

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Friday 24 July 2020 at 7pm via Zoom on-line**

Present: H Smith (HMS – Vice Chair), J E Coston (JEC), R Farrington (RF), A Horne (AH), A Markham (AM), P Ellwood (PE) A Bradnam (AB)

In Attendance: S Corder (SC) (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 20

The Vice-Chairman, HMS welcomed the attendees, and explained that this extraordinary meeting was for the Parish Council to consider the proposals put forward by various people for changes on our roads and pavements to improve the experience of people cycling and walking in the village. HMS thanked the members of the public for many ideas that had been put forward on Facebook and elsewhere and commented on by others. Other ideas would also be welcomed at this meeting.

HMS explained that the County Council had to get these schemes built really quickly in order to get the government grant and proper consultation takes too long, so this was the only opportunity for a meeting about them. Anna Bradnam as our County Councillor had to submit schemes to the highways engineer and indicate which if any AB recommends before Monday. In doing this, AB had decided to consult with the Parish Council and anyone else attending.

HMS asked that if anyone had an issue that the Parish Council should know about, they should contact the Clerk. Our meetings follow an agenda and 3 clear day's notice is required.

HMS stated that massive changes to people's journeys, especially at this difficult time, cannot be imposed without proper consultation and it was already clear from the response that most people oppose the blocking of roads. No proposal that blocks roads in this village was likely to get the Parish Council's support at this time. Also, the County Council officer has told us that they would probably not allow removal of the barriers at the ends of the cycle/footpaths in the housing west of the High Street. Longer-term improvements may come later, through other funding initiatives, which would allow for proper planning and consultation.

1 Apologies for absence

D Wildman (Personal), D Owen (DO), J Rippeth (District Councillor – Personal)

HMS Proposed that agenda item 3, document 8 be taken first, JEC Seconded ALL AGREED.

AB introduced the scheme and its rules. The one-way only proposal for Ely Road, to stop rat-running and traffic from the north easily entering the village had been withdrawn, because the councillors and public had considered it detrimental, largely due to the alternative route on Landbeach Road being much narrower and more residential, and difficult for the few articulated lorries that needed to get to the centre of Milton for deliveries.

AB thanked those involved in producing the proposals to be put forward, and everyone who submitted comments. The County Councillor will put forward the schemes that are agreed on at this meeting. The County Highway Department will see what schemes can be carried out under the grant and be put forward.

2 Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak

Public Participation of a maximum of fifteen minutes duration for members of the public to address Councillors. A member of the public may speak for up to 3 minutes to make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting in respect of the business on the agenda (Standing orders 3e, 3f, and 3g).

Edward Taylor thanked those who had campaigned for the Jane Coston Bridge, which has encouraged wide participation in cycling in Milton. 20 mph in the village is pretty unanimously supported. A bus gate on Cambridge Road at the centre of the village also allowing through emergency vehicles was very much objected to, but Milton Cycling Campaign (MCyC) had proposed it because the DfT has said such measures are needed for a 20 mph limit to be supported by them. Fen Road/High Street junction is an accident blackspot. A northbound one-way system might improve that. Buses could be allowed to pass southwards north of the Waggon and Horses. School streets need more discussion and something may come forward later on. Covid may drive people to use their cars more: we need to encourage them to cycle instead.

Small businesses (pubs and shops) didn't want anything to make customers journeys more difficult. Putting in these proposals could be detrimental to trade especially at lunchtime.

Other ideas: extra cycle parking, cycle lane northbound on Ely Road, parking bays in Cambridge Road could be closed to allow more social distancing.

Stuart Lemanski talked about the latest ideas: minimise rat-running – could use ANPR at Ely Road, Humphries Way and just north of Winship Road at the southern end. 'No motor vehicles' sign at the same places. 20mph popular. Willow Crescent

closure near Ambassador Lodge is not popular – it needs more consultation. Zebra crossing at Fen Road suggested. Winship Road hedge needs trimming back again, and white lining or raised tables at Norman Industrial Estate.

We are waiting for the County Council to fill some potholes and repaint the red surface at Fen Road junction.

A resident: the traffic is not as bad as it's been described, and he supports the green initiatives. Making car drivers who cannot cycle go onto the A10 to get to the other end of the village will put people in harm's way more and increase the miles that people drive – not a green initiative. Temporary measures rarely stay temporary.

3 To CONSIDER Proposals for Cycling and Walking Measures in Milton

1) Proposals from Milton Cycling Campaign (MCyC):

A. 20mph zone throughout the village: There was a proposal in May, and the stretch from the White Horse to Lion and Lamb was put on the County's list. This had been refused, we were told by MCyC. The visual cues must support 20mph. We could ask for

- a. the whole village (Tesco to North of Fen Road, Humphries Way and all roads off)
- b. Cambridge Road and High Street /Ely Road just north of Fen Road junction
- c. just south of the shops to as far north as beyond Fen Road junction

The MVAS may show that the dashed cycleway on Cambridge Road has in fact slowed traffic somewhat.

