

Rutland County Council
Highways & Transport Working Group
27th July 2021 14:00 – 16:00
Virtual Meeting via Teams
MEETING NOTES & ACTIONS

Attendees

Cllr Lucy Stephenson (CllrLS), RCC - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Communities, Environment and Climate Change (Chair)
 Heather Caldicott (HC), RCC – Transport Strategy Manager
 Deborah Collier (DC), Leicestershire Police
 Graham Compton (GC), Leicestershire Police
 Andrew Tatt (AT), RCC – Interim Head of Highways
 Robyn Green (RG), RCC – Highways Engineer
 James Von Der Voelsungen (JV), RCC – Parking Services Manager
 Robert Salt (RS), RCC – Business Administrator for Highways (minute taking)

1. Welcome and Introductions	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CllrLS welcomed everyone. • Apologies from Penny Sharp, Cllr Hemsley, Lesley Panton and Paul Slater. 	
2. Minutes of the previous meeting	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as accurate. 	
3. Police Update	Actions
<p>GC updated the group that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The current traffic levels are at 93-94% of the norm across the force area. Peak time traffic levels are also still down from the normal – potentially due to home working. - The overall number of accidents this year will be lower than pre-covid, but are rising. There have been 15 fatalities across the force area so far this year (this figure would normally be nearer double). - GC will monitor the casualty rate and report back in the next meeting on changes following restrictions lifting. Available RTC data is running 6 – 7 weeks behind real time. - CllrLS stated it would be useful to have data quarterly so we can see the impact of lockdown lifting, along with clarification on which accidents are caused by the 4 common causes of accidents (inappropriate speed, drink/ drug driving, lack of seatbelt, mobile phone use). CllrLS also outlined the need to ensure clear communication surrounding any data - highlighting contributing factors. <p>Collision reduction strategy – Fatal 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two Fatal 4 events were run in Oakham town centre. The force dealt with 20 drivers – of those the majority weren't wearing seatbelts. - It is intended to continue with operations across the Force area until the end of the year, however the next Oakham date is not yet set. - GC informed that due to a recruiting uplift, more local Fatal 4 activities are being planned. - JV asked if the increased resources could also be directed at other issues including enforcement of vehicles obstructing pavements. JV to send email to GC to consider further. JV also asked if GG could provide past and future traffic volume percentages for Rutland only (as opposed to constabulary area). 	<p style="text-align: center;">GC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JV/ GC</p>

- HC advised the draft new Parking Strategy will be sent to the police to review prior to publishing. HC stated that clarity over responsibilities is important to ensure a consistent approach.
- HC advised that information on Fatal 4 operations was circulated to the communications team for promotion.

HC

Share the road campaign.

- GC confirmed the campaign will continue next year; the response has been positive. Also thanked the group for their assistance with the signage in Rutland
- Updated the group that a member of the police team is working on a Rutland campaign for September, details to be sent across in due course.
- HC asked if the signs were being put up by the police and if highways needed to know? AT confirmed highways will need to be informed of locations and dates. GC to ask Police lead to liaise with RCC's new Road Safety Officer, who has been working to secure a suitable location for the event and also for the signage.
- HC advised that the new road safety officer is also putting together a calendar of campaigns to work on throughout the year.
- CllrLS will raise the campaign with the parish forum working group.
- Campaign also to be added to the weekly roundup once date confirmed. Road Safety Officer to liaise with communications team.

GC

CllrLS
HC

DC provided an update on the mobile safety camera van activity over June:

Visits Completed	39
Offences Detected	213
Mobile enforcement hours delivered	72

- DC thanked RG for helping with the Traffic Regulation Orders.
- DC advised she had received some email requests from Greetham and will check to see if they can assist.
- For Rutland only the 6 priority sites are currently shown on the website. DC is arranging a meeting to see if the concern sites can also be added to the website. CllrLS supported the additional sites being shown, enables officers to direct parish councils/members in the correct direction to show what is happening.
- DC informed the group that the camera vans had also highlighted people not wearing seatbelts. In these circumstances they are issuing advisory warning letters. A further query was flagged as to whether the vans could identify those using mobile phones - however this is more challenging. Where an individual is clearing using a mobile phone and clearly exceeding the speed limit, this information is passed on to the local police constable for their attention.
- DC to forward all stats for Rutland sites to HC after the meeting, and confirmed they can be shared online with the public.

DC

DC

DC

4. Progress Update

Actions

Summary (HC)

- HC shared her screen and brought the below figures to the group's attention.

