

Support

Ref	Comment	No.	Officer Response
S1.	<p>These plans are spot on and will make life for pedestrians, including children, dog walkers, cyclists and tourists safer as well as preventing vehicles mounting the pavements or driving on my property, because the road is too narrow for two vehicles to pass.</p>		<p>The comments in support of the proposal are noted.</p>
S2.	<p>I am writing to fully support the proposed road closure at Rotherstone, Devizes. We regularly experience speeding vehicles along the straight run of road parallel to the Victorian Terraced houses. This is particularly true during rush hour where the road is used as a rat run, but can be at any time. Additionally, as the road is not wide enough for two cars to comfortably pass drivers tend to mount the kerb, our front door opens straight into the pavement and my partner was very nearly run over stepping out of the house on one such occasion. One issue which I suspect will be raised is the loss of parking, it is worth noting that it is often canal barge owners who use this parking for long periods of time so any argument that the loss of parking will impact the town centre is mute.</p>		<p>The comments in support of the proposal are noted.</p>
S3.	<p>I am delighted to see that at long last the closure of Rotherstone to Motor Traffic is nearer to becoming a reality, and am responding to the notification orders posted on lamp posts down the road.</p> <p>It is a long overdue action, which will be of benefit to the safety of the local community, and also to the upkeep of the historical canal bridges. I have witnessed numerous near misses involving vehicles and pedestrians, including mothers with pushchairs, and also cyclists. It was only a matter of time before a serious incident or fatality took</p>		<p>The comments in support of the proposal are noted.</p>

	<p>place.</p> <p>Since the relaxation of Lockdown, the traffic has increased, and drivers seem to be travelling at even greater speeds, especially around the canal bridges, which are thronged with pedestrians using the towpath, and the access to the Cemetery or the Footpath down Dyehouse Lane, and through the Jubilee Woods.</p> <p>I am all in favour of this prohibition order.</p>		
S4.	<p>Very pleased with the proposals and delighted they are happening, thank you. The combination of bollards at one end and gate at the cemetery lodge end seems very sensible. Also like the restrictions on parking being introduced, which will presumably happen first and help change people's parking practices before the road is closed to them.</p>		<p>The comments in support of the proposal are noted.</p>
S5.	<p>The proposed traffic Prohibition order is an excellent idea and will increase safety for residents and other pedestrians accessing from Bath Road, Waiblingen Way and Colston Road. Additionally it will increase safety on the bridge adjacent to the cemetery where vehicles are driven at excess speed placing people at danger crossing over the to the south side towpath and visa versa. I have complained previously about the reckless and careless driving along Rotherstone and have nearly been run over on two occasions by cars mounting the pavement and being squashed against the cemetery railings on the bends. Additionally vehicles cannot pass each other and as recently as last week a metal fence post on the edge of my drive was hit by a car trying to avoid an oncoming vehicle.</p> <p>This road is used by school children and less able people with electric buggies on a regular basis and particularly on dark morning and evenings the risk to them</p>		<p>The comments in support of the proposal are noted.</p>

	<p>increases with cars failing to brake at the bends forcing oncoming vehicles to either mount the pavement or place people in danger where there is no pavement.</p> <p>Whilst the previous consultation included Colston Terrace and Avon Road the impact on those residents is minimal and the only inconvenience would be joining the traffic at Bath Road instead of entering town via Rotherstone. (This impact naturally would also apply to Rotherstone residents).</p> <p>I am firmly in agreement that the proposed measures should be implemented as soon as practicable.</p>		
S6	<p>I am so glad to see the notice go up about the closure of through traffic between Rotherstone and Commercial Rd - the sooner this happens the better. The wonder is that there has not been a serious accident along this stretch although I personally have seen a number of near misses. Drivers have no respect for the 20 mph limit, they drive along the pavements and they take the blind bends by the Canal bridge at ridiculous speeds. The recent increase in delivery vans from out of town rushing along has only added to the risks, they don't anticipate the people standing on the bridge where there is no pavement admiring the view while kids and dogs wander around.</p> <p>The closure has been talked about for years, please make it happen soon. A lot of walkers, joggers, cyclists, school children and mums with toddlers and pushchairs will breath a lot easier.</p>		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.
S7	<p>Having moved here within last 12 months, I was not party to the original recommendations to close the road to through traffic. I am fully supportive of the proposal, since it is evident that many users do not comply with the 20mph speed limit and are disrespectful of the nature of this road and the</p>		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.

	parking/garden arrangements.		
S8	I agree with the need to reduce traffic down Rotherstone and Couch Lane. At peak hours the road is used as a short cut and the area by the cemetery is very dangerous with two-way traffic.		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.
S9	We agree whole heartedly with the proposal to prohibit motor vehicles on Rotherstone from a point adjacent to the western boundary of The Cemetery Lodge for a distance of 150 metres in a westerly then northerly direction.		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.
S10	I am a resident of Victoria Road and I would like to support the proposal. I regularly walk my dog along Rotherstone - and it is obvious that many people are using this as a cut-through when the main road is busy. A lot of these drivers travel fast and are ignoring the 20 mph speed limit. Although it will cause further issues with parking in Devizes I support the proposal as I am concerned that without this restriction there could be a serious accident along that road.		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.
S11	I am a resident of Avon Terrace and would just like to make one comment about the proposed closure of Rotherstone. I am in agreement with the road closure		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.
S12	I walk a route through Devizes to Couch Lane over the canal bridge and along past the cemetery which is the quickest route. When cars drive over the canal bridge with a pedestrian walking it can be very dangerous, then on past the cemetery to the bad bend where there is no pavement, your taking your life in your hands as cars come around the S bend far too fast. The pavement kerb alongside the terraced houses is almost level with the		The comments in support of the proposal are noted.

