



ROAD SAFETY GROUP MEETING

Tuesday 8th October 2019

Meeting Notes

Present: Cllr S Collingridge (Group Leader), Cllrs P Harrison, A Coleman, R Coleman and R Stanczyszyn,

In Attendance: Sharon Hudson, Town Clerk, Chief Inspector James Baker, PC Stephen Thomas.

Observers the Mayor, Cllr J Byng, Cllr P Gittins,

Apologies: Cllr C Edginton White (Deputy Group Leader),

1 GROUP LEADERS OPENING REMARKS

Cllr S Collingridge (Group Leader) welcomed everyone to the meeting

2 Approve the notes of the previous meeting 09.09.19

The notes from the previous meeting were agreed.

3 WELCH GATE CONGESTION

A WCC report, dated November 2018, had suggested four alternative road management scheme for the town centre. Cllr B Vale has requested a progress update from the WCC Highways Officer Paul Green. At the October 2019 Council meeting, Cllr B Vale mentioned a recent Welch Gate survey, no information has been provided.

- Town Clerk- Contact WCC and Cllr Becky Vale to request more information relating to the recent traffic analysis survey.
- Cllr Collingridge - to request a copy of the WCC November 2018 report.
- Cllr Collingridge – arrange a meeting with Cllr B Vale and WCC Paul Green to include Cllrs R Stanczyszyn and C Edginton-White.

Chief Inspector James Baker confirm that there was a need for an engineered traffic calming solution. It was suggested that a traffic survey would be useful. Information may be available using the current ANPR infrastructure. Considerations were given to Councillors undertaking a mini survey tracking traffic using their mobile phones at the gateways in to and out of Bewdley.

It was suggested that the Council may consider a freedom of information request to obtain vehicle data recorded on the AMPR infrastructure.

- Contact WCC to identify whether road traffic data is available
- Councillors undertake a mini road traffic survey
- Consider requesting car parking information from WFDC

4 **ILLEGAL PARKING**

Parking on pavements & Parking on double yellow lines

WFDC held a meeting to discuss motorbike parking issues on severnside south with the Civil enforcement team, WCC and the Police. Feedback from the meeting was reported to Council 07.10.19, it was agreed that 'No Parking' signage on Severnsie South would be installed. The costs of moveable tubs and planters is to be investigate. Cllr B Vale has agreed to fund new bollards on Severnside South, Paul Green from WCC is looking into the costs etc and the possibility of moving the bollards closer together.

- Town Clerk - Obtain quotations for the planters; also contact Emily Jordon Foundation with regard to the cost of building planters

Other options for consideration could be Benches, however these would be fixed, not moveable and would have to be agreed to by WCC; additionally, temporary signs to explain legislation and where alternative bike parking can be found.

The Police Chief Inspector James Baker confirmed that there was merit in changing the existing Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to include additional restrictions such as parking. Advisory notices can only be issued for obstruction, parking legislation has been devolved to district councils and no longer sits with the police.

There was discussion about the possibility of alternative parking in the area at the end of Severnside North by the electricity boxes. Concerned were raised that the issue would just be moved from one place to another and not resolved.

There has been no response from Stratford upon Avon Council regarding Bikers Wednesday.

- The Town Clerk - to follow up with contacted Stratford on Avon Council with regard to their Bikers Wednesdays.

PC S Thomas also spoke of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) which WFDC currently has in place in Bewdley. This order only covers certain areas and would need to be reviewed and updated.

- Town Clerk - Invite Kathryn Underhill to the next Road Safety Group meeting to discuss the PSPO currently in place.

5 **SPEED AND WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS**

Speed restriction regulations for the conservation area

Cllr B Vale confirm that she would be supportive of a 20 MPH speed limit in Bewdley if, supported by the police. It was suggested that the 20 MPH speed restriction should cover the whole conservation area.

Chief Inspector James Baker re-iterated the need for an engineered traffic calming solution. The road layout should also reflect the speed limit. The police contact would be either Rod Lake or Bob Haynes (traffic manager).

- Cllr Collingridge – to discuss police support for 20 MPH in conservation area with the Traffic Manager – Rod Lake

The police have targeted pavement parking in the following area's; Red Hill, Sandy Bank and junction of Richmond Road and the doctor's surgery by issuing advisory notices.

Brought Forward - At the last meeting consideration was given to erecting additional signage on Severnside South and North, Redhill and Dog Lane near the doctors surgery.

- Town Clerk - Contact WCC Highway to identify what signage is available and at what cost.
- Town Clerk - Contact Safer Road Partnership to attend the next meeting
- Town Clerk – Contact community speed watch to request increased speeding signage

Abuse of 7.5 ton weight limits

Concerns were raised regarding vehicles of weights exceeding 7.5 tonnes crossing the bridge. Suggested that Councillors undertake a signage review.

- Cllr R Coleman - to assess the gateway signage and report back
- Cllr Collingridge – to contact Rod Lake or Bob Haynes Traffic Manager re managing weight limits

6 ANY OTHER ROAD SAFETY ISSUES

Teenage Cyclists

The Mayor, Cllr J Byng has received a complaint, from a Wribbenhall resident, with regard to teenagers cycling on the pavement. There have been reports of cyclist ploughing into and damaging cars.

WCC have painted white lines on the pavement. Paul Green has also been approached to identify whether any other actions can be taken. There is an overgrown hedge that could be reduced for better visibility.

PC S Thomas reported that there is a police operation currently underway in the Wribbenhall area, this issue could be addressed as part of current operations.

It was suggested that Safer Roads are invited to deliver a cycle safety awareness session in Bewdley.

- PC S Thomas - to investigate a Bewdley cycle road safety awareness session.

Other Cyclists

Cyclist are not dismounting and some are performing wheelies along New Road and are not looking both ways at the Habberley Road junction. The junction needs a STOP sign.

Heighington Lane

There are on-going concerns with regard to cars using the farm tracks off Heighington Lane and passed the church.

- PC S Thomas – to approach the farmer re closing the gates.

Chief Inspector James Baker mentioned 'Operation Snap' where dashcam footage can be uploaded to the police website and used to pursue drivers who are recorded driving dangerously. The operation is to be launched on Bewdley bypass.

- Town Clerk – ask Lengthsman to re-align and clean signs near Heighington Lane.

It was suggested that the installation of proper grating may deter flytipping.

- Invite the WCC County Planning Enforcement Officer out to review the site.

7 TO CONSIDER EXTENDING GROUP PARTICIATION TO OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

After full consideration it was decided to maintain the participation of the meetings as is. Other town groups will be invited to raise questions at Town Council meetings which will be referred on to the Road Safety Group.

8 Next Meeting Date – 14.11.2019

Meeting closed 12.30pm