HMS Proposed to submit the above recommendation – AB Seconded ALL AGREED

B. Modal filters blocking the 3 north-south roads in the village. **HMS Proposed AGAINST blocking off any part of the village – RF Seconded AGREED.**

C. High Street to be one-way north-bound only past the Waggon and Horses. Needs more consultation. The Parish Council had been trying to reroute the southbound bus to Ely Road for 3 years and had failed. Getting power to Ely Road for RTPI and lighting for a shelter was too expensive. It's not clear that the pedestrian usage there merits such a change. CoWA were also concerned about that proposal. **RF Proposed not to proceed with this - PE Seconded ALL AGREED.**

D. Introduction of School Streets too complicated during the Coronavirus restrictions. This requires volunteers, County would provide advice, barriers and hi-viz jackets. Butt Lane is possible, but not the whole northern estate. Not appropriate at the moment. **ALL AGREED**

E. Replace barriers on footpaths with bollards. The barriers have been put there to slow cyclists and stop cyclists/pedestrians coming straight out onto the path/road. The Parish Council would consider whether it is possible to widen their spacing at Gunnell Close. This should be referred to the Maintenance Committee. **AH Proposed – HMS Seconded ALL AGREED**

F. Extra cycle parking. The majority of the sites including the frontages of the shops are on private land, and Parish Council had tried to get Sheffield stands at the Post Office last year without success. It needs to be progressed with the land-owners. We could set up a working party including active people within the village, to write to the Country Park and Tesco and other landowners.

G. Northbound pop-up cycle lane on Ely Road. No sufficient justification as there is the footpath/cycleway on the east side. Siding back is needed on the A10 down to Fen Road, cutting back overhanging shrubs – can this come under these grants? Also the repainting in the High Street that we asked for.

The **new southbound cycle lane on Cambridge Road** is dangerous. Add a sign 'New Cycle lane: Give Way to oncoming traffic' at One Stop.

AB has asked for the overgrown cycle lane to Impington on Butt Lane to be cleared.

H. Widen shared pathways - Planters in some of the lay-bys to remove parking on Cambridge Road lay-bys would help with the 20mph request. These would require consultation with the residents, though many of them apparently never park there.

2) Milton Cycling Campaign's Tranche 2 proposals – A map of the locations and proposals as above was received.

3) Proposals from Stuart Lemanski

1. ANPR costs up to £70k so is likely to be too expensive. Delivery drivers or people merely dropping children off would be caught along with people rat-running. Some surveying to determine the amount of rat-running would be useful. Could the County Council invest in a portable ANPR to site in different villages? Probably not under this scheme. Ask for '**No motor vehicles except for access**' signs at the 3 entrances to the village

2. 20mph speed limit throughout Milton – covered above

3. Cambridge Road/High Street - Shared space or Cycle Street too expensive

4. Closure of the Southern entrance to Willow Crescent. Not supported

5. Turning the northern part of the High Street into a one-way road - Considered above

6. Zebra crossing by EACH at Fen Road This was the subject of a Local Highways Initiative bid to the County a few years ago – it failed due to being too close to a crossroads and the access to EACH.

7. Cycle priority Winship Road/Norman Ind Est/Cambridge Road Ind Est. To ask for the hedges to be cut back more at Winship Road. Ask for a raised platform at the Norman Ind Est. - probably too expensive for this funding
See if they will pay for repainting the markings and cutting back vegetation

4) Milton Cycling Campaign's assessment of Mr Lemanski proposals. – received and read.

5) Comment received from local resident – One suggestion was a Walking bus from the Lion and Lamb car park – many thanks to the landlords for allowing this. This is for parents to organise and the County Council can help.

6) Comment received from local resident – Unrepresentative, disproportionate, accessibility for those who have to use a car, negative impact on local business and poor public transport.

7) Comment received from local resident – extreme proposal which would divide our village.

8) Summary of the County remit – Under Item 1 above

9) Comment received from local resident – Milton Cycling Campaign group proposals would be detrimental, concerns for vulnerable residents who cannot drive and negative impact on business.

Items from the 16 June 2020 County Highways and Transport meeting:

Priority beyond the Jane Coston Bridge on Cowley Road: segregated cycle way on the road allowing the whole cycle-footpath to be for pedestrians. We support this.

Modal filter (complete blockage), on Butt Lane – AB will check what the status of this is. We must be careful not to lose the school bus, and do not support this.

AB thanked everyone who had put in ideas to improve cycling in Milton, and attendees for coming so that we could have a bit of consultation within the village.

Meeting closed at 9:07pm Signed:

Date: