

HENLEY-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL



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**COUNCILLORS ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND A
MEETING OF
THE TRANSPORT STRATEGY GROUP
TO BE HELD ON
1 July 2019 AT 6:00PM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL
HENLEY ON THAMES**

Calam...

Proper Officer
25 June 2019

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak – Chairman (HTC) (SODC) and (OCC)
The Mayor, Councillor Ken Arlett – Vice Chairman (HTC) and (SODC)
Councillor Ian Clark – (HTC)
Councillor Laurence Plant – (HTC)
Councillor Ian Reissmann – (HTC)
Jackie Walker – Bix and Assendon Parish Council
Councillor Kester George – Harpsden Parish Council
Councillor John Halsall - Remenham Parish Council
Councillor Darrel Poulos – Remenham Parish Council
Mr David Dickie, Henley in Transition
Mr Patrick Fleming, Henley in Transition
Mr Dave McEwen, Henley in Transition

Members are reminded to sign the attendance book

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

TO RECEIVE apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are hereby reminded that, under the provisions of sections 26-34 and Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011, a member with a disclosable pecuniary interest of which they are aware in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent. A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter must withdraw from the room or chamber where a meeting is being held whenever it becomes apparent that the matter is being considered at that meeting, unless he/she has obtained a dispensation from the council; and not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

TO RECEIVE questions or statements from members of the Public.

The following rules shall apply:

- You may ask questions or make a statement on any item included on the agenda. The session, which is also open to Councillors who may have a personal and prejudicial interest on any item included on the agenda, will last for a period of up to 10 minutes (but capable of being extended at the Chairman's discretion).
- Questions from the town's residents will take priority, followed by property owners, businesses and then non-residents.
- All speeches shall last for no more than 2 to 3 minutes.
- If there are no statements or questions, or if all statements have been made or questions asked before the period of time allotted, the meeting will start to consider the remainder of its business. No further public questions or statements will be entertained at that meeting.
- If an answer to a question cannot be given at the meeting the Chairman may, at his/her discretion, arrange for a written answer to be given.
- The Chairman of the meeting will have complete discretion as to the order in which questions are taken and statements made. Supplementary questions may be asked at the Chairman's discretion.
- The Chairman of the meeting may rule that any public remarks are not appropriate and will not be accepted; for example if they are defamatory, frivolous or offensive. In such an instance the Chairman may disallow a question or statement or cut short a statement or discussion, or disqualify any member of the public from continuing to speak.
- Questions which require the disclosure of exempt or confidential information will not be answered.
- The Chairman of the meeting's interpretation of this procedure shall not be questioned and his/her ruling on any questions relating to this procedure shall be final.

4. MINUTES

TO APPROVE the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 April 2019 (*Minutes attached*).

5. AIR QUALITY

TO RECEIVE an update on the following items associated with air quality from the project groups:

- i. Cycle Routes – *Councillor Laurence Plant*
 - Signage Costings etc
- ii. Walking –*Jackie Walker*
- iii. Buses – *no separate group required at this stage*
- iv. Trees And Greening – *Councillor Gawrysiak*
 - New Planters
 - Trees on Hart Street
 - Trees around the Town. *(Report attached)*
- v. Electric Charging Points – *Councillor Gawrysiak, Dave McEwen and Ian Clark*
- vi. Henley Car Club and SODC charging points in Greys Rd car park– *Councillor Gawrysiak and Dave McEwen (report attached)*
- vii. Long Stay Car Parks Signage Locations – *Cath Adams and Patrick Fleming – verbal update*
- viii. Kill Your Engine/No Idling Campaign – *David Dickie (Report attached)*
- ix. Greening At Northfield End - *no separate group required at this stage*
- x. Measuring Particulates - *Councillor Gawrysiak – To present a recommendation on commissioning a company to measure particulates*
- xi. Traffic Flow – *Councillor Gawrysiak*
- xii. 20mph Limit - *no separate group required at this stage – Councillor Gawrysiak is monitoring*

6. WORLD CAR FREE DAY

TO DISCUSS this year's World Car Free day which has been scheduled for Sunday 22 September 2019. **TO DECIDE** if Henley Town Council should voluntarily participate.