New Applications	4
Awaiting Initial assessment	27
Initial assessments	16
New concerns moved into initial assessment	8
Concerns moved to Feasibility and Design	2
Concerns moved into progress and construction	5
Completed/closed	14

- HC and AT thanked RG on amount of concerns processed over last 2 months. CllrLS and AT also commented on how well the new system is working, finding it very helpful.
- CllrLS suggested the use of a letter from the Director where there was disagreement over the categorisation of a concern. Group agreed with this approach.
- HC suggested creating a new page on the council website to make schemes easier to view for residents. CllrLS supported making everything as clear as possible – however appreciating there are a number of competing pressures at present and that this would be an area for improvement in future months.
- JV queried whether a reminder could be sent to parishes to advise of the process for submitting concerns, and for the need for parishes and town councils to resolve at their meetings, their support (or not) for resident raised concerns, prior to submitting these to RCC. CllrLS offered to flag this in her next newsletter to parishes. Group also discussed future opportunities to utilise My Account for reporting concerns. CllrLS to discuss reporting and logging processes with PS.

CllrLS

Parking updates (JV)

- Scheme specific updates can be found in the progress report online.
- JV will be undertaking monitoring on a number of concerns.
- JV notified the group that queries over Huntsman's Drive have been raised again. RG confirmed the end roads are still not adopted. Until that point, JV unable to do anything further.
- It was noted by the group that during the 'Festival of Lights' at Rutland Showground, Maresfield Road was completely clear of cars; residents were able to find safe alternative parking.
- JV is currently in discussion with highways and environmental services over concerns on King's Road (regarding access for refuge lorry). Cross team liaison is taking place regarding this matter.

Highway Updates (RG/AT)

- Scheme specific updates can be found in the progress report online.
- The group was informed the Caldecott scheme was taking place this week and that additional surfacing works were being undertaken simultaneously to avoid the necessity of a second closure. New processes are being utilised on this scheme that will help provide a lower carbon alternative over standard surfacing.
- AT updated that there is an inspection scheduled next week on the Manton Bridge site, which would result in an unofficial diversion route. The surface dressing program has been finished – unfortunately the costs were increased due to Manton bridge.
- CllrLS emphasised the importance of highlighting that the Manton Bridge works were completed on time and that the Highways team

worked hard liaising with Network Rail to ensure the TTRO was enforced.

- AT confirmed that Fix My Street (FMS) has been updated with new codes added. AT advised RCC will continue to direct residents to report issues through FMS rather than the highways email address.
- Clarification was provided that My Account will be separate from FMS and that residents will be able to use either process to report a concern.

5. Other Matters Arising **Actions**

- **Grass Cutting of highways verges**
 - The group discussed current concerns raised due to the reduced number of verge cuts taking place each year. A level of conflicting interest exists between the need to encourage biodiversity whilst also ensuring road safety.
 - AT confirmed environmental services are currently undertaking a 1 metre cut across the county.
 - RG highlighted that a meeting between environmental services and highways is arranged for September to address the issue.
- **Whissendine Travel Plan and restrictions**
 - HC flagged the need for travel plans to be produced where there were instances of parking and/ or traffic issues in areas surrounding schools.
 - HC advised that Modeshift STARS has been promoted to all schools, including Whissendine were there had been some previous concerns flagged by the parish regarding parking, congestion and safety.
 - JV advised no further communication had been received from Whissendine parish on the matter.
- **Parking Strategy**
 - JV confirmed the draft is nearing completion.
 - Document currently scheduled for Cabinet in October.
 - Draft to be shared with HTWG at September meeting ahead of Cabinet.
- **Burley Road shared cycleway and footway consultation**
 - HC confirmed the public consultation closed on 11th July and shared a summary of the results as follows:

Supportive or very supportive	56.5%
Neither supportive or unsupportive	7.5%
Unsupportive or very unsupportive	36.2%

- HC to put together a report to summarise the findings and explain the possible options. CllrLS and Penny Sharp to review.
- CllrLS to speak with MP regarding level of support for initiative.
- **Community Speed Watch (HC)**
 - HC informed the group that two schemes have been carried out – Barleythorpe and Stretton. Both successful, with Barleythorpe asking if they can do it again.
 - Two parishes that were originally scheduled to take part were unable to proceed due to lack of volunteers.
 - The need for strong commitment from parishes was discussed as the number of CSW places each year is limited and so we need to ensure that those requesting the scheme have the necessary level of volunteer commitment to proceed.

HC/ CllrLS/ PS
CllrLS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road Safety Officer has arranged a review session to discuss this year's schemes – what went well and what can be improved or tightened up. Meeting to include prioritisation of future schemes and required criteria for inclusion. - HC and Road Safety Officer have been providing Comms with information to run press releases and social media updates. - The group acknowledged and thanked the Police and GC for their involvement in the campaign to date. 	
6. Date of Future Meetings	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HC updated the group that there had been some issues with invites disappearing from calendars. - Transport Admin to resend the invite for the next meeting on 28th September. 	Transport Admin