

Traffic group report for October 2017

On 11 September Cllr. Richard Harris (reporting) attended a meeting of Chitterne Parish Council to see if a collaborative approach to Wiltshire Council regarding traffic issues could be carried out. Like Shrewton, Chitterne also suffers from 'rat-run' traffic, for example coach tours that include Bath and Stonehenge in their itinerary use the B390 from Heytesbury to Shrewton instead of remaining on the A36 / A303 and a lot of cars that 'rat-run' through Shrewton also use the B390.

Based on Shrewton's experience I made suggestions such as a coach ban on the B390 and moving the 18T weight limit to the western side of Chitterne to stop HGVs that are accessing the landfill site from coming through Chitterne – I must stress that these were suggestions, not action items. Both of these would assist Shrewton.

An agenda item for this meeting was a decision on the purchase of SIDs for Chitterne, the publically available minutes show that a decision was made to purchase two SIDs.

On Thursday 19 September there was another traffic meeting at Cllr. Henry's house. The main topic of discussion was the 'substantive bid' application for funds to provide build-outs in the London Road. We have to provide a contribution to this, £10,000 was proposed to show we are serious – this is on the agenda for the October 2017 Parish Council meeting for approval or rejection. Cllr. Hassett has put a lot of work into this application for which I would like to thank him.

There were complaints at the 'traffic forum' on 31 August about parked cars near the Rolleston Road / Salisbury Road junction causing problems with a request for parking restrictions, however it was pointed out that parked cars create obstructions which slow traffic down and make the road less attractive to rat-runners. It was therefore decided that no further action would be taken on this.

Also discussed was a proposal to look again at a Wiltshire Council suggestion to slightly modify the Rolleston crossroads (cut back verges and move white lines) to encourage drivers from the Larkhill direction to turn left. When this was previously suggested it was pointed out that the likelihood of this happening was zero (this was not disagreed with) so would not help Shrewton and the idea was dropped. Nothing had changed that would infer any improvement so again the idea was dropped.

Mr T. Theed (who lives in the house adjacent to the Rolleston crossroads) has approached his employer Landmarc to see if signs could be provided advising that military vehicles were prohibited from using Shrewton High Street and the London Road. Landmarc have agreed to this, discussions are now required with Wiltshire Council to ensure there are no legal issues with the proposed signage; Wiltshire Council have indicated that they have no objection to this provided the signs meet the required standards.

On the agenda for the October Parish Council meeting is a proposal to send to CATG a request for white lining, traffic islands and other road modifications on the A360; whilst the London Road has been the main focus of attention the A360 also suffers speeding drivers due to the wide road and perceived lack of hazards. This project has been 'on hold' for a while, Wiltshire Council have requested that it is put forward to CATG before starting any new projects.