7. ELECTRIC VEHICLE SHOW

TO DISCUSS an Electric Vehicle show coming to Henley on Thames, along the lines of one held in Oxford recently (Document attached)

8. TRANSPORT CONSULTANCY

TO RECEIVE a verbal update and **NOTE** the notes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019 with Peter Brett Associates and Henley Town Council at the Peter Brett Offices. (Notes attached)

TO CONSIDER commissioning Peter Brett Associates to assist Henley Town Council and Oxfordshire County Council with modelling and data analysis.

9. FUTURE PROJECTS

TO DISCUSS future projects for the Transport Strategy Group.

10. FURTHER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

TO RECEIVE questions or statements from members of the public relating to items discussed during the meeting.

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HENLEY ON THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT
STRATEGY GROUP HELD ON
MONDAY 1 APRIL 2019
AT 6.00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
TOWN HALL
HENLEY ON THAMES.

Present:

Chairman, Councillor S Gawrysiak – Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and Henley Town Council (HTC)
Vice Chairman, Councillor Ken Arlett -HTC
Councillor Will Hamilton - HTC
Councillor Miss L M Hillier – South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) and HTC
Councillor Laurence Plant – HTC
Councillor Jane Smewing - HTC
Councillor K George – Harpsden Parish Council
Mrs Jackie Walker – Bix and Assendon Parish Council
Councillor John Halsall - Remenham Parish Council
Mr Dave Dickie, Henley in Transition
Mr P Fleming, Henley in Transition
Mr D McEwen, Henley in Transition
Mr David Dickie – Henley in Transition
Mr Ian Clark

In Attendance:

Cath Adams – Planning and Project Manager
Kirsty Waterman – Planning and Transport Administrator
1 member of the press
1 member of public

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were **RECEIVED** from Councillor Ian Reissmann – HTC and Councillor Darrel Poulos – Remenham Parish Council.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were **RECEIVED**.

29. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Louise Dodd a Planning Consultant and Henley Resident spoke on agenda item 5, iv. She raised several points and queries:

- Where are the locations of the 17 proposed planters?
- Can trees be planted instead of some of the proposed planters?
- Can the remit for planters and greening be extended to outside the town centre to include the One Stop shop or nearby roundabout on Greys Road for example.
- Can CIL money from nearby Oakwood Homes be used?
- Removed trees in several town locations were done so due to them being diseased without a mitigation policy, to which OCC have stated there is no funding for replanting. Locations with removed diseased trees are Gravel Hill, Western Avenue/Gravel Hill junction and Greys Road car park.
- Can Duke Street hanging baskets be replaced with street trees?

The Chair answered Louise Dodd's points. A wider remit was not initially looked at as it was concentrated centrally to counteract town centre pollution but the trees and greening scheme can be looked into for a wider area. The committee are aware of the removal of the diseased trees. Some haven't been replaced as the area will need to be clear for the proposed crossings for example on Gravel Hill. Trees need replanting in other areas. Planters instead of trees were decided upon based on the data Henley Town Council have received on trapping particulates specific to Henley Town Centre area. Trees are a good idea though for the greening and aesthetics of Henley providing they don't trap particulates. It was agreed a balanced approach needs to be reached and decisions so far have worked towards the need to use planting to assist in reducing pollution and make Henley a green and aesthetically pleasing town.

6.10pm Councillor Plant arrives

30. **MINUTES**

The Minutes were **RECEIVED**, **APPROVED** and **SIGNED** by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting of the Transport Strategy Group on 4 February 2019.