	<p>road and the cars mount the pavement to get past a vehicle travelling in the opposite direction.</p> <p>The road is not wide enough to take two cars, which is why the cars mount the pavement.</p> <p>The kerb (far left) is further on up towards the canal bridge opposite the cemetery railings.</p> <p>Please note how much higher the kerb is. A vehicle is NOT likely to mount this kerb due to damage caused to the wheels and tracking system</p> <p>On the occasions when I have to look after my daughter's rabbit while she is on holiday, I walk to her home every evening always the same route, on stepping out of the front door onto the pavement to lock the door you almost get hit by the vehicle mounting the pavement to get past the car driving the opposite way.</p> <p>My daughter takes a risk every day when she leaves home.</p> <p>I would like to see bollards put up so that NO vehicles can drive through from Avon Terrace to Couch Lane, or at the very least a one-way street. It is ridiculous to think that only when someone is killed action will be taken to resolve this issue.</p>		
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Objection

Ref	Comment	No.	Officer Response
1.	<p>Placing a barrier at the Cemetery end of the road to facilitate a private little road for some residents will be totally wrong. This proposal has been rightly thrown out on more than one occasion over the last 5 years as it will inconvenience most residents on Rotherstone and Colston Road. Avon Terrace is totally unsuitable for two-way traffic and merges into heavily congested roads.</p> <p>The Rat run saga promoted by some residents has been exaggerated, Although I appreciate this will be a lovely arrangement for some residents it will disadvantage and inconvenience to the majority.</p>	1	<p>The proposal has been developed following a request from the locally elected Town Council following concerns for vulnerable road users throughout the Rotherstone and Avon Terrace areas, in particular the poor footway provision outside of Nos. 25 to 53.</p> <p>Devizes Town council has undertaken consultation with residents and with the wider Devizes Community and has outlined that there is overall support for the proposal.</p> <p>Avon Terrace is already subject to two-way traffic and restricting through movement will lead to a reduction in vehicles numbers as the majority of traffic will be residents or vehicles accessing premises in Avon Terrace, Rotherstone, Colston Road or Sheppard Close.</p>
2.	<p>My partner and I have lived at 39 Rotherstone for nearly two years and have had no notification of these plans until signs were recently distributed in the road. I would like to note that there were signs cable tied to a post which is on our property without any consent or even a knock/letter through the door to ask which we feel was rather inconsiderate, this is also on the other side of the road to the footpath encouraging pedestrians to be stand in the road.</p> <p>We strongly disagree with the plans of a full road closure. During peak times of the day there is slightly more traffic than usual but nothing of concern to us or of any great amount. Rotherstone is a quiet road and for the most part of the day it's lovely and quiet. The main issue with vehicles down this road is the occasional</p>	1	<p>Informal consultation exercises with residents have been completed on three previous occasions by the Town Council to ascertain the preferred method of reducing through traffic flow and subsequent level of support. This has been a mixture of door to door surveys, and inclusion within the wider Devizes Newsletter / Magazine (Devizes Messenger). The Town Council has considered the responses on each occasion and has requested that the Devizes Community Area Transport Group prioritise the scheme to undertake the formal consultation of the associated Traffic Regulation Orders.</p> <p>As part of the initial investigative works, other options, including Traffic Calming, conversion to One Way, and the introduction of a signed only</p>

