

REPORT 23.150(2) Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group

AUTHOR: Trudi Deane

DATE: 14th December 2023

1. BACKGROUND

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council are members of the Wiltshire Council Southern Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group LHFIFG. Schemes are submitted for investigation to LHFIFG from issues/problems identified or following requests from members of the public. Investigations are carried out by Wiltshire Council Highways Engineers and proposals for action agreed at LHFIFG quarterly meetings. Any resulting works are normally funded 75% by LHFIFG and 25% by the Parish Council.

2. SUMMARY

At the last meeting of Southern LHFIFG in November 2023, the following updates were made on current schemes in the Laverstock and Ford Area.

Issue No: 13-20-16 Laverstock & Ford PC London Road, Salisbury Request for Crossing Point	As the group have previously been informed the Major Maintenance Team have advised that, due to budget constraints, the proposed resurfacing scheme at St. Thomas' Roundabout will not be taken forward during the 2023/2024 financial year and is provisionally in the programme for the 2024/2025 financial year. Dropped kerbs to aid crossing movements will still form part of the works.	That the update is noted
Issue No: 13-20-5 Request to address local concerns around an increased use of Milford Mill Road by vehicular traffic and its continued use by HGVs.	Works completed in October 2023. Issue has been closed.	That the update is noted.
Issue No: 13-21-21 Laverstock & Ford PC Request for the extension of the existing 20mph speed limit along Milford Mill Road	Works completed in October 2023. Issue has been closed.	That the update is noted.
Issue No: 13-21-4 Laverstock & Ford PC Request for additional waiting restrictions in Church Road to help address school run parking problems.	Report addressing the comments submitted in response to the TRO consultation submitted for internal officer approval before going to the Cabinet Member for Highways for a decision. Internal officer comments have required elements of the reports to be redrafted. Report in the process of being redrafted with the aim of the report being resubmitted for approval in November 2023.	That the update is noted
Issue No: 13-22-13 Laverstock & Ford PC Introduction of waiting restrictions in Sherbourne Drive	Works pack issued to Milestone. Works provisionally programmed to be undertaken during week commencing 11/12/2023. Exact date of works to be supplied to the PC once known. Unfortunately work on drafting the proposals for the wider restrictions in Sherbourne Drives has not yet been completed. Draft proposals to be issued to the PC and local member for comment in December 2023.	That the update is noted.
Issue No: 13-22-24 Laverstock & Ford PC Provision of Small Wildlife Warning Signs	A formal complaint about the lack of response was submitted to the DfT in August 2023. A response to the complaint was received in November 2023. It provided extremely limited guidance on the criteria that had to be met for them to authorise the use of small wildlife warning signs. The have indicated that any applications to them would need to include "data showing that the locations are accident and wildlife hotspots." The DfT have provided no guidance on what they would define a wildlife hotspot to be. Additionally, whilst the PC have been able to supply information that a number of hedgehogs of have been run over by vehicles in Church Road there is no recorded collision (accident) problem in the area requested. In consideration of this it is unlikely that an application would be successful. The group to discuss how they wish to proceed with this matter.	The group discussed this issue in detail and asked that officers submit an application to the DfT seeking approval to use these signs in Laverstock using the evidence previously supplied by the PC. Application to be prepared and submitted to the DfT.