31. **AIR QUALITY**

The Committee **RECEIVED** update on the following items associated with air quality. Project groups for each topic were established in the Transport Strategy meeting on 4 February 2019 in a move towards submitting applications for funding from SODC's air quality budget. Reports to be in by mid May 2019 (Groups in italics):

- i. **Cycle Routes** – ***Councillor Laurence Plant and Ron White***
Research continues into cycleway signs which can include appropriate painted road signage.
Bix and Assendon Parish Council are discussing improving cycle routes between the Fairmile and the road leading to the Assendons. Sustrans are being approached to advise.
- ii. **Walking** – ***Councillor Hillier and Jackie Walker***
Councillor Hillier and Jackie Walker are to meet to discuss further. Walking pace times and distances are being looked into for walking signage.
- iii. **Buses** – ***no separate group required at this stage***
Initial indications show the Saturday bus service is proving successful. Further data will be available at the 6 month review. Bollards were suggested as being a potential fix preventing cars parking in certain areas of the Greys Road car park which affect bus routes.
- iv. **Trees And Greening** – ***Councillor Gawrysiak***
It was noted at Henley Town Council's Planning Committee meeting which was held on 19 March 2019:
"That the Committee notes the appointment of Windowflowers to provide 17 planters for placement in the town as agreed with OCC. The planters to be paid for out of CIL monies."
Public Liability insurance and approval from OCC has been confirmed.
Henley Green will be used on the new planters. Existing planters will remain the colour they are.
- v. **Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points** – ***Councillor Gawrysiak, David McEwen and Ian Clark***
A paper was tabled. (Attached)

A key objective in siting the EV charging points is choosing visible positions making people aware of them to increase their usage, in conjunction with availability of electrical supplies.

- vi. Henley Car Club – Stefan Gawrysiak and Dave McEwen
The priority is to start the scheme after which point additional sites and increased numbers of car club cars can be established.
A balance needs to be found between taking car park spaces from shoppers and providing car club spaces.
Dave McEwen is to formulate publicity and research required in conjunction with CoWheels and report back to the group in a move towards getting the scheme started with evidence of demand by potential users.
- vii. Long stay Car Parks Signage Locations – Cath Adams and Patrick Fleming
Cath Adams and Patrick Fleming are to attend Traffex on 3 April 2019 and will report back. (an exhibition from many providers of car park operations such as signage and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPRs) which are being looked into as well as other smart parking solutions for Henley).
- viii. Kill Your Engine/No Idling Campaign – Councillor Gawrysiak and David Dickie
This group continues to receive further requests to visit local schools and provide material however they have run out of funds. There is currently a £300 overspend. They require a further £1000 to cover the overspend and continue with the programme. Councillor Gawrysiak is to propose a pre payment of £1,000 through Finance Strategy and Management Committee in their next Committee meeting on 2 April 2019. The proposal if resolved will go through Full Council on 30 April 2019.
- ix. Greening At Northfield End – no separate group required at this stage
Project is going ahead with Recreation and amenities Committee. No further action required at this stage.
- x. Measuring Particulates – Councillor Gawrysiak, Patrick Fleming and David Dickie
SODC have agreed they are able to use Henley on Thames as a case study to measure particulates for such a purpose. Ricardo Plc will be appointed to work with Henley Town Council. Two options were tabled and proposed. (Document attached) 6 months particulate monitoring at £8,610 plus VAT and 12 months at £16,830 plus vat. It was proposed to accept the 12 month option. To be resolved at Planning Committee on 9 April 2019.
- xi. 20mph Limit - no separate group required at this stage – Councillor Gawrysiak is monitoring
OCC are almost at the point of delivery.

32. OCC SODC MEETING RE TRAFFIC FLOWS AND 7.5t LIMIT

The working group consisting of Councillor Gawrysiak, Ian Clark, David Dickie, John Halsall and Dave McEwen are to meet w/c 29 April 2019 to discuss traffic flow issues. Jason Sherwood is to be asked what modelling OCC can do for Henley in conjunction with Peter Brett's data. The meeting is to be an open meeting enabling members not on the working group to attend.

