 2018 as a list of local A roads of national significance that qualify for national funding support. In the list is the A363 which runs from the edge of Bath to the edge of Warminster. This happens to be a road which was proposed by Highways England in 1992 but rejected by our then unhelpful planning authority West Wilts District Council.

Since 2018 several local authorities have applied to the Department of Transport for funding under the MRN scheme. My search shows that Wiltshire Council's only involvement in the scheme has been to undertake preliminary study on improving several key road junctions in Salisbury.

This is a mission your Council should adopt: to sit down with senior Wiltshire highways officers and start the process of the A363 being funded as a valid section of the MRN. No action by your council could do more than this to solve town's traffic problems.

The Chair agreed with the statement and stated that he would talk to relevant Wiltshire Officers.

(Q2) There was a request to publicise the Bus review during the meeting and also fast-track the proposed 20mph zones around town before the P.M.'s 'ban' comes into effect.

The Chair confirmed that following on from a current affairs TV programme which aired the previous weekend the actual proposal is that communities who don't want 20mph zones should not have them imposed on them, however if there is a positive desire for such zones then that's fine. He also agreed to publicise the bus review.

(Q3) A query was raised about the E-bike scheme. Had the council considered the purchase of a safe bike which a good example of its type, insurance and servicing?



The Chair confirmed that whilst there had been delays the plan was to purchase a bike from a dedicated shop in town and the council was aware of the safety, insurance and servicing issues. He proposed further discussion outside the meeting if there were further concerns.

There was a follow-on question regarding the traffic modelling as due to all the recent congestion whether the correct sort of models were being tested and will the community have a say regarding the outcomes.

The Chair confirmed modelling was a requirement of Wiltshire Council to further the traffic management scheme process. The plan involves 3 models: one base case, a model and a third model based on the results of the first two. The findings would be published.