

Lacock Parish Council - Highways & Parish Steward Report – February 2022

1. Lacock Parish Traffic Issues

In late December WC Highways advised that our application for a Substantive CATG bid for the High Street West/Street junction improvements was unsuccessful.

A virtual meeting is now arranged with WC Highway's Kate Davey and Sarah Dearden on 4th March to discuss how best to proceed with the High St/West St Substantive Bid and with implementing the other traffic interventions identified in the Atkins report.

Writing to the Chair of WC Highways, Councillor McClelland, to ask about alternative funding remains an option; once discussions with WC Highways and the CATG give a clearer indication of the funding required.

2. Lorry Watch - Enforcement of 7.5 tonne Weight Restrictions

The equipment and documents will be issued to the LW volunteers once the training of the last volunteer is completed. Peter Glen is still progressing the completion of this training with Sarah Holden.

3. CATG Report Progress since 12th January last CATG meeting.

3.1 The road signage at Church St and into Nethercote

This signage needs to be improved to inform drivers not to go to the top of Church Street and into Nethercote; as there is no through road. Cars are often seen backing down Nethercote and/or turning around in Church Street where pedestrians are freely walking. A proposal to improve signage and to make East Street one way (down from the Red Lion) will be discussed with the LPC and at the April CATG Meeting.

4. 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 3 above:

4.1 Block Drains still to be cleaned by WC Highways

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

WC Highways have completed digging out the collapsed roadside ditch from near Foxes Farm down to the Abbey Bridge.

The drainage access into the river needs unblocking from the ditch opposite the raised footway into the river. David Arnup WC has been asked to arrange for this to be done.

4.2 Auto Speed Watch Camera system

This details of this speed watch system were sent in to the LPC. This appears to be an inexpensive system that identifies speeding offenders' registrations and automatically report a summary to the Police over the internet. The police can subsequently make radar speed checks at the times when the worst offences are occurring and then prosecute. Pete Shaw will give more details at the LPC meeting on the 14th February.

5. Double Yellow Road Lining

In January 2019 we made an application to double yellow line the 30m length outside the Abbey to dissuade drivers from seeking parking spaces and turning around damaging the road and verges.

A similar request was made in July 2020 with the Nethercote turning circle. Residents there are complaining that cars are regularly parking there making turning very difficult.

The "No Waiting" sign and the "Turning Circle not to park" sign **have both been removed by someone.**

Two emails have recently been sent to WC Highways Senior Traffic Technician to again request these works are completed as a priority.

6. Remembrance Bench for Leo

Awaiting fitting by the WC Masonry Team and it is expected to be completed, shortly.

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

The grass verge and roadside outside the Abbey is being 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.

It's now been agreed with the Karen Bolger, that the NT will source the posts using a specification provided by Dave Arnup, WC Highways. The posts will be fitted 3 m apart by the WC Highways team to prevent parking on verge.

Once the posts are installed the NT have already agreed to landscape the verge by adding more soil and reseeded the area.

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

Karen Bolger, NT, and LPC traffic representatives Stuart Gregory and Pete Shaw, meet on site to consider the options as to where the gateway could be moved. The current Gateway allows vehicles to go to the Abbey entrance and to turn around in areas where pedestrians are walking. This is a safety concern and causes unsightly road and verge damage.

No other new gateway position was considered to be a practical option. The NT are going to document the issues and what they hope to achieve from moving the gateway. The LTG are to discuss the issues with WC Highways and CATG and ask for their ideas with moving the Gateway.

9. Parish Steward (PS)

Work for February may be affected by PS's availability with Road Salting duties

- Clean the last of the graffiti from the green tank opposite the Cemetery.
On 26th January, the PS, aided by the driver of the road cleaning tanker (used the power hose), removed the graffiti from 10 locations in Reybridge, West St /Folly Lane East and Cantax Hill.
- Grips and gullies- continue to be checked and cleaned.
- Strim the long footpath from Notton School/A350 junction to the bus stop opposite Lackham college. (as PS time allows)
- Ask again for the WC Road Sweeper tanker to return again next month to keep the gutters clear of debris. The Road Sweeper cleaned the gutters.

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**