6.59pm Councillor Hillier leaves the meeting

33. TRAFFIC COUNT REPORT

Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee are to arrange to meet with Peter Brett to establish further analysis from the data obtained during the recent (December 2018) research. Previously carried out research from OCC is to be revisited. It was **CONSIDERED** whether a further study should be carried out at the same time as last year in May to compare like for like data.

7.04pm Councillor Hamilton leaves the meeting

34. FURTHER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Committee **RECEIVED** further participation from Louise Dodd. She questioned the awareness and commitment from bus drivers as to the idling campaign. There have been many occasions when buses on Bell Street have idled and when approached not seemed fully on board with the project. David Dickie responded that some bus companies are fully engaged with the message and evidently action as requested by not idling however others are still a work in progress and need further encouragement. It is an ongoing campaign and bus companies known to continue to idle will be spoken with again. Examples of success are coming through as well as Thames Travel bus company reducing their idling, Chiltern Taxis have retrained drivers to avoid idling.

The next Committee meeting will be held in May 2019. Date to be confirmed

The meeting closed at 7.11pm

KW/CA

2 April 2019

HENLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Transport Strategy Working Group 1st July 2019

Report on Urban Tree Challenge Fund

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In May 2019, Michael Gove announced that £10 million would be dedicated to plant 130,000 trees in urban areas in England. The Forestry Commission manages the fund, which is available for 2 years (2019/20 and 2020/21).
- 1.2 The deadline for applying for funding for 2019/20 is 28th July 2019. The fund is open for block bids only in year one (i.e. not single planting sites). Single planting sites must consist of a minimum of 150 feather or whip size trees, or 10 large trees. Individual applications will open in year two, for smaller organisations or community groups.
- 1.3 The fund requires match funding from those who apply. The UTCF is a competitive fund, and applications will be scored and ranked to identify projects that will provide the greatest environmental and social benefits to an area.
- 1.4 Due to the short timeframe before the 2019 deadline, it would be advisable to consider an application for the 2020 fund.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 The UTCF is open to anyone who wants to plant trees in urban or peri-urban areas as long, as you have full management control or consent to use the land for the duration of your agreement and your planting location is within an urban area (see 2.4).
- 2.2 The fund provides up to 50% of published standard costs for planting large and small trees and their establishment costs. The remaining funding must be met through match funding, either in the form of money or labour. The grant also covers care for three years after planting.
- 2.3 The fund is competitive, and applications must score highly in environmental and social benefits of planting trees in their urban area. Value for money may also be taken into account.

- 2.4 Areas selected must sit under the 'Trees Close to the People' layer on the Forestry Commission maps. Henley does sit under this layer, and is therefore eligible. (See <https://www.forestergis.com/Apps/MapBrowser/>, expand 'Targeting and Scoring', select 'UTCF Trees Close to People'). Henley also scores as 'High' on the UTCF Priority Places layer. (See same website, expand 'Targeting and Scoring', select 'UTCF Priority Places').

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 Due to the short timeframe before the deadline for the year one 2019 funding (28th July 2019), it is recommended that the Council considers an application for the 2020 Urban Challenge Tree Fund. The deadline for 2020 is not currently known but is assumed to be July 2020.

24th June 2019
India Burgess, Student

25th June 2019

Car Clubs Update Report for Transport Strategy Meeting 1st July 2019

1. Background

- 1.1 Henley in Transition (HiT) has been working to introduce a car club to Henley over the past 3 years. It is aiming to have two car club cars in place by the end of this year.
- 1.2 A car club is a social initiative, which offers an alternative to private car ownership. Starting with two cars, the car club would allow residents and businesses to hire cars for short periods of time. Users pay hourly, and return cars to dedicated spaces in local car parks.
- 1.3 Car clubs offer a range of benefits to a local community. These include financial benefits; reductions in pollution in the town, and of individuals' carbon footprints; reducing pressure on parking spaces in the town centre; and providing increased personal freedom.

