



**Minutes of the Aylsham Town Council Traffic Group Meeting held on
Wednesday 26th October at Aylsham Recreation Ground**

Present

Pat Prekopp (chairman)	Richard Laxen
Sue Catchpole	Steve Riley
Gordon Clarke	Arthur Rope
Mary Evans	John Shenton
Catherine Fletcher	
Sue Lake	

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from:

Clare Alban	David Faulkner
Paul Baker	Lynda Hartley
Ellie Baker	Lindsay Little
Trevor Bennett	David Harry
Maureen Burr	Barry Lancaster
Andy Christie	

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th September were circulated with the agenda. Additional comments on making Burgh Road a one-way for part of its length needed to be added together with discussion on Oakfield Road being a cul-de-sac.

3. To summarise failures and successes of the project

Gordon Clark aplogised that due to personal circumstances he had not been able to complete this for the meeting, but will do so shortly. The context is to see how the group has performed. Any measurements can only be subjective as it is not possible to put detailed 'scores' against actions.

As stated before the engagement of consultants was a positive but it may be they were engaged before all the issues were identified. However, at the time this was thought to be the best option to get fresh eyes on the problem. In reality it may have taken several months for the group to identify all the issues.

4. A140 Signage

This has been included in the final strategy document although the maps are a little confusing as the signs are shown from the direction of the travel arrows. They are a good first stage and before any work is commissioned a full audit and plan of the signs will be required.

It was also noted that there should be signposting to Blickling via Ingworth when travelling from the north.

5. Traffic Strategy

a) To note receipt of October document

This had now been received all member.

b) Comments on Strategy

Issue 1 – Speed Limits

The suggestion to reduce the 20mph areas has been rejected by members. However, the determination of the ‘Town Centre’ has still to be agreed. It was suggested that larger signs were required.

As part of the ACE Green Day event the Transport Group had undertaken a survey. Sue Catchpole presented the findings which were circulated. Speeding was definitely a cause of concern to many respondents.

Issue 2 – Penfold Street

Notwithstanding the issues identified by the Fire Service it was considered this was still a good scheme making more of the pump and would also allow for the change of priority to take place. Rather than rejecting it the possibility of looking at how the right turn from the fire station could be made easier. It was also queried whether a three point turn was actually slower than going around the pump.

Issue 3 – Cawston Road

Many felt the main issue here is parking on Mill Road so if yellow lines are introduced it needs to be all around the junction area rather than down Cawston Road.

Issue 4 Buses in the Market Place

This was agreed. The buses are not scheduled to meet in the Market Place but road conditions that delay the buses can sometimes cause this to happen. It is noted that they often stop and wait for buses to ensure they do not meet on Red Lion Street. The clerk will contact Sanders to see what communication methods they use

Issue 5 Burgh Road

This issue caused the most discussion.

The proposal would be to create a one-way section midway down Burgh Road leaving two-way access to the car park and Forster Close. The suggestion also recommended that Oakfield Road be made one-way and also included the provision of a crossing and a cycle way. Residents of Oakfield Road were strongly opposed to the suggestion of making it one-way as it caused issues with large vehicles especially refuse trucks and two-way traffic tended to reduce speeds.

There was concern of the impact on Sir Williams Lane and photographs were circulated showing cars mounting paths and marks on footways showing continued such breaches.

Another suggestion was to make Sir Williams Lane one-way as well but the same direction as Burgh Road thus forcing drivers to use the preferred routes of the bypass and Norwich Road.

Although there were many problems with these suggestions, possibly because they came later in the process, it was decided to proceed at the moment but be aware that major changes could be made further into the process.

All other matters were accepted

It was queried if the proposals had been costed or where the funding would be coming from. It is too early to undertake this work and with proposed developments all three councils will receive substantial CIL monies which could be utilised.

6. Traffic Strategy – Presentation to the public

This document had taken sometime to produce and although not endorsed in all its aspects it was agreed to present to the public as it is with the disclaimer that proposals are still up for discussion. It was felt to delay presenting to the public any longer would cause issues in itself.

a) To agree date for the event

This was suggested as Wednesday November 30th 2022 from 3.30pm to 8pm.

b) To agree format

The format will be a drop-in session with members of the committee available to answer questions and discuss elements of the strategy with visitors

c) To consider outline plan

The clerk had distributed suggested board concepts and these were agreed. Comments could be made on each board and also overall comments. How the results would be analysed would be discussed at the end of the presentation once level of response can be gauged.

d) To consider outline flyer

It is hoped to prepare a flyer with details of the meeting on one side and Christmas events on the other to try and ensure a good turnout.

7. To note any items for future discussion

Nothing Raised

8. To note date of next meeting

A brief meeting will be held at the end of the presentation evening 30th November. A follow up meeting was suggested for January 11th 2023*

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

* This date is not available in the Town Hall and as it might be necessary to use the projection equipment suggest revert back to usual date of the last Wednesday in the month being January 25th 2023