



## Wivenhoe Town Council

**MINUTES** of the Transport and Travel Sub-Committee meeting held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday 20 November 2024 at 7pm **Chair Approved**

Present: Cllr Andrew (Chair), Cllr Wenaden, Cllr Evans, Cllr Maltby, ECC Cllr Mark Cory, CCC Cllr Sean Kelly, Alan Charnock (Speedwatch) and Jo Beighton-Emms (Town Clerk).

Public Questions: None

### PART A

TT/11.24/01 Apologies for absence: Cllr Boughton. Apologies were accepted.

TT/11.24/02 Declarations of interest: None

TT/11.24/03 Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2024 were proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Wenaden and approved by all as an accurate record of proceedings.

TT/11.24/04 Station Access for All Abilities

Cllr Cory explained that he is arranging a date for a meeting on site with all relevant stakeholders.

Cllr Andrew said that there have been works done to the trail but destination signage is outstanding. Cllr Cory said that he would chase the funding.

The sink hole along the trail has improved in the dry weather. Cllr Evans suggested using local expertise for advice.

TT/11.24/05 School Streets- Review of ECC Plans (Previously circulated and attached as **Appendix A**)

The councillors considered the previously circulated presentation.

They also considered a note of suggestions on the plans from Cllr Andrew which is attached as **Appendix B**

Cllr Cory reported that ECC have put forward plans- he considers that only small changes will be made at this stage. The councillors discussed the cost and that extending the 20mph zones to estates will be an opportunity to slow traffic around the schools further.

Cllr Cory reported that he is pushing to extend the 20mph zone with some funding, in line with a wider initiative for sustainable travel.

Cllr Andrew said that one cheap option would be to create a cul-de-sac at Broomgrove school but Cllr Cory said that this wouldn't work for various reasons such as increased travel time and emergency services access. An alternative travel plan to schools is being worked on. The councillors discussed obtaining figures for attendees who live out of the area and need to drive to school.

The councillors considered alternative options. Cllr Cory suggested a crossing and a chicane may be better at Broomgrove . He would like to push back for a replan.

Re Keeler's Lane for example the SID sign could be moved and 20mph enforced near the Tarmac entrance so that traffic is slower at the junction. There is possibly a case to slow traffic down on the whole of Keeler's Lane. Cllr Cory said to provide all suggestions to him directly as WTC, with a rationale and details of the WTC vote on 20mph on estates.

#### TT/11.24/06 MSID Purchase & Installation

Cllr Andrew reported that he had surveyed street furniture for suitable locations for MSIDs. Cllr Cory confirmed that permissions would be needed to use ECC furniture. Cllr Andrew discussed battery life. Cllr Kelly said that 25watts provides 4 hours so for the batteries offered in the package that Cllr Andrew had looked at, there would be a 4 hour gap in usage. Two batteries would be needed. He suggested lithium batteries and pay more for a good single battery. One battery could be used with a larger panel that could be fitted. Cllr Kelly said he would ensure sourcing cheaper but resilient solar panels.

The packages with the whole kit have batteries which are heavy – Cllr Kelly suggested buying the units, panels and batteries separately. This would mean better value for money. Cllr Andrew suggested purchasing 4 Elan units. Cllr Kelly said that the cost would £8k and that real world data is needed. Locations discussed were the bottom of Rectory Hill, near the pathway at the Cricket Club on Rectory Road, Colchester Road, the Avenue and Station Road. Cllr Evans said that he was not aware of the Speed Limit Reminder sign by the quarry despite passing it many times. Cllr Andrew said that this is why SIDs rather than SLRs are necessary.

Cllr Cory suggested buying more to get a better deal and then 4 could be used in Greenstead. Cllr Andrew agreed to get quotes.

#### TT/11.24/07 Cycle Parking Update:

Cllr Andrew reported that more racks are being sent now by ECC regardless of racks being bought now by WTC. Cllr Cory said that he would contact them and try to explain the issue. Cllr Andrew has a list providing an order and locations for the racks already purchased.

#### TT/11.24/08 WNP Revision: No update

TT/11.24/09 Date and time of the next meeting: It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 22 January 2025 at 7pm.

TT/11.24/10 Exclusion of press and public: In accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Council is invited to consider if the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item(s) owing to the confidential nature of the business.

PART B

None.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.24

## Appendix A- See attached

## Appendix B

### Cllr Andrew Report

Oldham Council (and others) have gone further to improve safety & encourage Active Travel than is currently proposed by ECC in Wivenhoe – see attached – could Wivenhoe do more (for less) ?

#### a) Close the road to motors ?

If the school street is closed to (through) traffic, accident risks will be reduced

Only residents & staff need be allowed access during drop off & pick up times

Parents can drop off / pick up further away – not outside the school gates

Walking to school becomes more attractive, at least for part of the way

- ❖ Broome Grove could become a cul-de-sac, permanently; no need for through traffic

- ❖ Millfields could be gated, temporarily, during drop off & pick up times;

there is ample pace for a turning circle in Bowes Rd;

residents can still exit the estate via Bobbits or Claremont

No need then for zebra crossings – expensive due to DFT still insisting on belishas.

#### b) Extend the 20mph restrictions ?

If 20mph applies only outside schools, walking / cycling routes to school will be no safer

Walking / cycling to school becomes more attractive when roads TO school are 20mph

Note: Wivenhoe TC recently voted to make all estate roads 20mph...

Heath Rd could become 20mph; also Rosabelle, and the roads in between

Rectory Hill could become 20mph, making crossing it safer

#### c) Speed Indicator Devices (SID) on the approach roads ?

Speedwatch have confirmed excessive speeds on the roads into Wivenhoe, particularly

Alresford Rd, Rectory Hill, Colchester Rd & The Avenue – all walking routes to school

WTC is installing SIDs at various points to improve compliance with speed limits.

Both SLRs are ineffective and should be moved; they are too close to 30mph signs.

Keelars Lane speed limit should be reduced from 60 mph !

#### d) Restricting HGV Access ?

Quarry lorries frequent ALL the above walking routes to school – HGVs are a major hazard, at any speed,

and a deterrent to cycling to school. There is no need for HGVs to use Wivenhoe's residential roads –

Brightlingsea Rd is quicker – HGV use could be restricted 24/7.

#### e) Physical traffic calming measures ?

Speed humps are proposed on Rectory Hill, approaching Millfields – why not Heath Rd ?

More speed humps would be cost effective: Rectory Rd; Alresford Rd. *Do they slow HGV ?*

Chicanes are proposed outside Broomegrove to halve crossing distances – why not Millfield ?

The expensive zebra (only useful during drop off & pick up) would not then be required.

Mini-rdbts would slow traffic down at jct Bowes Rd, Bellevue, and Keelars Lane

Heath Rd jct already has an adjacent zebra but a mini-rdbt would reduce speeds.

**f) Additional busy road crossings ?**

The informal 'crossing point' to the Alresford Rd bus stop is NOT safe – sight lines are poor – this is where a zebra crossing would be more useful, at all times of day, and at weekends.

The Avenue at the end of Rosabelle would also benefit from a zebra;  
also Rectory Rd at the Cricket Club, and the High St outside the Library.