2. Actions taken so far

- 2.1 Co-Wheels has been chosen as the provider of the car club cars, following a tender process. Contact is underway with SODC regarding the donation of two parking spaces in Greys Road car park for the car club cars, as well as for the installation of electric charging points.
- 2.2 A Facebook page has been created, a survey has been drafted, and an article has been produced which will be submitted to the Henley Standard in coming weeks. These actions hope to raise awareness of the car club; increase engagement with the project; and assess demand for the initiative in detail.

3. Demand for a Car Club

- 3.1 Co-Wheels have assessed the likely demand for a Car Club in Henley by using a demographic mapping tool. This considers the available data on the residents of Henley and divides them up into 10 categories such as Affluent Professionals, Empty Nesters etc.
- 3.2 From their experience of running many car clubs around the country they are aware of which categories are most likely to make use of a car club. There is a high density of the required categories in Henley and Co-Wheels consider Henley to be an ideal town in which to start a car club.

4. Actions planned

- 4.1 Further communication with SODC on their donation of parking spaces is required, and to progress the installation of electric charging points.
- 4.2 Raising awareness of the car club needs to continue. The survey needs to be trialed and finalised, so that it can be circulated. The article needs to be completed, and submitted to the Henley Standard for publication. Content for the Facebook page needs to be considered, as well as a social media marketing strategy.
- 4.3 When SODC grants the designated spaces and provides the charging point(s), then Co-Wheels will get involved with planning for the launch

- 4.4 Planning for further car club cars around the town. Possible designated spaces need to be identified and permissions obtained.
- 4.5 Crowdfunding is being considered for the additional cars. This would mean that the 3rd car (and 4th, 5th) could be introduced more quickly than waiting for organic growth.

June 2019

No-Idling Campaign Update Report for Transport Strategy Meeting 1st July 2019**1. Background**

- 1.1 The No Idling Campaign, led by Clean Air for Henley, has been running since 2017. Cars, taxis, and buses have a tendency to leave their engines running around the town centre, when dropping children off at school, idling outside shops, or waiting for customers.
- 1.2 The evidence supporting the damaging impacts of air pollution, of CO₂, NO_x and particulate emissions, is unquestionable. When talking in primary school assemblies, it was discovered that 20% of pupils owned inhalers. Raising awareness and changing perceptions are the core goals of the campaign.

2. Actions taken so far

- 2.1 The no-idling campaign has taken extensive action, including patrolling in car parks; distributing stickers to local shops; talking in 7 local primary schools about the dangers of air pollution; and engaging with bus and taxi companies to reduce their idling time. Rupert House School, in their Science and Environment competition project, carried out surveys which revealed that stickers in shops were not being noticed. As a result, A4 posters were designed with the school, and have been distributed to 42 shops already. These posters are due to be used at the River and Rowing Museum where visiting coaches often leave their engines idling.
- 2.2 During Walk to School week in May, the campaign distributed large banners to primary schools to promote no idling. Education packs were purchased from the charity Living Streets, and distributed to primary schools. St Mary's School initiated 'Walking Buses', leaving cars away from the school, and Badgemore School put up our first new banner.

3. Actions planned

- 3.1 Thursday 20th June is National Clean Air Day. Clean Air for Henley will travel around Henley with the large No Idling banners. A large banner will also be displayed in Kings Road car park.
- 3.2 Exploring having a presence at Regatta, the Henley Festival, and the Henley Literary Festival are next steps for the campaign. This could involve having a stand at the events, or having notices on no idling in programmes.
- 3.3 Increasing social media presence is another next step for the campaign.

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Electric Cars - Oxford Residents Factsheet

So you're interested in an electric car?

You're in good company. One in three car buyers in the UK is considering switching to an electric vehicle (EV). Oxford City Council is keen to encourage the uptake of electric cars in the city alongside walking and cycling, as a less polluting alternative to petrol or diesel cars.

Your choice

- Pure electric vehicles (ZEVs) run on a battery only – these are the cleanest choice, and are supported with a government grant: <https://www.gov.uk/plug-in-car-van-grants>
- Plug-in hybrids let you drive a short distance electric-only and have fuel for longer journeys.
- Range-extended electric vehicles have greater electric-only range than a plug-in hybrid, but still have a petrol back-up for longer journeys.

