

MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL ROAD SAFETY AND SPEED AWARE WORKING GROUP HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER 2023

Present:

Bob Baxter, Penny Cohen, Cllr Corin Elliott, Cllr Andrew Foster (Chair), Lynn Ingram, Bill Goodall, Liza Elliott, Laura Houel, Rachel Thorpe (Principal – Alcester Grammar School)

1. Apologies

Cllr David Henderson, Cllr Vaughan Blake

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on the 23rd August were approved.

3. Actions from Previous Minutes (not included on the Agenda)

Cllr Andrew Foster to follow up on the costs and effectiveness of electronic signs and report back to the next meeting of the working group. (Action outstanding).

Cllr Andrew Foster has shared the Police's risk assessments for all of the approved sites with the members of the working group.

Cllr Vaughan Blake to contact the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the rules for monitoring 20mph zones. (Carried over to the next meeting).

Cllr Andrew Foster to invite the new Police contact for Speed Watch to the next meeting.

4. Speed Watch Update

The last Speed Watch session had been held on the 3rd October where a large number of vehicles had been recorded as exceeding the speed limit, in some cases quite considerably.

It was agreed that arrangements for volunteers collecting the equipment would be changed in case the coordinator (Andrew) was at work.

Two new potential recruits have come forward and training will be arranged for them via the Police which may be combined with other Parishes.

5. Action Plan

Observation of buses on School Road has had to be postponed with a new date to be agreed.

That Alcester Grammar School (AGS) has had no recent contact with the bus companies regarding agreed routes around the town, however Rachel offered her assistance regarding current issues.

That AGS have been aware of local concerns regarding student parking and parents dropping off and picking up their children during the school run and had investigated numerous possible solutions. Rachel advised that so far there had been no easy options and that Sport England had stipulated that the school field could not be redeveloped for parking.

It noted that the recent implementation of double yellow lines had only moved the issue of student parking.

The group agreed to further investigate the issues including through a site visit but accepted that the issues are complicated but were grateful to Rachel for her support including with the 30-40 mph transition on Birmingham Road.

Lynn provided an update on the recent site visit to Evesham Street the details of which were included in the group Action Plan.

Penny gave an update on the recent visit to St Faiths Road during the school run the details of which were included in the group Action Plan.

Bob reported on the actions that he had taken following the Speed Watch session at Stratford Road which included raising a ticket with WCC regarding vegetation and For Sale signs covering speed enforcement signs.

Andrew provided an update on the recent site visit with David to the town centre, the details of which had been added to the group Action Plan.

6. Communication Plan

That an online survey was being produced that would be shared with residents via social media and through the ATC Winter Newsletter and that the results would be shared with the Working Group at the next meeting

7. AOB

To avoid confusion, there will be two separate WhatsApp groups one for the working group and the other for Speed Watch volunteers.

Next meeting Wednesday 17th January, 19:00 at the Depot, Eric Payne Community Centre