

Purton Crosslanes Junction – Representations from Cricklade Town Council

Ref	Support/ Object	Comment	Made by	Officer response
1	Object	Cricklade Town Council continues to have severe reservations about this scheme and the implications to the wider road network. We continue to believe that an alternative solution must be found, and that Swindon Borough Council must be involved as much of the traffic emanates from their area. Refreshing the road markings on a regular basis, improving visibility, slowing traffic on the B4553 heading to Tadpole Lane and better signage at the junction are all possible affordable options.	Cricklade Town Council	<p>Whilst there is undoubtedly an impact from traffic generated from the Swindon Borough Council area, the junction is within Wiltshire and as such Wiltshire Council is the Highway Authority.</p> <p>This history of the site, along with previously investigated measures is covered in the main body of the report.</p> <p>Routine maintenance is undertaken in accordance with the adopted Inspection Manual. Additional measures such as those identified by Cricklade Town Council have been previously considered and implemented where possible.</p> <p>This is a scheme which has been developed through the LHFIG (formally CATG) on behalf of the local community.</p>
2	Object	Cricklade Town Council believes that the decision to close access to the C70 was made based on flawed information. We were told that ALL residents including the affected farmers were supportive. This is clearly not the case.	Cricklade Town Council	As clearly outlined in the main body of the report, the majority of residents and adjacent land users along the C70 are supportive. A number of questions have been raised by adjacent land users and further work to alleviate these concerns can be considered in the future.

3	Object	<p>As far as we are aware, no traffic counts were made before the decision was taken to close the road. It is impossible, therefore, to quantify the increased traffic on the B4553 or the impact on Purton Stoke residents. There have been a significant number of objections from them, and from Hayes Knoll residents, about the increased use of Newths Lane from Hayes Knoll to the B4553. The unsuitability of this narrow lane remains a significant factor in the decision process. Also, it seems that very little weight was given to the implications to the railway renovation project.</p>	Cricklade Town Council	<p>No traffic counts were made before the road was closed. Any data would have been unrealistic as it would have been influenced by the introduction of restriction measures due to the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The traffic will have increased and consideration can be given to the issues along the B4553 including the Purton Stoke Junction if prioritised at the LHFIFG.</p> <p>There is no restriction to access locations along the C70 if approached from the north.</p>
4	Object	<p>There have been several complaints citing the increased danger to residents along the B4553. During the period of this trial there have been several accidents, notably at the Packhorse Lane junction and at Purton Stoke. It is Cricklade's view that the closure of the C70 has simply shifted the problem and, arguably, the overall risk to drivers and pedestrians has increased, not reduced.</p>	Cricklade Town Council	<p>The prohibition of entry and exit of the C70 at Crosslanes Junction has resolved the concern at the junction for Purton Parish Council.</p> <p>Consideration can be given to the issues along the B4553 including the Purton Stoke Junction if prioritised at the LHFIFG. Existing collision records have been considered within the main report.</p>
5	Object	<p>There is significant traffic between Cricklade and Purton, including for urgent travel for medical appointments etc. Previously, should the B4553 be subject to a temporary road closure due to an accident or other reason, there was an alternative route via the C70. Closure of the C70 necessitates a lengthy detour in these circumstances.</p>	Cricklade Town Council	<p>There are alternative routes available for traffic when the B4553 is closed. It is accepted that these will be a longer option for road users on the infrequent occasions needed.</p> <p>The closure of any road, either for a planned or emergency is inconvenient, but not unexpected.</p>

6	Object	Finally, we are concerned that the summary of points raised during the consultation process is misleading. It does not take into account the weighting of comments provided. This suggests that roughly 70% of the substantive points raised do not support the closure.	Cricklade Town Council	Generally, there are concerns from residents along the B4553 and at Purton Stoke, regarding the increased traffic volume and speed along this road. This is the result of preventing traffic from using the C70. Consideration can be given to reducing hazards if prioritised through LHFIG. Existing collision records have been considered within the main report.
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