The Go Ultra Low campaign is a joint government and car industry campaign that has pulled together all the essential information you need to make an informed decision about going electric. It's a fantastic resource – though not all manufacturers are represented.

www.goultralow.com/chooseinglelectric-car-selector/

Or look here: **Energy Saving Trust website:**

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/transport-travel/electric-vehicles



Try before you buy

Try how it feels like driving an electric car by taking a test drive at your local car dealer. Some car dealerships may offer an extended test drive so you can work out how it fits into your lifestyle.

You don't need to own an electric car to drive one: Many car clubs also offer electric cars

TFL's website explains how car clubs work: tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/car-clubs/how-car-clubs-work

Car clubs that include electric cars in their portfolio in Oxford are **ECAR, Europcar and Co-Whheels**.

<https://ecarclub.co.uk/locations/>

Electric cars are cheap to run:

Charging a typical pure electric car from flat to full overnight cost currently £2-£4, depending on your electricity tariff. And that's for a 100 miles range. ZEVs are also road tax exempt.

To find out your possible savings: **Go Ultra Low** has great calculators: www.goultralow.com/electric-car-savings/



Let's talk about mileage

Range is the mileage an electric car can cover on one full battery charge. Do you know how many miles you drive per day? It's worth finding out to make sure you choose a car that delivers the range you need. If you are like most of us, your daily mileage is likely to be less than you think.

On average, private cars in the UK travel 20 miles per day, are in motion for only six hours per week and parked for the rest of the time - 162 hours.

Many electric cars come with ranges between 60 and 200 miles, so most of us will be able to find an electric car that suits our needs.

And every hour your car is parked somewhere, that's your opportunity for charging.

Electric Car Charging - Oxford Residents Factsheet

How do you charge an electric car?

The easiest and cheapest way to charge your car is usually at home. Your car will come with a cable – but you will need access to a charging point.

If you have off-street parking at home

You can get a home charger from many different companies. Some dealerships may provide a home-charge unit free or at a discounted price with their vehicles.

The government offers a grant of up to £500 towards the cost of installation. Your supplier will look after all the paperwork for the grant, so all you have to do is pay the remaining balance (25% of the total cost).

There are some conditions. Have a look at the below website to see if the grant is available to you.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/electric-vehicle-homecharge-scheme-guidance-for-customers-version-22

If you park on-street in Oxford

Oxford is a Go Ultra Low city, which means that we have won funding to develop a charging network for residents that park on the street in front of their homes.

As part of the project we are trialing a number of on-street charging solutions in Oxford, to prepare for a roll out of 100 public on-street chargers, starting in 2019.

You can learn more, and nominate your street for on-street charging, via the **Oxford Go Ultra Low** website/Contact us. www.goultraowxford.org



It's easy to find public chargers

There are already more than 14000 electric car charging points all across the UK. You can find your active, public chargers via Zap Map.

<https://www.zap-map.com/live/>

In Oxford public "destination" charging is offered for example at our Park & Rides, at nearby services stations and the Westgate Centre.



How long does it take to charge?

There are many different types of chargers. How long it takes to fully charge your car depends primarily on the power output of the charging point. This is measured in kW. The higher the number, the faster the charge. But not all electric cars can use rapid chargers – make sure you check before you buy.

| Charger type | Power/Kw | Charging Speed | Where to find them? |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---|
| Slow | 3 | 6-10h | At home, off street |
| Fast | 7 - 22 | 3-4h | Workplace, on-street, at home |
| Rapid | 43/50/120 | 20-40 min | Motorways, car parks, retail destinations |
| Super Rapid (selectd cars only) | 150 - 350 | 5-10 min | Petrol Stations, Motorways |

Planning for longer journeys

With rapid charging your car at a service station takes 30 min less, so longer than waiting for a coffee. You can use Zap Map website via Zap Map to plan what to charge on longer journeys. <https://www.zap-map.com/live/>

