

Minutes of the Transport Group Meeting
Tuesday 26th February

Present: Andrew Bax, Richard Webber, Keith Clough, John Sheppard, John Scott, Colin West, Christine West, Pervin Shahin

1. No apologies
2. Amending the Last Minutes
Keith Clough had one or two amendments but the rest was passed.

3. Matters Arising

The subject of street lighting was brought up. Should there be more lights in the village. The black spot in the High Street was discussed. According to Keith, there should be a uniform distance between lights according to the speed limit. At 30 mph there should be another street light in the High Street. Would better lighting encourage people to speed? Some thought not.

4. Traffic Calming

Colin West showed a video of the approaching roads to Drayton from the three different directions and demonstrated how different the village feels according to which direction one is coming from. The straight and uninteresting approaches from both Abingdon and from Steventon encouraged speeding whereas, the more curving road in the High Street with more features of interest discouraged speeding.

Colin showed pictures of different traffic calming schemes used abroad. He also showed how plastic can be used for pop-up roundabouts or kerbs, which were very effective. It was acknowledged that any suggestions would have to wait until the new houses were built.

According to Section 106 of the Housing Act, money for such schemes will be available

Surrey County Council has a good traffic calming guide. Colin had it with him and will look through it for any suggestions.

The A34 bridge encourages speeding as it looks as if it is part of a large road system and not part of a village. How could we make it more interesting and make it a feature rather than a menace? Decorate it some way? Put greenery and plants growing round it? Turn it into an ally rather than an enemy.

5. A 34 Widening

There is a need for three carriageways or a hard shoulder in the part of the motorway where there isn't one, to alleviate the need for traffic to come through the villages on the occasion of an accident. It was suggested that creating a new carriageway on the A 34 was beyond our remit, but that demanding a hard shoulder was reasonable.

Everyone agreed that noise pollution was a problem and that sound proofing the road would be very helpful.

6. Ock Bridge Widening

There was a discussion as to whether widening the bridge or having a slip road using the land to the left would be the best solution to the build up of traffic going into Abingdon. It was agreed that a slip road wouldn't help as it would only lead into the traffic already blocking the road to the Police Station roundabout. It would be better to widen the bridge so that traffic turning right would also benefit. This could be done by using the area now taken up by pavements, and providing an overhead iron bridge to provide a walkway.

7. Any other business

Alan Bourne would be contacted by Christine about the cycle route with a view to extending the cycle network.

Dr. Soper would be contacted by Richard to do a cycle usage survey.

Daniel Scharfe would be contacted by Andrew to do a survey about bus usage.

8. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 26th March at 6.30