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Issue No: 13-22-25 Laverstock & Ford PC Request to upgrade existing informal crossing point on Riverside Road	The Council's surfacing contractors Tarmac have advised that a carriageway patch its required before the coloured surfacing can be re-laid. Graham Axtell has engaged the Major Maintenance to order this work. Date of works to be provided to the PC once known.	That the update is noted.
Issue No: 13-22-30 Laverstock & Ford PC Request for additional traffic calming measures in Roman Road, Ford	As previously agreed, the group agreed to wait for the outcome of any bid to Active Travel England before considering pursuing additional physical traffic calming features. It would be possible to provide the standard gateway countdown markings on all three entrances to the 30mph speed limit in Ford. The cost estimate for this work is £1,437.50 (LHFIG contribution £1,078.12 / PC contribution £359.38). [Note: This figure includes a 25% contingency].	That the Area Board approves the allocation of £1,078.12 to allow this work to be undertaken. That the PC approves the allocation of £359.38 to allow this work to be undertaken.
Issue No: 13-22-33 Laverstock & Ford PC Request for Pedestrians Crossing Warning Signs	Works order issued to Milestone in November 2023. Awaiting programming of works. Date of works to be supplied to the PC once known.	That the update is noted
Issue No: 13-23-05 Laverstock & Ford PC Request for disabled access improvements in the vicinity of the Old Sarum Garden Centre on The Portway	Results of the traffic survey have been received to enable pedestrian crossing warning signs to be sited an appropriate distance in advance of the recently installed dropped kerbs. Scheme allocated to the Traffic Signing Team. Currently awaiting allocation of engineer to deliver the project.	That the update is noted.
Issue No: 13-23-18 Laverstock & Ford PC Broken Cross safety improvements	Continued minor collisions including numerous collisions to boundary wall. Over the last 41 years we have seen many accidents around the bridge and many collisions with our boundary, more so since the road layout was changed, and the flashing arrow sign was removed. We have tried to improve things by putting our own flashing lights, reflectors, and barrier. We would like a meeting again to discuss changes to signage to alleviate this situation. A site visit was conducted with the resident and the PC, the outcome of which is below. Group to agree if they support: • PC have submitted a traffic survey request. • It is suggested to undertake a sign and line review to enhance the existing slow markings. • The matter of vegetation has been referred to colleagues in the maintenance team. • PC to confirm if they want to proceed with the installation of Trief Kerbs to the front of the property access way. If agreed by the group a cost estimate will be prepared prior to the next meeting.	The group asked GA to ensure that vegetation was removed as necessary to ensure that the existing signs in the vicinity of the roundabout were visible. The group asked RS to prepare cost estimates based on potential signing and lining improvements that could be introduced at this location and bring them back to the next meeting of the group for discussion.
Issue No: 13-23-19 Laverstock & Ford PC Dangerous at the junction of Queen Manor Road and Riverbourne Road	Dangerous turning into Riverbourne Road from Queen Manor Road. Car's park on the corner and force cars entering to change lane. Two site visits have been conducted to the provided location, on neither occasion were cars parked at this junction. Unless Laverstock PC can provide any evidence of inappropriate parking, the issue will be closed.	TD advised that the originator of the request had been asked to supply photographic evidence of the issue. TD suggested that if no evidence was provided by the time of the next meeting of the group the issue should be closed.

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Issue No: 13-23-20 Laverstock & Ford PC Parking restrictions review St Thomas' Way and Pilgrims Way Bishopdown Farm	Change the time restrictions to reflect actual useage to improve safety around the school gate entrance and reduce nuisance parking on residential properties: New times: 07:30 to 09:30, 11:45 to 12:15 and 14:00 to 18:00. Also, the yellow line is very worn from staff and parent parking so can this be refreshed. Parish Councillor Lesley Waller and Wiltshire Council member Ian McLennan on 11 Sep 2023 who suggested submitting this LHFIG application. A change of timings would require a new TRO order. This can be potentially considered however evidence would need to be provided by Laverstock PC. This will only be considered should the school make a change to the Active Travel Plan.	The group discussed this issue and agreed that it would be beneficial to engage with the nursery (and school) about updating their school travel plan and come forward with a package of measures to address the concerns raised. Nursery (and school) to be contacted.
Issue no: 13-23-21 Laverstock & Ford PC Bollard request near nursery St. Thomas' Way	Resident highlighted lack of bollards near nursery. Parents/Children in danger. Further information is required as to if this is used as a vehicular access, as per above request this will only be considered should the school make a change to the Active Travel Plan. Potential for school keep clear markings which could be included in TRO amendments.	The group discussed this issue and agreed that it would be beneficial to engage with the nursery (and school) about updating their school travel plan and come forward with a package of measures to address the concerns raised. Nursery (and school) to be contacted.
Issue No: 13-23-22 Laverstock & Ford PC Parking issues Sycamore Drive/St. Clements Way local centre	Illegal and inconsiderate parking of vehicles using the local centre, including customers and delivery vehicles. Instead of using the car park provided, vehicles are 'bumping up' and parking on grass verges in the vicinity, hampering traffic, obstructing the view at the junction and causing considerable damage to the grass verges. Deep ruts have been caused, leaving exposed bare soil which turns to mud when it rains. Prior discussion with Laverstock PC considered that there are areas such to the side of the surgery, and to the curved section of Ash Crescent where we could look at bollards or further waiting restrictions. Site visits are required to investigate into this matter. PC have been asked to provide evidence such as photos/proof of areas which are a problem are required. Group to discuss this matter and how it moves forward.	The group asked RS to undertake site visits and identify options to address the issue raised and prepare cost estimates based on the options identified and bring them back to a future meeting of the group for discussion.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Parish Council note the updates on schemes in progress.

That the Parish Council resolves to approve the contribution of £359.38 to scheme 13-22-30

Additional traffic calming measures Roman Road, Ford.