

Lacock Parish Council - Highways & Parish Steward Report – January 2024

1. Introduction of 20 mph and 30 mph speed limit in Lacock Village and Hither Way

Sarah Dearden, WC Highways Senior Engineer, advised that the Lacock 20mph and Hither Way 30mph is likely to cost £6,200. There were no objections to the WC notice of works in December. An invoice will not be raised until the job is completed on the ground, when a final cost invoice will be forwarded to the NT.

However, we are told the speed limit introduction will only be late Spring or early Summer.

Our request for an earlier introduction, will be progressed again at the January LHFIFG meeting on 17th January.

2. Traffic calming measures

This was progressed at the LHFIFG meeting on 11th October where we requested Sarah Dearden, WC Highways Senior Engineer, to do a site visit with Pete and Stuart to confirm and cost the proposed following interventions :-

1. Bowden Hill /Forrest Lane at the Village Gateway
2. On the Warfe, below the 30 mph sign, approaching Abbey Bridge from the south.
3. Down from the village gateway at Cantax Hill before the first bend (Lover's walk junction)
4. Cantax Hill down from where two service roads join the road

We are still awaiting a date for Sarah's site visit. Will progress again at the 17th January LHFIFG meeting.

3. High Street/West Street Revised Layout Improvement

High Street / West Street project road work on the roundabout is programmed to start 15th January, as planned. Advisory Yellow signs are now in position.

4. Double Yellow Lining still outstanding from 2019

All the necessary legal traffic orders are now completed for outside the Abbey and for the turning circle at the top of Nethercote. The advertising for comment is now finished with no complaints. Now awaiting a date when the work is programmed. Will progress this again at the 17th January LHFIFG meeting.

5. Resident Parking Scheme

The recent crackdown by the police on residents' placing cones on the highway in the village has raised the issue of residents' car parking scheme and the need seek other parking alternatives. Pete has drafted a Q & A about a Parking scheme.

Pete has arranged a meeting with Sonja Mc Millan at the end of January.

The reason for the meeting is to ask the NT for their thoughts on reducing Parking and traffic in the village and to explain what we would like to do. Also, to describe how a permit parking scheme might work and to ascertain NT views and support.

6. Blocked Grids and Gullies

Peter Glen identified and photographed the roads surface drainage problems we are experiencing in Lacock. Despite repair work in October 2023 water is still bubbling up in the road near the top of

Bowden Hill. Dave Arnup (WC) and Gemma (WC) are informed of the problems and to enquire how and when blocked drains will be cleared?

All the gullies in Bewley Lane were reported to be now blocked too.

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

Auto Speed Watch Camera (ASW) system

The details of speeding offenders in Lacock were being forwarded to the Police, with no response.

Pete wrote to the PCC asking why Auto Speed Watch data wasn't being used by the Police.

The Police responded to the PCC to say that a reconfiguration of their systems was needed and this would not be completed until late 2024.

In the meantime, in Wiltshire, we have to use Metros and local speed watch volunteers.

This is not acceptable because Auto Speed watch is being used by the Police in Gloucestershire, Avon and Somerset to identify regular speeding vehicles.

Pete has now taken down our speed watch camera for safe keeping until the Police are able to use the data.

8. Stonegate Road Entrance improvements.

A form has been submitted to the CAB for their consideration, and submitted to the LHFIG to manage the design work required. Funding will be from Stonegate for this work.

Unfortunately, there are other projects that are prioritised ahead of this work needing Sarah Dearden's time. I have informed Mark Edwards at Stonegate of the delay.

To be progressed at the next LHFIG meeting on 17th January and to ask again for a visit by Sarah Dearden.

9. Coaches back in the Village

Incidents of coaches parking badly continues.

The ban on coaches using Bowden hill is one option being considered.

Everyone, please continue to report the details of the coaches that are still parking badly to Pete Shaw, or Peter Glen or Stuart Gregory to log. A photograph of such incidents would be a great help to show location and time.

10. Parish Steward (PS)

Currently, I am aware of the following work for the PS : -

- Repairing potholes on Bowden Hill.
- Grips and gullies to continue to be checked and cleaned. The bridge at Reybridge was cleaned prior to recent flooding.
- Request the WC Road Sweeper tanker returns again next month to keep the gutters clear of debris. I'm told this is being scheduled.

Let us know of any other work or potholes needing repair at the next LPC meeting.

There is always more that can be done. Please be observant and let us know of any other PS jobs ASAP, ideally with a photograph to identify issue and its precise location.

Stuart Gregory and Pete Shaw