

Traffic Management Working Party

Monday 3rd December 2018

MEETING NOTES

Present: Irene Roy (Chairman), Graham Bignell, Ian Bell, Martin Whitehead and Howard Leicester

Action

1. Public Meeting on Traffic Proposals

The Traffic Group were delighted that the public meeting on the traffic proposals had been such a success and so well attended; there were just over 170 people in the audience. The traffic displays generated a lot of interest and a constant flow of visitors. The presentation was well received and questions were taken for just over an hour during the question and answer session; a record of the questions taken are recorded in the report on the Public Consultation Results (attached). It was noted that the format for the meeting and the question and answer session had worked well and was expertly chaired by Martin. The number of people in the audience who thanked the Traffic Group for all the work that had gone into producing the traffic proposals was much appreciated.

Four new volunteers were recruited (plus two maybe's) for SpeedWatch by Jackie Howe at the meeting.

Amenities

2. Public Consultation and Traffic Questionnaire Results

The results of the public consultation were reviewed. All were agreed that the consultation process had shown that the set of traffic proposals put forward had received significant support from residents. The questionnaire completion rate of 51% of households is extremely high in survey terms and is an accurate representation of the views of Otford residents.

It was noted that the positive outcome of the traffic questionnaire had exceeded expectation, particularly the 20mph zone with 78% of respondents believing that 20mph is the appropriate speed for some roads (High St. 87%, Station Road 67%, PWE 62%, PWW 47%, Sevenoaks Road 42% and Shoreham Road 39%). Support for the pedestrian safety measures was also higher than expected with 5 out of the 8 measures seeking approval by more than 50% of respondents; the speed tables were the most popular measure at 68%. It was noted that the message had clearly got through that the speed tables were not to be confused with the unpopular speed cushions in the 2001 traffic proposals.

It was noted that the results for the walking and cycling questions had produced some surprising results with 76% of respondents indicating that they would walk more frequently if they felt safer and 61% that they would cycle more often if they felt safer on our roads. All were agreed that these findings clearly demonstrated that it would be possible to reduce the number of unnecessary short car journeys by improving road safety; bringing substantial benefits for all.

It was noted that the results of the questionnaire would form an important part of the evidence base when seeking funding from Highways for both improvements to road safety and footway infrastructure.

The full set of results from the traffic questionnaire and public feedback are recorded in the in the public consultation report which is available on the Parish Council website under Traffic Management. The results of the consultation will be announced in the February edition of the Parish newsletter and will include a link to the report and details on how to obtain a paper copy.

IR

Next Step

It was agreed that as the results of the public consultation had demonstrated significant support for the speed and safety proposals as outlined in the Traffic Report in Section 4.1, 4.1.1 and 4.2 that a recommendation would be made to the Parish Council at the December full Council meeting to take the proposals forward. IR

3. 20's Plenty Poster Design Competition

The entries to the 20's Plenty poster design competition received from Otford Primary School were judged by the group. The high standard of entries was noted and the designs showed that the pupils had a good grasp of the consequences of speeding traffic and pedestrian safety. The winning poster was designed by three pupils from Year 4 and was selected by the group for its catchy slogan "Keep Slow When on the Go" and colourful design. The two posters for the runner up prizes were designed by pupils from Year 5 and were selected for their bright and clear designs.

It was agreed that the winners would receive gift cards from Lorimers toy shop in Sevenoaks as prizes to the value of £20* for the winner and £10 each for the runners up. The prizes will be presented at a celebrations school assembly in January by the Chairman of the TMWP. It was agreed to put a note in the school newsletter from the Traffic Group thanking teachers for running the poster competition and all the pupils who entered along with a message to say congratulations to the winners. IR

The winning design will be incorporated into the 20mph speed limit signs for the High Street (with the winner's permission). It is hoped that the eye-catching design on the speed signs will make motorists think twice about their speed. GB

Copies of the winning 20's Plenty posters are attached.

4. Date of next meeting

A meeting will be arranged for March to begin work on the implementation of the traffic proposals already agreed by the Parish Council. ALL

Cllr Irene Roy
12th January 2019

*The traffic group were only informed after the meeting that the winning poster had been designed by three pupils so the Chairman has agreed to increase the value of the winning prize so that each winner will receive a £10 gift voucher.