

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE AND GROVE
TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL,
PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON THURSDAY 26 JUNE 2008 AT 7.00 PM**

Present:	Grove Parish Council	Councillors W Evans and Ms H Webb
	Wantage Town Council	Councillors E Goldsmith and Mrs JT Hannaby (Chairman)
	Vale of White Horse District Council	Councillors Mrs J Hutchinson and Mrs S Marchant
	Oxfordshire County Council	Councillor Mrs Z Patrick
	Oxfordshire County Council Officer	Mr L Turner (Area Traffic Engineer)
	Vale of White Horse District Council Officer	Mr G Willcox (Engineer)
	Thames Valley Police	Mr C Hulme
	Deputy Clerk	Mrs H Kell
	Others present	Councillor Mrs P Brundle and one member of the public - Dr Syme.

1. Election of a Chairman

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Patrick
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Marchant
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Hannaby be elected Chairman of the Wantage and
Grove Traffic Advisory Committee for the 2008/09.

2. Election of Vice Chairman

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Evans
SECONDED BY Councillor Goldsmith
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Stock be elected Vice Chairman of the
Wantage and Grove Traffic Advisory Committee for the 2008/09.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors C Phillips and Mrs J Stock,
CSO Ms S Harris and Ms J Cox of OCC.

4. Declarations of Interest

None

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 March 2008

The minutes were approved and signed.

6. Update on Southern Central Oxfordshire Transport Strategy (SCOTS) including matters from any previous meeting

Mr Turner, Area Traffic Engineer, reported that Ms J Cox will now be the County Council officer dealing with SCOTS. She had sent her apologies for absence for the meeting. Members voiced their disappointment at not receiving a report and update on the SCOTS proposals. Mr Willcox gave a verbal report informing them that a draft technical report had now been received from the consultant and was awaiting modelling. The report was not complete and more work was required before being presented to members. Members of the County Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and South Oxfordshire District Council will be receiving a presentation on 15 July. Disappointment was expressed by members that there had been no requests for any input from local councillors on the consultation when preparing the draft strategy. Neither had local councillors been included in any processes to date. Funding, which had become available through the Rural Transport Fund, was now being utilised for the relief road around Milton/Didcot as the SCOTS report had not been available.

7. Questions from the Public

Dr Syme asked the following with regard to SCOTS and the Grove Development:

He said that, given

- (a) That the previous report from WAGITS was poorly presented and its assertions little evidenced,
 - (b) That the inspector at a recent public enquiry recommended that a wide ranging transport study was undertaken including all the road options,
 - (c) That local councillors have been clearly frustrated in trying to get sight of the brief for SCOTS,
 - (d) That there has been no reply to a letter in the press from Mrs McDonald on these matters;
- Can the Oxfordshire County Council undertake to now address these shortcomings in their proper sharing of public information and its exposure to the process of democratic scrutiny, i.e. will the Oxfordshire County Council representative release the SCOTS brief and a progress report on the SCOTS work with immediate effect, and can a reply now be given to the above points ?

The Chairman thanked Dr Syme for his question.

8. Matters Arising

(a) Newbury Street - Consideration will be given to the waiting restrictions for Newbury Street in the current financial year.

(b) Yellow lines in Church View, Main Street - These were to be progressed in this financial year.

(c) Junction of Cherry Tree Close/Mayfield Avenue – Mr Turner reported that he had visited the site and considered the junction to be in a quiet residential area with low traffic speed.

(d) Low Speed Signs Requests have been received for SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices) to be placed in relevant areas around the town Lee Turner reported that these together with any requests for new development signage were dealt with by the County Council's Highways office at Drayton.

(e) Bus stop arrangements in Newbury Street – The Committee requested that a letter be sent to David Taylor of Oxfordshire County Council regarding the possibility of buses waiting in

Newbury Street when the proposed Market Place refurbishments are undertaken.

Action: Deputy Clerk

9. Request from Wantage Town Council

Complaints had been received with regard to the numerous potholes in roads and pavements around the town. The Area Traffic Engineer reported that there were no carriage way maintenance schemes for Wantage in this financial year. There was a footway resurfacing scheme in the programme for a section of Harcourt Road. Members were requested to be vigilant in reporting potholes.

10. Request from Grove Parish Council

Complaints had been received from Grove Parish Council re overhanging bushes obliterating direction signs in Cane Lane/Main Street and Newlands Drive/Savile Way.

(a) Cane Lane/Main Street – Householdors had been served with vegetation letters to cut back offending trees.

(b) Newlands Drive/Savile Way – Signs to shops in Savile Way from Newlands Drive were obscured by mature trees. Signs were due to be split and located on existing lamp columns on either side of the road junction.

11. Report of Director of Environment and Economy

The attached report of the Director of Environment and Economy was received and noted.

12. District Council Officer's Report

Mr G Willcox reported upon the following:

(a) The undercroft car park on the Limborough Road development – The problems of the undercroft car park at Limborough Road were contractual and the work and landscaping had still to be completed. The District Council will not take over the car park until all work is finished to its satisfaction.

(b) Cycle track at Willow Walk cycle route - The District Council were to be asked to give a date for when the scheme will commence. The District Council intends to submit a planning application for the cycle route.

Action: Deputy Clerk

13. General correspondence

None

14. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 2 October 2008.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

HK/ME