



Public Document Pack

Melksham Town Council

Town Hall, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6ES
Tel: (01225) 704187

Town Clerk Tracy Predeth BA(Hons) MPA, FLSCC

To: Councillor S Rabey (Chair)
Councillor A Griffin (Vice-Chair)
Councillor P Alford
Councillor P Aves
Councillor G Cooke
Councillor G Ellis
Councillor J Oatley
Councillor C Stokes

21 January 2025

Dear Councillors

In accordance with the Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, Sch 12, paras 10 (2)(b) you are invited to attend the **Economic Development and Planning Committee** meeting of the Melksham Town Council. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall on **Tuesday 28th January 2025** commencing at **7.00 pm**.

A period of public participation will take place during the meeting. The Press and Public are welcome to attend this meeting.

Yours sincerely

Mrs T Predeth BA(Hons), MPA, FSLCC
Town Clerk and RFO

**Melksham Town Council
Economic Development and Planning Committee**

**Tuesday 28 January 2025
At 7.00 pm at the Town Hall**

Public Participation – To receive questions from members of the public.

In the exercise of Council functions. Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, Human Rights and the need to conserve biodiversity. The Council also has a duty to tackle discrimination, provide equality of opportunity for all and foster good relations in the course of developing policies and delivery services under the public sector Equality Duty and Equality 2010.

Virtual Meeting Access:

Please follow the joining instructions below for the virtual Zoom meeting

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 836 6987 6198 Passcode: 481965

Participants will be directly let in the meeting by clicking on the above link. There is no waiting room

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Declarations of Interest in respect of items on this agenda as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. Members may however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared on the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

3. Public Participation

Members of the public are invited to attend the meeting and address the council.

Members of the public are requested to send their question to locum@melksham-tc.gov.uk by noon on the working day before the meeting. This will make it more likely that we will be able to answer your question on the night. You should still attend the meeting, in person or online, to ask your question.

4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve the Minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Committee meeting held on 9th January 2025.

5. Planning Considerations

Members to note that when responding to planning applications consideration should be given to the Melksham Joint Neighbourhood Plan, the Wiltshire Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

6. Planning Applications

To comment on the following planning applications

6.1 PL/2024/11307

[PL/2024/11307](#) - Householder Application

Address: 2 Sarum Avenue, Melksham, SN12 6BL

Proposal: Small summer house/shed with a covered area to the west side of said summer house/shed.

Respond By 30-01-2025

6.2 PL/2025/00004

[PL/2025/00004](#) - Works to a Protected Tree

Address: BERKELEY HOUSE, LONGLEAZE LANE, MELKSHAM, SN12 6QJ

Proposal: T001. Turkey Oak. Reduce lowest branch to east over Cicely Grove gardens by 1-2 metres to good growth points as feasible.

Respond By 28-01-2025

6.3 PL/2025/00079

[PL/2025/00079](#) - Householder Application

Address: 79 Somerset Crescent, Melksham, SN12 7LX

Proposal: Proposed double storey side extension and single storey rear extension with internal ground floor alterations for disabled adaption and associated works.

Respond By 11-02-2025

7. PL/2024/11529

[PL/2024/11529](#) - Works to a Listed Building

Address: 11A Canon Square, Melksham, Wilts, SN12 6LX

Proposal: First floor and external wall structural repairs. New ground floor structure to back room and other structural repairs

Respond By 14-02-2025

8. Planning Decisions

To note the following planning decisions

8.1 PL/2023/00478

[PL/2023/00478](#) - Outline Planning Permission

Address: Land off Angelica Avenue, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6QJ

Proposal: Outline application for up to 11 units with associated access road (All Matters Reserved)

Decision Date: 02-01-2025 Decision: Approve with Conditions

MTC Decision: Support

8.2 PL/2024/10575

[PL/2024/10575](#) - Householder Application

Address: St Andrews Vicarage, 33 Church Lane, Melksham, SN12 7EF

Proposal: Removal of existing garage and construction of two domestic garden pods & associated works

Decision Date: 03-01-2025 Decision: Approve with Conditions

MTC Decision: Support with the proviso that the structures should not be used as dwellings.

8.3 PL/2024/04833

[PL/2024/04833](#) - Full Planning Permission

Address: The Shed, Melksham Forest Community Centre, Bowmans Court, Melksham, Wilts, SN12 7FF

Proposal: Proposed extension to 2 original shipping containers of free standing wood and profile steel shelter to north of the current shed.

Decision Date: 06-01-2025 Decision: Approve with Conditions

MTC decision: Support

8.4 PL/2024/10636

[PL/2024/10636](#) - Householder Application

Address: 12 Coronation Road, Melksham, SN12 7PE

Proposal: A side and rear extension.

Decision Date: 10-01-2025 Decision: Approve with Conditions

MTC decision: Support

8.5 PL/2024/11022

[PL/2024/11022](#) - Householder Application

Address: 14 Kenilworth Gardens, Melksham, SN12 6AE

Proposal: Proposed Single Storey Front/Side Extension

Decision Date: 10-01-2025 Decision: Approve with Conditions

9. To Receive and Consider Correspondence from MWPC (Pages 9 - 12)

Email stream attached.

10. Wiltshire Speed Survey Results (Pages 13 - 18)

To note.

11. Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) Issues

11.1 Roundpond Speed Limit Assessment (Pages 19 - 26)

Melksham Town Council submitted a highway request dated 09/10/23 (Ref 09-24-06) to the LHFIG, seeking an assessment to determine the feasibility of a 20mph speed restriction on the Roundponds estate, Melksham. The request was approved by members at the LHFIG meeting dated 15/08/24.

Comments are invited from the town council before the report is presented to the LHFIG for consideration at the 6th Feb 25 meeting.

Please note, it has been agreed that the implementation costs for the recommended 20mph limit can be funded from The Section 106 for Dunch Lane. As such there is no requirement for a contribution from the town council.

12. Neighbourhood Plan

13. Temporary Road Closure Notifications

XX NAME OF ROAD XX

The order will come into operation from (DATE) to (DATE)

13.1 A3102 (Pages 27 - 30)

To note.

13.2 Footpath 22 (Part), Melksham (Pages 31 - 34)

To note.

14. Notification of Strategic Planning Committee (Pages 35 - 36)

To note.

15. Parish Steward

To consider jobs to be undertaken by the Parish Steward.

Melksham Town Council

Minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2025

PRESENT: Councillor S Rabey (Chair)
Councillor A Griffin (Vice-Chair)
Councillor G Ellis
Councillor C Stokes
Councillor J Westbrook, (substituting for Councillor Oatley)

IN ATTENDANCE:

OFFICERS: Andrew Meacham Committee Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Two residents, three representatives of The Stantonbury Building and Development Company Ltd and two MWPC Councillors were present.

201/24 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Oatley, who was substituted by Councillor J Westbrook, and Councillor Alford.

Councillor Aves had sent apologies but this was not known during the meeting.

202/24 Declarations of Interest

The Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey advised that in her day to day employment she supplied work vehicles to Stantonbury Building and Development Company Ltd.

203/24 Public Participation

Public Participant.

PL/2024/10345 Land North of the A3102.

While I am not fundamentally opposed to the development, I believe significant concerns must be addressed regarding access and infrastructure before approval is granted, and then enforceable assurances put in place to ensure compliance. Firstly, alignment of access routes is a critical issue. The current proposal relies on insufficiently designed routing via the emergency vehicle access to Redwing Road, and closed-off rights of way, such as the Melk103 footpath, which is overgrown and inaccessible. Integrating pedestrian access with this footpath without proper improvements creates confusion and safety risks for residents. Secondly, the vehicular access routes from the A3102 to the proposed estate present serious concerns. The junction near the Skylark Road entrance is already problematic,

with speeding vehicles and congestion issues. Without major improvements, including a well-designed access point, the safety of residents and road users will be at significant risk.

To ensure safe pedestrian access, crossings must be established on the A3102, particularly near the roundabout, to link the new development to schools and the Eastern Way pedestrian and cycle routes. These crossings are vital to provide children and families with safe, direct routes to Forest and Sandridge School and any future educational facilities.

Finally, the speed limits on the A3102 and Eastern Way must be reduced to 30mph to reflect the increased residential density and ensure safety for all road users. A consistent speed limit through the newly developed areas is essential to manage traffic flow and protect pedestrians.

In summary, without addressing these key issues—safe access routes, improved junction designs, pedestrian crossings, and reduced speed limits—the development risks creating significant safety and infrastructure challenges. I urge the committee to prioritise these concerns before granting approval.

204/24 Minutes

The minutes of 10th December 2024, having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey.

205/24 Land at Upside , Melksham

Presentation given on latest version of planning application PL/2022/06221, Land at Upside, Melksham.

