

**Community Area Transport Group Recommendations to Marlborough Area Board**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the position of the proposals from the CATG meeting that took place on 1 May 2014.
- 1.2 To request that Marlborough Area Board supports the recommendations of the Community Area Transport Group made at its meeting of 1 May 2013.

**2. Finances**

- 2.1 Marlborough CATG received a new funding allocation for 2014/15 of £13,615.
- 2.2 Along with money remaining from the previous financial year and rolled into this year, Marlborough CATG has a total of £16,726 available to be allocated in 2014/15.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 CATG Chairman, Cllr James Sheppard gave an introduction to the meeting followed by introductions from attendees.
- 3.2 This meeting looked at progress towards the projects allocated funding from the 2013/14 budget. Several smaller projects for 2014/15 discussed and no money has been allocated from this year's budget.
- 3.3 There was also a summary and discussion of the Highways issues logged on the area boards system.

**4. Priority Schemes for 2013/14**

- 4.1 Steve Hind, Wiltshire Highways, described the further development made towards the eight projects awarded funding in 2013/14.
- 4.2 **Broad Hinton:** Coloured surfacing and white gates at entrances to village
  - 4.2.1 Steve explained about discussions he has had with the Parish Council about the project. It is linked in with the change of speed limit on the A4361 from 60 to 50mph through the village. Balfour Beatty is due to carry out this change but delays mean there is not a date set for this work.
  - 4.2.1 James Sheppard asked what CATG can do to move this forward without having to wait months. It was recommended that he write to Cllr Phillip Whitehead (Portfolio Holder for Highways) to press for a date for beginning this work.
- 4.3 **Lockeridge:** Coloured informal crossing points and new planters.
  - 4.3.1 Steve Hind wondered if Balfour Beatty would need to close the road in order to carry out this work. Judith Woodget (representing Fyfield & West Overton PC) pointed out that the road is already due to be closed for work and the two bits of work could be combined or scheduled together. She thought this was due in May, but Steve thought it due in July or August.

- 4.3.2 Again, Balfour Beatty needs to be pinned down as to the date of carrying out this work.
- 4.4 **Manton:** Informal crossing at playground, Bridge St.
- 4.4.1 Steve Hind is again waiting for confirmation from Balfour Beatty whether a road closure is necessary to carry out this work. If this is the case, there is a 12 week lead time for the notices of a road closure to be put in. Steve Hind will chase this further.
- 4.5 **Manton:** Footway improvement to Bridge St / High St, Manton.
- 4.5.1 Steve Hind explained that the land survey necessary has been requested from the Council's contractor, Atkins. This work should take 3-4 days to survey then approx a week to prepare the report. Steve will chase this with Atkins.
- 4.6 **Ogbourne St Andrew:** White gates at entrances to village
- 4.6.1 The existing red coloured surfacing on the A346 to the north of the village is in the wrong location. Steve is in the process of rectifying this at no cost to the parish council or CATG. Steve will need information from Balfour Beatty to be able to give a date for this work.
- 4.6.2 The process of installing the new white gates on the A346 is underway
- 4.7 **Ramsbury:** creation of a new virtual footway and crossing point at Back Lane.
- 4.7.1 The requested crossing point outside the school is now included. This project is due to be co-ordinated with the scheduled resurfacing of Back Lane. Steve expected that to have been completed and was surprised when Cllr Sheila Glass (Ramsbury PC) pointed out that nothing had taken place (Sheila has since reported that work by Balfour Beatty has begun).
- 4.8 **Aldbourne:** proposed new zebra crossing over B4192.
- 4.8.1 In order to qualify for a new zebra crossing, the chosen location needs vehicles to pass at a slow speed and for there to be enough pedestrians wanting to cross there. A Metrocount has already been carried out showing the 85<sup>th</sup> centile to be 26.4mph, which is slow enough to be suitable. There was discussion around the location of the Metrocount and whether the result is equal for travel in both directions as vehicles travelling in one direction might be travelling much slower because of a bend in the road. The large number of vehicles measured by the Metrocount shows how difficult it can be to cross there.
- 4.8.2 James Sheppard wondered if the parish council would be happy with the location of the count. He would take the results and details of the location of the Metrocount to the parish council for their agreement. No decision on whether to go ahead with the pedestrian count, at a cost of £800 to CATG, would be made until Aldbourne PC is happy.
- 4.9 **Ogbourne St Andrew:** proposed new zebra crossing over A346.
- 4.9.1 In order to qualify for a new zebra crossing, the chosen location needs vehicles to pass at a slow speed and for there to be enough pedestrians wanting to cross there. A Metrocount has already been carried out showing the 85<sup>th</sup> centile to be 42.6mph, which is higher than the 35mph to allow a zebra crossing to be installed.
- 4.9.2 This high speed might be a result of the recent change of speed limit through the village from 40mph to 30mph. It does mean the location is eligible to be on the Speed Indication Device (SID) rota and the SID has been in Ogbourne St Andrew throughout early May. It is also eligible for Community Speedwatch. A zebra crossing cannot be installed until speeds are shown to come down.

