

**Henleaze, Stoke Bishop and Westbury-on-Trym
Neighbourhood Partnership
17 June 2013**

Report from the Transport Working Group

1. Introduction

The Working Group's last quarterly Meeting was held on 17 April at the Westbury-on-Trym Academy. Ward Reps from all 3 Wards were present, together with approximately 12 local residents and one Council Officer.

Notes of the WG Meeting have been circulated to all attendees and can also be viewed on the NP's website (www.activenp.co.uk). Discussions about the current City-wide 20mph speed limit consultation and the recently-proposed 18 additional Residents' Parking Zones (RPZs) dominated the Meeting.

2. Greater Bristol Bus Network (GBBN)

The debate has continued as to the efficacy of the new GBBN bus lane on the approach to the White Tree Roundabout. The topic was debated at the Full Council Meeting on 15 January, when Council was asked to consider a Petition (sponsored by Geoff Gollop), which had collected more than 3,500 signatures. The Petition highlighted, inter alia, that "*there is a real and obvious need to scrap or redesign this particular route*". The outcome was that Council referred the matter to the Mayor and, to date, the Mayor has yet to pronounce on this issue.

As a consequence of the Mayor's indecision, the main strategy advocated by the Working Group – that the remnant section of the bus lane should be removed completely – has not yet been adopted. Also, the results of any post-scheme audit have not been made public.

However, at the last Henleaze Neighbourhood Forum, a Council Officer confirmed that a final post-scheme traffic survey will not take place until the Autumn, when traffic movements will have returned to "normal" following the completion of all major road works in the area.

3. City-wide 20mph Speed Limit

A city-wide consultation has begun into the Council's proposals for its phased rollout of a 20mph blanket speed limit across the city. If supported, it would cover most local roads (other than those with a current speed limit over 30mph, or dual carriageways). Our Neighbourhood Partnership (NP3) is included in Phase 3, "Inner Ring North", where the consultation commenced with a presentation by the 20mph Rollout Team to our last NP Meeting in March. Implementation is targeted for April next year.

The consultation process has continued with presentations to each of our Ward's Neighbourhood Forums in May and public displays in local libraries during May and June. The overwhelming feedback from our 3 Forums was that the speed limit on all the 'A' and 'B' arterial roads passing through our area should be assessed for retention at 30mph, as well as some limited support for retaining many of our 'C' roads at 30mph.

Therefore, the Working Group request that our councillors support and pursue these fundamental objectives with the Council Officers concerned.

It is expected that the 20mph Rollout Team will present their initial proposals for the Phase 3 area to the Partnership's September Meeting.

4. Residents' Parking Zones (RPZs)

Last March, the Mayor revealed plans to introduce 18 additional Residents' Parking Zones to cover most of the city by September next year. Three RPZs have already been introduced in Kingsdown, Redcliffe and Cotham and a fourth is currently being considered for Easton and St Philip's.

The current RPZs caused widespread controversy before they were introduced (especially in Kingsdown) and have caused a ripple effect on commuter parking in adjoining suburbs. As commuters have been banned from parking all day in the current zones, they have been forced to find somewhere to park in side-streets further afield. The problem has been particularly bad in Redland.

The Westbury Park Community Association's Traffic Group is also less than enthusiastic about the RPZ proposed for their area of the City and feel that they are being side-lined in the current consultation process. Cllr Fi Hance (Redland) has commented that she is expecting the whole scheme to be implemented and residents should concentrate on the local implementation details. The WPCA's Traffic Group has written to Mayor Ferguson expressing their concerns.

The whole issue of RPZs was hotly debated at the last Henleaze Neighbourhood Forum on 16 May, which concluded that the whole process was being "steamrollered" through by the Mayor whilst completely ignoring the views of local residents.

5. BCC's Local Sustainable Transport (LST) Grants

In March, the Transport WG submitted two bids for funding from Round 2 of the Council's city-wide LST grants. Both of these bids were revised submissions of previously unsuccessful bids in Round 1.

The first was for £20k to fund the provision of a Zebra Crossing on Southmead Road (NP3 Highway Issue W117), which included additional input and support from Horfield Primary School, under the banner of "Safer Walks to School". The second bid, for £15k, was for the provision of a crossing point and additional traffic-calming measures in Chock Lane (NP3

Highway Issue W114), again under the “Safer Walks to School” banner, with additional input and support from Westbury-on-Trym Academy.

The LST Grants Panel subsequently recommended completely funding the Zebra Crossing on Southmead Road and part-funding (£5k) the crossing point and additional traffic-calming measures in Chock Lane.

From our Partnership’s perspective, these were two good results.