The way you drive can affect your range. Find out more here: <http://www.goultraowxford.org>

Great general advice on charging can be found here: <http://www.goultraowxford.org>



MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORT STRATEGY GROUP WITH PETER BRETT ASSOCIATES HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH JUNE 2019 AT 10.00AM AT PETER BRETT ASSOCIATES' OFFICE

PRESENT: Councillor Ken Arlett
Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak
Councillor Laurence Plant
Patrick Fleming – Henley in Transition
Cath Adams – Planning and Project Manager
Kirsty Waterman – Committee Administrator
India Burgess - Student

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** The meeting was held to discuss the results of Peter Brett Associates' (PBA's) study of traffic volumes in Henley, commissioned by Henley Town Council (HTC). The study involved 22 Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs) recording traffic flows for a period of 7 days, starting on December 4th 2018.
- 1.2** The meeting resulted in a recommendation to carry out a further, reduced, traffic flow study in June, using 6 strategically-placed ATCs, to produce more comparable results to the May 2015 traffic flow study.
- 1.3** A meeting is to be scheduled with OCC, PBA, and HTC representatives to discuss traffic flow modelling – including the possibility of removing traffic lights and banning HGVs from driving through Henley – and emphasis was placed on removing traffic from Henley, and continuing work on improving parking signage, including smart parking solutions.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1** PBA acknowledged that there would have been seasonal differences between the first study – which took place in May 2015 – and the present study – which took place in December 2018. They also suggested that weather patterns, holidays, and housing were also factors which could have influenced the results. They said that they would be unable to correct or mitigate these factors.
- 2.2** It was concluded that for the best results, and due to potential outlier results produced from static traffic interrupting the counting system, a third, smaller study should be carried out in June. This would be as close as possible to the original study's date, and would aim to avoid static traffic disturbing the counting system.
- 2.3** It was queried whether there were any County or District traffic flow figures to make a comparison with. PBA responded that all traffic flow figures at County/District Level are forecast, and there was therefore no capacity to make a real, direct comparison.
- 2.4** The traffic flow figures were confirmed to only show the number of vehicles entering Henley, not their travel trajectories. PBA advised that HTC would need to commission an ANPR study in order to find out details of vehicles travelling through, or staying within, Henley.

- 2.5 Large differences between the 2015 and 2019 studies, such as an increase of 267% in St Marks Road, were accounted by PBA to be the result of Sat Navs and traffic apps, such as Google Maps and Waze. These would redirect drivers from traffic-heavy routes into side roads in order to avoid queues. Therefore, it was unlikely that they were anomalies, and an in-person roadside survey could determine this if HTC wanted to pursue it further.
- 2.6 HTC has some potential suggestions on modelling that they would like further information on, including removing traffic lights and banning HGVs from driving through Henley. It was decided that councillors and officers at HTC would consider options, and Cllr Gawrysiak would arrange a meeting with Jason Sherwood, Growth Manager at OCC, and PBA to further a strategy.
- 2.7 Carrying out a study in June on traffic flow would provide more accurate data, and enable HTC to move to improve air quality in Henley. Reducing traffic flow in Henley - potentially through redirecting HGVs, and improving car park signage to reduce traffic circulation as drivers search for spaces – would contribute to this. Patrick Fleming and Catherine Adams are using information gathered at the Traffex conference to progress their research into smart parking and improved signage around Henley

3. ACTIONS FROM MEETING

- 3.1 PBA to get a quote for 6 ATCs in Henley for a traffic flow study in June
- 3.2 HTC to seek approval in Full Council on 18th June for up to £2,000 for a further traffic flow study.

POST MEETING NOTE: Funds of £2,200 were approved to be allocated to a third traffic flow study in Full Council Meeting on 18th June 2019.

- 3.3 A meeting is to be arranged – dependent on the June traffic flow study taking place – with OCC, PBA, and HTC to discuss traffic flow modelling options.
- 3.4 Car parking signage in Henley to be improved.

ib

24 June 2019