4.9.3 Part of the need for the new crossing is to allow bus users, particularly students going to school, to access the bus stops on either side of the A346. James Sheppard wanted to know if the parish council had done anything about requesting the bus to come into the village to collect/drop off passengers. Andrew Jack was asked to find this out from the parish council.

## **5. New Priority Schemes 2014/15**

5.1 A number of small areas of work needing CATG funding were raised and discussed by the group:

5.2 The Green, Aldbourne

5.2.1 The issue raised by the parish council concerning damage to the area around the Green will need CATG funding to make good. Balfour Beatty will need to quote a price for this and Martin Cook will request that for the next CATG meeting so a decision on allocating funding can be taken.

5.2.2 Martin Cook will also work with the residents of this area and the parish council to stop these blockages happening.

5.3 New dropped kerb at exit of Pattern Alley onto Kingsbury St. Marlborough

5.3.1 This is an issue previously raised by Cllr Stewart Dobson about the ease of pedestrians using Pattern Alley and wanted to cross Kingsbury St. He has been in discussion with Martin Cook over the best location for this. Martin will get a quote for this work in time for the next CATG meeting to be able to make a decision on allocating funding to this.

5.4 New Dropped kerb at Knowledge Crescent, Ramsbury

5.4.1 Sheila Glass has raised this problem about a wheelchair-bound resident effectively being trapped in their house as a result of not being able to get down the kerb. This is not within the area of maintenance, so funding will need to come from CATG. Martin Cook will again get a quote for this work in time for the next CATG meeting to be able to make a decision on allocating funding to this.

5.5 Traffic issues through Froxfield

5.5.1 Graham Francis, Clerk to Froxfield PC, described an issue related to the width of footpath through the eastern end of the village and how close this is to the busy A4. Froxfield PC requests a new CATG project to widen the footpath at this point and therefore make the footpath much easier and safer for pedestrians to use.

5.5.2 This is part of a larger traffic project within Froxfield that aims to reduce vehicle speeds through the village and make it safer for pedestrians. A Metrocount request has been submitted.

5.5.3 Martin Cook thought there is a ditch running close to this footpath that meant these changes could not take place easily. There was discussion about the location and solutions. Martin will visit Froxfield to assess the ditch and whether the footpath can be widened.

5.6 Safety concerns at junctions onto A4 at West Overton and Upper Fyfield

5.6.1 Judith Woodget raised two projects that are part of their Village Traffic Plan and concern requests for studies into the junctions onto the A4 at these locations. These had been raised in 2013 and put on hold by CATG.

5.6.2 Before CATG funding is allocated, vehicle speeds here need to be investigated. Metrocounts are not suitable because of the higher speed limits here. Martin

Cook is able to access equipment that can measure vehicle speeds and will get it installed.

- 5.6.3 Depending on results of these studies, solutions such as road markings, road width or better signage could be funded by CATG.