<p>speeding from some vehicles, where we think other much cheaper measures could be put in place.</p> <p>We feel this is a very extreme solution to a very small problem to calm the traffic measures when overall the traffic is minimal. No other calming measures have even been attempted to reduce traffic or speeding therefore we cannot understand why such a drastic measure is going ahead before any other efforts.</p> <p>There has also been a recent and unfortunate peak in anti-social behaviour and criminal damage down Rotherstone. We feel that with the lack of vehicles and presence of people using this road and we believe this will defiantly not help this issue.</p> <p>Again, just to reiterate we are strongly against the road closure especially without other measures being tried/tested beforehand. Also, we feel there has been a major lack of communication as we have heard nothing about this matter and have owned a property in Rotherstone for coming up two years.</p> <p>After speaking with other residents and local acquaintances we don't understand the need for the road closure as during peak times the traffic only slightly increases due to the volume on other neighbouring roads (New Park Street, which is renowned for being awful and grid locked) therefore we cannot understand why you would want to close Rotherstone for vehicles as surely this would just add to the already bad traffic issue on New Park Street. This also offers an alternative route for emergency responders to get to the other side of town if the main routes are blocked.</p>		<p>restriction have been considered, but the preference has been for a restriction which removes traffic and is supplemented by physical restraint.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that the removal of the route for through traffic seeking to avoid queues on the A361 New Park Street / Bath Road will resulted in exacerbating issues in these locations; however, it is recognised that Rotherstone, and Avon Terrace are predominately local roads whose primary function is for local access rather than seeking to travel through the town.</p> <p>The emergency Services have been consulted upon the proposals and have raised no objection to the proposals.</p>
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<p>3.</p>	<p>I object to the proposed order because it unjustly and unnecessarily prohibits motorcycles from using what has been considered for decades to be a safer and more convenient alternative to the A361 through New Park Street.</p> <p>The minimal road space required by powered two-wheelers coupled with the natural traffic-calming character of Rotherstone makes for safe, slow and quiet passage around the congested centre of Devizes – something which would be further enhanced by the siting of bollards.</p> <p>The order as advertised would introduce additional motorcycle and car movements to the busy A361 New Park Street – increasing road risk for motorcyclists. An exemption to the order would both lower existing levels of road risk for motorcyclists and demonstrate a pragmatic commitment to reducing congestion in Devizes.</p> <p>Regarding safety, Department for Transport data published via crashmap.co.uk shows the route through Avon Terrace, Rotherstone, and Commercial Road to have been wholly free of any slight, serious or fatal incident involving a motorcyclist for the last twenty-one years (the extent of which data is available).</p> <p>Therefore I respectfully request that the proposed order be modified to exclude motorcycles, with both bollards and appropriate signage (diagram 619.1) be used to denote the order.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>The proposed restriction has been identified following initial discussions with representatives from Wiltshire Police who indicated that support for any proposal would be conditional on ensuring that enforcement requirements could be minimised through the provision of a physical feature.</p> <p>The proposed restriction allows for the introduction of a solid physical barrier, i.e. Gate. Any alteration to the type of traffic order would require this feature to be amended to infrastructure that still permitted use by motor cycles such as bollards and this would risk encouragement of contravention by other classes of motor vehicle due to the need to maintain adequate space for motor cycle users.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that the impact on motor cycle use of Rotherstone and Avon Terrace is greatly reduced in comparison to that of a motor car / van.</p>
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General Comments

Ref	General Comments	No.	Officer Response
G1.	<p>Rotherstone and Avon Terrace are very narrow, and traffic will still need to travel both ways under this proposal. Large delivery lorries for houses will need to turn at the bollards. Has consideration been given to removing parking by the cemetery and making Avon Terrace, Rotherstone and the road bordering the cemetery one-way roads so (1) reducing the volume of traffic but also (2) reducing two-way traffic on narrow roads? If it is not possible to make the roads one-way, then I support the Council's proposal.</p>		<p>As part of the initial investigative works, options including, Traffic Calming, conversion to One Way, and the introduction of a signed only restriction had been consulted upon with both the Police and Local community. The preference has been for a restriction which removes traffic and is supplemented by physical restraint.</p>
G2	<p>I live in Rotherstone and would like to make some observations on the proposed closure of the street to through traffic. I welcome this in many ways as the existing 20mph zone has not been enforced and is largely ignored. However, the existing proposal is incomplete without some arrangement to avoid the backup of traffic on both Avon Terrace and the Nursery/Bath Road as Avon Terrace is only wide enough for two cars to pass at its junction with the main road.</p> <p>At present any vehicle turning onto the main road in either direction relies on the generosity of drivers on the main road to let them out. The proposed closure will add to these difficulties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic may build up on Avon Terrace as it waits to turn onto the main road • Traffic may build up on the main road as Avon Terrace is only wide enough for two vehicles to pass at the junction with the main road • Much of Avon Terrace is on street parking • A majority of properties in Rotherstone have two vehicles - 		<p>The proposed restriction will significantly reduce the levels of through traffic utilising Avon Terrace and Rotherstone and will aid in reducing queue lengths on these roads.</p> <p>It will also discourage vehicles who do not have a need to access locations within either road from The Nursery / Bath Road and consequently reduce the level of conflict within the narrow section of Avon Terrace.</p>

	<p>(a mix of cars and commercial vehicles)</p> <p>I would be grateful if you could consider these points and I would also be grateful for information on how and when you propose to take this proposal forward</p>		
G3	<p>I would like Wiltshire Council to also consider the request for residential parking, which has already been sent to various people at WC and DTC, as soon as possible as if the road closure goes ahead the cars that are normally parked at the cemetery will all try and park along our road. As it is a nightmare already outside our homes due to boaters, commuters and non-residents, this request really needs to be given consideration asap and ideally sorted within the same time frame as the road closure.</p>		<p>Requests for schemes to introduce Residents Parking into any area remain separate to this specific proposal and have a dedicated process and assessment.</p> <p>To seek the introduction of a residents parking scheme, initial discussion with the Town Council will be beneficial and it will be able to liaise with Wiltshire Council's Network Management Team to investigate viability.</p>