6. Minor Traffic Schemes

As announced at the last Partnership Meeting, the Council’s Highways function has declared a moratorium on any additional Minor Traffic Schemes in 2013/14, in order to complete their current (city-wide) backlog. Consequently, there has been little progress towards completing any of the ten minor traffic schemes sanctioned by the NP last June:

H114 (Northumbria Drive, entrance to Waitrose): BCC’s Traffic Management Team will draw up some layout proposals for this area, at a cost of £2k. However, implementation of any improvements would cost an estimated and, as yet, unfunded £25k.

H115 (Henleaze Road, exit from Tesco): Similar problem to H114 and a review of the current layout will be undertaken for £2k.

H117 (Henleaze Road/Northumbria Drive mini roundabout): A design study (and consultation) will be undertaken at a cost of £4K. However, implementation of any improvements would cost an additional £25k.

H118 (Park Grove): A design study and subsequent local consultation for pavement build-outs near the Henleaze Infant and Junior Schools will be undertaken at a cost of £3.5k. Capital Works will be funded from a recently-awarded Round 1 LST Grant.

S106 (Rockleaze, Downleaze and Circular Road): Additional parking restrictions, as well as passing places in Circular Road, at a cost of £3K for consultation and subsequent TRO. This will also include a review and implementation of parking restrictions in **Cook’s Folly Road** (S111) and **Seawalls Road** (S106).

S114 (Stoke Road/Saville Road): Additional parking restrictions on Stoke Road, approaching the traffic lights and double yellow lines opposite the junction with **Ladies Mile**, at a cost of £2.5K for a TRO.

W109 (Eastfield Road): A design study and consultation for footway improvements at the top of Waters Lane for £3k. However, implementation of any improvements would cost an estimated and, as yet, unfunded £7k.

W112 (Stoke Lane Parking Review): A parking review and consultation for £4k would include the whole length of Stoke Lane (from Falcondale Road to Parry’s Lane) and include some side roads. Capital Works will be funded from a recently-awarded Round 1 LST Grant.

W117 (Southmead Road): Feasibility study for a Zebra Crossing near Alexandra Road at a cost of £1K, with a matching contribution of £1K

from NP4. Additional funding of £20k, for implementation, has recently been awarded following a successful Round 2 LST bid.

W118 (Henbury Road, pavement parking opposite No 20): Steel demarcation studs, to indicate the exact position of the pavement boundary - as an aid to parking enforcement - will be installed for £1k.

In addition, a traffic survey and consultation for the West Broadway area (Highway Issue **H123**) that was approved at the last NP, to be funded from the NP3 “Local Community Small Grants”, has now been added to “the list” for completion in 2013/14.

Six minor “lining & signing” issues (sanctioned by the NP in previous years), **S101** (Bell Barn/Sea Mills Lane), **S103** (Old Sneed Ave/Stoke Hill), **S107** (Kewstoke Road/Stoke Hill), **S109** (Stoke Paddock Road/Shirehampton Road), **S115** (Avon Way/Sea Mills Lane) and **S116** (Sea Mills Lane, near Sea Mills station), were all covered under one Traffic Regulation Order (TRO 1271) that completed all its consultation hurdles on 25 March. The yellow lines should be painted by early June.

7. Highway Maintenance Issues

At the time of writing, prioritised proposals for the NP’s devolved 2013/14 Footway Refurbishment budget were not yet available but should be presented to the June NP. Footways currently short-listed include, Hill View, The Crescent, Southmead Rd & Henleaze Rd (between Wellington Hill West & Pyecroft Ave), Montroy Close, Great Brockeridge, Glen Drive, Farne Close, Westover Rd, Priory Ave, Kellaway Ave and Lakewood Rd.

8. Recommendations

The Neighbourhood Partnership is requested to:

1. **Note** the on-going concerns regarding traffic problems resulting from the GBBN’s Bus Lane on the approach to the White Tree roundabout which are likely to persist until the Bus Lane is removed (Item 2).
2. **Note** concerns regarding the proposed rollout of a blanket 20mph speed limit across the city and **to Support** the retention of a 30mph limit on all major arterial ‘A’ and ‘B’ routes in our area (Item 3).
3. **Note** the concerns of Westbury Park and Henleaze residents over the Mayor’s plans for additional Residents’ Parking Zones (RPZs) in the area, whilst completely ignoring the views of local residents (Item 4).
4. **Note** the recent successful bids for Local Sustainable Transport (LST) grants to cover the provision of a new Zebra Crossing on Southmead Road and additional traffic calming measures in Chock Lane (Item 5).
5. **Note** the lack of progress with the ten minor traffic schemes, previously sanctioned by the NP, for implementation in 2012/13 (Item 6).

Alan Aburrow,
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(24 May 2013)