

Lacock Parish Council - Highways & Parish Steward Report – November 2021

1. Lacock Parish Traffic Issues

Atkins final report's conclusions and recommended road measures were reviewed and discussed at the October LPC. As requested by the LPC, a short report on the recommended intervention priorities, is issued separately with this report for the LPC to review and confirm the priority list at the November LPC.

2. Lorry Watch - Enforcement of 7.5 tonne Weight Restrictions

The MS Teams training course for the Lorry Watch (LW) volunteers has now taken place. Unfortunately, three volunteers could not attend and their training will be completed on 6th November. We are expecting the equipment and documents to be issued to the LW volunteers the week after training is completed. Sarah Holden, who did the training did comment that the LW could in the future be combined with Speed Watch(SW); as an additional safety measure to control speeding traffic. SW will first require a speed assessment by WC Highways to show speeding is taking place , before this can be introduced.

4. CATG Report Progress since 3rd October last CATG meeting.

4.1 Proposed new road layout for the West Street High Street Junction

The completed application form for a Substantive CATG bid for the High Street West/Street junction improvements for the balance of £69,000 was submitted to WC Highways, within the 16th September 2021 deadline.

We are expecting to be informed in November if our Substantive CATG bid has been successful or not.

4.2 The Notton Crossing Melksham road A350 junctions

Since the 1st July CATG, Councillor Derek Waters has taken upon himself to deal with this issue and is in direct contact with in WC Major Highways. Derek was meeting with a Highways senior manager on Friday 14th October, but We are still awaiting the outcome of his discussions and if any progress has been made.

5. Lacock Traffic Group (LTG) Subcommittee reporting to the LPC

Areas of work still under consideration, in addition to those listed in the CATG report section 4 above.

5.1. Block Drains still to be cleaned by WC Highways

Awaiting NT to clear the blocked ditch at the top of Bowden Hill.

As planned, Peter Glen and Stuart Gregory met with Dave Arnup, WC Highways engineer on 13th October at a site meeting in Lacock. We explained the problem that rain water cascades down the road, damaging and progressively deepening a channel on the roadside and requested again that WC Highways dig out the collapsed roadside ditch from near Foxes Farm down to the Abbey Bridge. David Arnup agreed to progress this work with the Drainage Team to get this work completed, hopefully before the winter.

6. Remembrance Bench for Leo

A site meeting with David Arnup, WC Highways took place on 13th October, when the position of the bench was agreed to avoid any underground utility services.

Once the bench construction is finished in early November, by Peter Glen; then fitting will be arranged with David Arnup and the WC Masonry Team.

7. Damage to the grass verge and road side opposite the Abbey entrance

The grass verge and roadside outside the Abbey has been badly damaged by illegally parked vehicles and by vehicles turning around. This is unsightly and large pools of water often form on the damaged roadside.

The planned meeting with David Arnup WC Highways Engineer together with Stuart Gregory, Karen Bolger, NT acting General Manager, with two NT colleagues. We agreed that installing low wooden posts, approximately 10 cm square, 1 m to 1,2 m apart on the verge outside the Abbey will prevent cars and coaches from parking there. Chains between the posts were discussed but they are not acceptable to WC as they cordon off the Highway and are a potential trip hazard to pedestrians.

The posts will be sourced and paid for by the NT and will be fitted by the WC Highways team.

The NT agreed they will landscape the verge by adding more soil and reseed the area once the posts are in place.

8. Moving the Abbey Gateway further towards the Red Lion Entrance

Traffic coming down past the Red Lion and turning around outside the Abbey was raised as pedestrian safety and road damage issues by Karen; who asked if the Gateway could be moved further up the High Street towards to the Red lion entrance.

It was agreed that Karen, with LPC traffic representatives, will arrange to meet shortly to consider the options to where the gateway could be moved. If a viable proposal can be is finalised, then it can be checked with WC Highways and hopefully agreed at an LPC meeting, before being presented to the CATG for their approval.

9. Parish Steward (PS)

Work for November

- Repair the low stone retention wall at the top of the Nethercote ford damaged by joy riders.
- Clear the fallen leaves at the raised pedestrian walkway along the Nethercote ford.
- Check grips and gullies to be cleared to be ready for the Autumn and Winter rains.
- Strim the long footpath from Notton School/A350 junction to the bus stop opposite Lackham college.
- Dig out the gully near the Abbey bridge so overspill water will flow into the existing ditch.
- Ask again for the WC Road Sweeper tanker to return again this month to keep the gutters clear of debris.

Let us know of any other work or potholes needing repair?

There is always more that can be done, so please let us know of any other jobs that need doing ASAP.

Stuart Gregory and Pete Shaw