## **6. Summary of On-going Issues**

- 6.1 Of the traffic and transport related issues on the Community Issues System the following action is being undertaken:
- 6.2 Speed issue at Chopping Knife Lane. Marlborough TC continues to consult with residents over this and local Police monitor the situation. James Sheppard requested this Issue be removed from the list.
- 6.3 Improvements to Treacle Bolly bridleway. Rights of Way at Wiltshire Council continue to develop the funding needed. Work cannot happen on the ground until conditions dry out further in the spring. The cycling group has met with Marlborough College, the landowner here. The College is supportive of these improvements and has recently undertaken groundwork to the Treacle Bolly area that has improved drainage. Rights of Way are obtaining three quotes for this work in order to apply for grant funding to carry out this work.
- 6.4 New cycle parking on Marlborough High Street. Work is now underway to write the Experimental Traffic Order that will change the use of one car parking space in the centre of Marlborough High St into cycle parking with space for six bikes.
- 6.5 Maintenance of the kerb at The Green, Aldbourne. This has already been discussed and actions agreed.
- 6.6 Speeding vehicles on A346 through Ogbourne St Andrew. This ties in with the work done by the parish council to address speeding and may be related to the recent change in speed limit from 40 to 30mph. Since this Issue was raised, the village has been on the SID rota and has received the first visit. Local Police have also indicated that enforcing the speed limit is difficult through the village. The site is eligible for Community Speedwatch and the village will be encouraged to set one up.
- 6.7 Car parking on Kingsbury St, Marlborough. This Issue concerns inconsiderate parking, particularly when vehicles have their wheels onto the kerb. Wiltshire Council traffic officers cannot ticket vehicles for obstruction, e.g. with wheels on the footway, only when parked on double yellow lines. Dealing with obstruction is a matter for Police, and they have been made aware of this.
- 6.8 Improving access to Preshute School. This Issue is about improving access to the school for parents on foot to be able to drop off their children more safely. This is part of a bid to the Taking Action On School Journeys fund, which might fund the whole project. CATG would only be able to fund any work that takes place on the highway, but there may be small works, such as on the kerb or verge that might be covered by CATG. It was decided to wait until the outcome of the Taking Action On School Journeys bid is known.
- 6.9 Traffic on George Lane, Marlborough. This Issue is from a resident who is trying to do something about the size, speed and quantity of vehicles on George Lane. As George Lane is a B-road, it should be expected to receive a certain volume of traffic and the alternative route is along the High St. As an area lit by streetlamps, drivers must assume the speed limit is 30mph and repeater

roundels are not permitted. If it is believed there is a speeding issue, it can be tested by a Metrocount. It is very unlikely that George Lane would qualify as a 20mph zone as vehicle speeds already need to be close to 20mph and not as high as 30mph.

## **7. Other Highways Issues**

- 7.1 Highways Major Maintenance, 2014/15. Wiltshire Highways would like to consult with area boards on the list of major maintenance work for the year 14/15. A list of the roads to received attention this financial year was circulated to CATG for comment, although it was pointed out that as work on the list is underway there is little scope for change. James Sheppard asked for it to be noted that the list was compiled by highways experts based on their data and should not become a "wish list" from parishes. Any requests for changes to the list needed to be based on data.
- 7.2 Parking in Cherry Orchard, Marlborough. There have been Issues raised by residents of Cherry Orchard and Orchard Road about inconsiderate parking, especially from vehicles believed to belong to students at St John's. James Sheppard was concerned that the School's plans to enlarge its Sixth Form might not go ahead, and an important grant funding opportunity lost, because of the difficulty over student parking. It has been noted before at CATG meetings, that not all badly parked cars in this area belong to students. James felt the school needed to be encouraged to provide some parking for students, in line with the expected number of new students, so that this important opportunity for the school and whole area is not missed. Andrew Jack was asked to write to the school with these concerns over student parking.

## **8. Recommendation**

- 8.1 To note the discussions held at the CATG meeting of 1 May 2014 as outlined above and the progress towards developing priority schemes.
- 8.2 To agree the list of Highways Major Maintenance 2014/15 for the Marlborough Community Area.

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### **Background Papers**

CATG notes of 01.05.2014

List of Highways Major Maintenance, 2014/15

### **Appendices**

Marlborough Highways Work