

## **Notes of meeting with KCC Highways re Proposed One-Way Trial**

**Date:** 3pm, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**Venue:** 81 High Street/Teams

**Present:** Cllr Eddy Bell, Ryan Shiel (remote), Tina Miles (notes)

Ryan welcomed Eddy and Tina to the meeting and explained that Claire and Andrew (KCC) had sent apologies as they had COVID and wished them a speedy recovery,

Ryan presented a plan of the proposed system and explained that the one-way system would start from Rectory Close and end at the Medway Inn. It would run from Borstal with no entry to the High Street from Hall Road. This means that traffic from Rectory or School Lane can turn either way at their junctions. However, Walter Burke, Ferry Lane and Portland can only turn right. This configuration is due to the fact that buses can only go this way due to gradient at the top of Knowle Road. This junction may be 'tidied up' but the gradient would not be able to be changed. Eddy noted that there have been concerns raised regarding the priority for Oldfield as it's currently 'Give Way' at the junction of School Lane. Ryan explained that this priority could be changed during the trial if needed.

### **Junction at the Medway Inn**

Hall Road and Knowle Road will have priority. Traffic travelling along the High Street will need to give way and there will be new line markings indicating this change. Eddy queried whether the outbuild will be removed. Ryan explained that this would not be done as part of the trial, but could be considered later. It was agreed that the crossing point on Knowle Road serviced by the Lollypop Lady could remain and would still be needed as there would be traffic travelling up and down Knowle Road from both the High Street and Hall Road.

### **Parking**

There will be no affect on the parking arrangements along the High Street. Also, because the entry point has been changed to Rectory, a maximum of 1 space may be lost as signage will need to be installed. Parking on both sides of the road from Ferry Lane to Walter Burke will still be available.

### **Buses**

Ryan explained that the bus stops would need to change. Eddy advised that the service would have stopped by the time the trial takes place (UPDATE: the only stop will now be on Knowle Road, so the proposal does not affect the service).

### **School Lane**

Ryan explained that there is concern over the width of School Lane being two way. However, there are currently 'unofficial' passing bays. In an ideal situation, KCC could make these formal and maintain them with the land owners consent. He asked whether the PC could help with this.

## **Speed and volume**

Eddy mentioned that there were concerns about the potential increase in speed (especially for cyclists), not only through the High Street, but also the surrounding affected areas i.e. Knowle Road, Pilgrims Way and School Lane. Ryan explained that if the scheme became permanent, speed bumps and traffic calming could be incorporated into the final scheme. Tina noted that Knowle Road has become a race track with the outbuilds creating chicanes to race through and they were not particularly visible at night for drivers who don't know the area and have already been driven over several times. Ryan displayed a different type of bollard (Flecta) that could be installed which could be included in the Highways Improvement Plan. Then if there is any money left over from the trial, these could be looked at.

## **Process**

The process and timescale is as follows:

- 1) Parish Council to agree to go ahead with the trial and confirm to KCC
- 2) KCC would advertise scheme with a minimum of 3 months lead in time
- 3) Parish Council to support circulation and public consultation events
- 4) Potentially start in September (following school holidays) for 3 months. Discussion took place regarding the benefits of starting in school holidays to enable people to get used to the scheme against starting when traffic could be at full capacity.
- 5) Monitoring will count speed, direction and status. This will enable us to determine not only the numbers of cars, but also HGV's and whether people travel the wrong way to get to Portland/Ferry Lane or Walter Burke.
- 6) Monitoring points to be agreed, but suggested: High Street, Knowle Road, School Lane and Pilgrims Way at the junction to Borstal.
- 7) The initial trial will be for 3 months, This covers term time, holidays and potential winter weather. It can be extended up to 18 months dependant on results
- 8) Ryan will look at getting Knowle Road and School Lane put on the gritters route as part of the scheme as they will effectively become a primary route.

Eddy thanked Ryan and his team for all his hard work trying to accommodate all our needs

4.30pm Meeting closed