

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

29 June 2021

Agenda Item 5 – Chippenham Traffic Lights

Question from Cllr Liz Alstrom

**To Councillor Dr Mark McClelland Cabinet Member for Transport,
Waste, Streetscene and Flooding**

Statement

The Lib Dems in Chippenham are furious that the ongoing issues with the recently installed traffic lights are being ignored.

Despite hundreds of complaints to both the Town Council and Wiltshire Council from residents, the replies received that the MOVA sequencing will improve in time to allow better flow of traffic, have so far proved incorrect.

My fellow councillors, residents and I would like to understand what was the problem with the previous set up that the Council were trying to fix?

This has now come to a head as on the 18th June Faresaver Buses warned the Council that they may have to “evaluate the viability of services which operate to Chippenham Railway Station.”

Routing the public transport services away from the main line station would highly inconvenience all passengers, not least those with mobility issues, and it would quite frankly be an embarrassment to WC. Directly impeding the use of public transport is hardly appropriate given the Climate Emergency we are facing and have declared. We should be doing all within our power to encourage people into using sustainable modes of transport and minimising traffic build up on our roads.

But I would also like to stress the added hazard to public health, those with asthma struggle badly with air pollution and in the increased traffic around Station Hill has hugely added to this.

Whatever traffic modelling the council used to plan/justify the new layout, clearly wasn't fit for purpose in this instance.

Question 1 (21-236)

What traffic studies were undertaken and when? The solution offered seems to be far worse than the original situation.

Response:

Question 2 (21-237)

Did Wiltshire Council consult at all with Chippenham Town Council prior to the works taking place and if not, why not?

Response:

Question 3 (21-238)

What action will Wiltshire Council take to mitigate the difficulties Faresaver buses are experiencing?

Response:

Question 4 (21-239)

Would the council please review the changes that were made with a view to reinstate the roundabout at the bottom of Station Hill?

Response: