

# Freshford Parish Council

## Report on the Transport & Highways Public Consultation

### Purpose

In light of the comments received and discussion at the Parish Meeting on Traffic Issues, councillors are asked to consider what actions the Parish Council should now take on transport and highways matters.

### Introduction

The Parish Council's public consultation on transport issues held at Freshford Memorial Hall on 13 April 2022 with the aim of bringing everyone together to gain an overall understanding of the views of all residents on the problems, potential solutions and their impact, and take those views forwards in discussions with B&NES and Highways Engineers with our Ward Councillors. The meeting was attended by 53 residents.

This report summarises the comments made by residents using 'post-its' on the following broad themes:

- Speeding
- Parking
- Rosemary Lane
- Dark Lane/Church Hill
- The Tynning
- Ashes Lane
- School Traffic
- On-Line Deliveries
- The A36 (suggested at the meeting)
- Transport for All (suggested at the meeting)

Many thanks to the residents of the village for all the transport and highways problems shared and the solutions suggested.

The notes made at the meeting by residents are captured in Appendix 1.

As a starting point to aid discussion, I have grouped the ideas arising from this meeting into:

- 1) Major Projects
- 2) Potential Quick Wins
- 3) Impractical Although Desirable

### Major project ideas for PC consideration

No	Description
1	Road closure at Dunkirk Mill or consider option of an LTN
2	Consultation of an LTN at Church Hill/Dark Lane
3	Introduce with Wiltshire a 20 mph limit for whole of Freshford
4	Buy speed limit signage (Pandora) for Abbey Lane & Freshford Lane
5	Investigate dedicated parking with electric charging points.
6	Central hub for on-line deliveries at Brown's Field or The Galleries.
7	Residents survey on disability and how that impacts their access to transport

### Potential Quick Wins

No	Description
1	Move signs at top of Ashes Lane
2	Repaint all the road signage indicating 20 mph
3	Disabled parking space opposite the Old Bakery
4	Speak to School Governors to restart the 'snake' or Walking Bus.
5	Speak to Community Police to enforce double yellow lines to inhibit parking at the school.

### Ideas that are impractical/beyond our remit

No	Description
1	Making Rosemary Lane One-Way; professional advice is this will encourage speeding.
2	A36 Speed limit reduction to 40 mph. Work through BANES but we National Highways will not engage with Parish Councils or the VPA.
2	A tunnel under the A36 is too expensive and again National Highways will not engage with us. It is a good suggestion but impractical.

## Appendix 1 – Comments made by residents at the transport meeting

### Speeding

There were 11 comments about speeding along with 16 solutions.

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Category</b>
Involves real danger to life rather than inconvenience	Public safety
Speeding from Park Corner to shop	Freshford Lane
Freshford Lane/New Road – issue identified through informal speed gun results	Freshford Lane
Speeding through village, in particular school run in Freshford Lane.	Freshford Lane
Danger to pedestrians leading to an accident	Public safety
Speeding at all times of day as traffic looking to avoid A36	Rat run
Speeding on New Road	
Inconsistent speed limits – 20/30 mph	Speed limits
The whole of the village is being used as a rat run	Rat run
Church Lane due to through traffic & school run	Church Lane
Part of cut through issue	Rat run
<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Category</b>
More visible speed limiting signs throughout the village, particularly High Street	Speed limit signs
Make whole village 20 mph * 4	Speed limits
Share data on speeding that has been collected to encourage people not to be in the speeding group	Speedwatch
Flashing speed signs * 7 (Abbey Road?)	Speed limit signs
Have better sited 20 mph signs on road rather than obtrusive flashing signs	Signage
Different type of road surface or change of colour as reminder of the speed limit.	Road surface
Church Lane: introduce a 20 mph at top of Church Lane with Gates and Signage. Like Crowe Lane.	Speed limits

## Parking

There were 13 comments about speeding along with 11 solutions.

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Category</b>
Random parking has the advantage of slowing traffic	
School & Freshford Inn	School/Inn
No parking should be allowed over the bridge by the Inn	Inn
No bus pull in at The Galleries. It pulls across the driveway, which stops the flow of traffic in either direction and is dangerous.	The Galleries
Limited parking at the Inn is dangerous for emergency services* 4	Inn
Parking at the school prevents the 94 bus getting through	School
Parking between pub and the fields. I was almost run down as I couldn't walk near the side and someone nearly knocked me down as they couldn't see me.	Inn
Parking on the blind bed by the Sharpstone turn causes traffic wishing to turn right into Sharpstone Lane to be forced to the wrong side of the road, committing to the turning with no vision what might be approaching from The Tying.	Sharpstone
Parking on the High Street and The Hill to the Inn & on the entrance to Orchard Close	The Hill
Disabled parking at the Old Bakery	

<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Category</b>
Need for dedicated parking with electric charging * 2	Electric charging
Need for village car club so maybe people may realise they do not need two cars.	Car Club
Lack of policing of double yellow lines. Can community police enforce road regulations?	Policing
Parking more ordered at The Galleries to create more spaces.	The Galleries
Old Bakery is used by a wide variety of people, some elderly & disabled. A disabled parking spot could easily be created opposite from parking pill in which already exists.	Disabled Parking
Enforce existing road marking, single and double yellow lines. Examples: Abbey Lane and corner Abbey Lane/Rosemary Lane.	Policing
Place rocks not bollards along verges to discourage car parking	Verges
Refurbish/repaint existing white lines so they can see. Example: top of Freshford Lane.	Road markings
Mark out official passing places in front of the gates by the pub road.	The Inn
Create car parks – better than badly parked cars	Car park

## Rosemary Lane

There were 13 comments about Rosemary Lane issues along with 21 solutions.

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Category</b>
The survey was done during lockdown and not representative of current traffic volumes	Traffic Volume
No passing places except private drives * 3	Passing places
Damage to walls, drives by large vehicles	Property damage
Those frustrated waiting for others to pass then drive fast to get through to avoid oncoming traffic	Speeding
Can we re-instate the turning area between the end of Rosemary Lane and Freshford Mill? It was very useful. It is now fenced off.	Turning area
Sat Nav is now seeing large vehicles	Sat Nav
Freshford Mill traffic	Freshford Mill
Freshford Mill: The angled turn is useless. A different solution is needed.	Freshford Mill
Dramatic increase in traffic * 2	Traffic Volume
An accident waiting to happen	Public safety

<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Category</b>
Make is residents' access only * 4	Access Only
Make it an LTN * 3	LTN
Close Rosemary Lane at Dunkirk Mill bridge with lockable bollards * 5	Road closure
Introduce a weight limit for delivery vehicles	Weigh limit
One way system * 4	One Way
Improved signage at the top to deter traffic	Signage
Remove Rosemary Lane from Sat Nav	Sat Nav
Make Rosemary Lane & Sharpstone Lane an LTN	LTN
Making RL One Way is NOT the solution – that will encourage people to drive faster knowing they won't meeting anything. It needs a road closure.	Road closure

## School Traffic

There were 9 comments about School traffic issues along with 11 solutions.

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Category</b>
Inconsiderate parking outside school. Perhaps parents can park away from the crossroads and allow traffic to flow.	Parental behaviour
If we want a thriving village school we need to accept that the catchment area has to extend beyond the village to those who need to drive.	Accept
Pavement parking & dangerous parking	Public safety
Selfish parking from school restricting the width for traffic in Dark Lane	Parental behaviour
The parking is excessive and often badly parked	Parental behaviour
Speeding cars to and from the school	Parental behaviour
Major parking problems at the school	Parental behaviour
Difficulty walking on pavement to school as cars park on pavement & block it.	
The bus can't get through	Bus blockage

<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Category</b>
Could the school operate a "Kiss & drop" system in the morning?	Kiss & Drop
Parking for parents nearer the school on the Tynning at the lower level * 3	Park on Tynning
Could we have a crossing by the school	Crossing
Walking bus idea is good for children's well-being, would relieve traffic. It has been done but need someone responsible to lead it.	Walking bus
More parking for the school on Freshford Lane	Parking
Can we have a school 'snake'. Drop at Brown's Field, collect children to walk down together.	School snake
Work with school to understand what measures could reduce car drop offs, such as bus service or walk to school.	Discussion with school.
Fine parents for parking irresponsibly by school, causing a danger to public safety.	Fines
Encourage parental lift sharing	Lift sharing

## On Line Deliveries

There were 3 comments about on-line delivery traffic issues along with 7 solutions.

Problems	Category
So many of them! Huge environmental impact as well as traffic	
The inconvenience caused by delivery vehicles is huge. They are inefficient.	
Delivery lorries use Sharpstone Lane to access lower Rosemary Lane is a crazy route dictated by Sat Navs.	Sat Nav
Dangerous delivery Vans in Rosemary Lane	Property damage

Solutions	Category
Create a central pick up point at the football field *3	Central Hub
Reduce on-line deliveries in the village	Reduce
Drop off box at the Station	Central Hub
Drop off box for parcels at multiple locations on edges of the village. Residents collect as leaving or coming back to the village.	Central Hub
Create a central pick up point at the Galleries with a system of lock boxes. So many people use the shop it would be simple for residents to use such a system.	Central Hub

## A36 Issues

There were 2 comments about A36 traffic issues along with 12 solutions. None of these are within the remit of BANES to fix, they come under the remit of National Highways.

Problems	Category
Church Lane and village is being used as a rat run because of the traffic lights on A36.* 3	Rat run
Right hand turn into Pipehouse from A36	

Solutions	Category
Homewood Hotel U-Turn sign!	
Introduce a crossing of the A36 at Pipehouse Lane . Speed of traffic makes it difficult and dangerous.	Pipehouse Lane
Ensure all roads through the village have 20 mph speed limits directly off the A36	Speed limits
Display 'Local Traffic Only' signs for all roads off the A36	Signage
Crossing safety	Pipehouse Lane & Midford Lane
Lower the speed limit to 40 mph as far as Branch Lane * 4	Speed limit
Create a roundabout at the Branch Road A36 Junction * 2	New roundabout
Underpass at Pipehouse Lane	Underpass

## Dark Lane/Church Hill Issues

There were 7 comments about Dark Lane/Church Hill traffic issues along with 9 solutions.

Problems	Category
Volume of very large traffic down Dark Lane knocked our guttering 6 times and had to have it replaced. Our gate & wall was damaged by large vehicles.	Property damage
Large vans & cars passing down Church Hill heading for Freshford Lane or A36, cannot pass the pinch point in Church Hill without damaging property (repeatedly).	Property damage
Damage to properties caused by vehicles which are too large trying to squeeze along road between the Church & Dark Lane.	Property damage
Lorries/vans which are too wide.	Large delivery vehicles
Rat runs down Church Hill.	Rat run
Unsuitable large vehicles using Dark Lane & Church Hill	
Rat run for everyone including vans, parents at school, pretty well everyone.	Rat run

Solutions	Category
Should be a One Way system with restrictive entrance	One Way
We need action to eliminate lorries	Delivery van restriction
Close top of Dark Lane	Road closure
Make Brewery Lane one way from the bottom of Dark Lane to Church Hill and Dark Lane one way in opposite direction.	One Way
No access from Church Hill down Dark Lane until stone walls.	No Through Road
There should be a 6 ft restriction by the Old Surgery and at the top of Dark Lane * 2	Signage
Bollards/planters at junction of Dark Lane & Church Hill to stop through traffic	LTN
No Through road signs at Dark Lane, Church Hill entrances (i.e 3)	No Through Road

## Ashes Lane Issues

There was 1 comment about Ashes Lane traffic issues along with 3 solutions.

Problems	Category
People parking at the turn on to Ashes Lane from Park Corner means cars have to swing out too much, in order to pass on a blind corner.	Inconsiderate parking

Solutions	Category
Move signs to the mouth of the junction	Signage
Improve visibility of signage	Signage
Make it One Way (which direction?)	One Way



## The Tynning Issues

There were 2 comments about The Tynning traffic issues along with 2 solutions.

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Category</b>
The logs have made the Tynning more dangerous. People drive faster hoping to get across before meeting another car.	Logs
Thoughtless damage to The Tynning continues to happen.	Damage

<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Category</b>
More passing places * 2	Passing places

## Transport for All

There were 5 comments about Transport for All along with 2 solutions.

<b>Problems</b>	<b>Category</b>
The 94 bus is essential. It must be allowed to get through at school time.	Bus access
I worry we risk losing our bus service as so few use it. We should encourage more to use it. * 2	Bus
Need inclusive transport for all for those people with visual impairment, mobility difficulties. Raise the profile of this issue in the village.* 2	Disabled access

<b>Solutions</b>	<b>Category</b>
Bus stop at bottom of Crabtree Lane is required.	Bus stop
Send out village questionnaire asking residents if they have a disability & how it affects them in terms of transport.	Questionnaire

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**Freshford Parish Council**