Councillors asked questions and raised some concerns around EV Charging provision, pedestrian access to public transport, flooding, orientation of houses, commercial units and the possibility of allocating one of these to medical services. Members noted and concurred with the comments of Highways.

206/24 Planning Considerations

207/24 Planning Applications

208/24 PL/2022/06221

It was noted that this was a Brownfield site, there was a need for housing and the site had been unused for some years.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application subject to the concerns raised by members during the presentation.

209/24 PL/2024/10702

This application had been considered at the previous meeting and did not need to be on the agenda.

210/24 PL/2024/11022

It was proposed by Councillor J Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Griffin and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

211/24 PL/2024/10674

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Ellis and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders.

Councillor David Pafford of Melksham Without Parish Council confirmed that MWPC were considering the application next week. Introduction states JMNP and the WC Local Plan have no weight because they were at the pre-submission stage. Both those documents have now been submitted and we are in the consultation period, run by WC. They will then go to examination and referendum. Contrary to developers claims, both plans are well advanced. December changes to NPPF indicated the validity of the process. NHP Group would submit that there is great weight behind the plan. Comment on housing numbers is, in his view, an attempt to take advantage of WC difficulty in building land supply. Applications is opportunistic and speculative. Not plan led. Site does not appear in either JMNP 1 or 2, the core strategy or the WC Local Plan. Housing numbers proposed under JMNP and Local Plan exceed the number of houses required to be built in Melksham by 2038. Unsustainable development. A Green Field development remote from employment opportunities and amenities. Traffic on Woodrow Road, Forest Road and north to Lacock already dire. Lacock Council very concerned about the number of vehicles from Melksham going through the village. Route goes via a bridge that frequently floods, making the route impassable. Traffic going south would have to come down Forest Road which is already a nightmare, and ends up in the Town Centre via Lowbourn where there will be construction traffic once the development of the old library starts. Proposal is to develop about a third to a quarter of the site. This would be an example of "Trojan Horse" development. Permission is to build 70 houses in one corner and then developers come back with further proposals. Melksham needs plan led development. Both Councils and NHP Steering Group, with the support of WC, are very firm on this. Would ask MTC to oppose.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Westbrook and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

Members agreed with the comments of Councillor Pafford. Concerns were raised about increased traffic, lack of public transport and safe pedestrian routes to town and services. Members felt that the infrastructure was not in place to cope with this development and particularly noted comments from RUH Bath. Members noted and agreed with the comments of Highways.

It was proposed by Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Griffin and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to oppose the application.

212/24 PL/2024/10345

As with the other development concerns were raised about increased traffic, lack of public transport, safe pedestrian routes to town and services and inadequate infrastructure. Again members noted and agreed with the comments of Highways.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Councillor Pafford to speak. He confirmed that this is a Strategic Site identified in the Local Plan and it was therefore likely that Wiltshire Council would be in favour, although not necessarily in favour of all the proposals. MTC & MWPC should be looking to agree the conditions, improvements and facilities they would like imposed on permission. MWPC have had pre-app meetings with developers. Have been understanding and prepared to listen and change plans.

Standing Orders were reinstated

Members felt that the application could be supported at the right time and with suitable conditions imposed.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow a member of the public to speak.

Public Participant

Accepts and supports the need for housing. Agrees with comments on infrastructure. Lived in area for 20 years and seen increase in flooding and traffic. Wanted clarification on the site and areas marked as not suitable for development. Councillor Ellis and Councillor Pafford offered to speak to the resident after the meeting.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

There was discussion on the way forward.

It was noted that MWPC would be considering the application on 13th January. It was agreed that the committee clerk would send a summary of the discussion to the MWOC clerk. Councillor Ellis would attend the meeting and report back. The chair Councillor Rabey and the committee clerk were delegated to meet after MWPC had considered the application and formulate a MTC response.

213/24 PL/2024/11449

It was proposed by Councillor J Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Elis and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

214/24 PL/2024/11295

It was proposed by Councillor J Westbrook, seconded by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

215/24 PL/2024/11435

It was proposed by Councillor Griffin, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the application.

216/24 Planning Decisions

217/24 PL/2024/09935

The decision was noted.

218/24 PL/2024/09965

The decision was noted.

219/24 PL/2024/08989

The decision was noted.

220/24 PL/2024/06981

The decision was noted.

221/24 PL/2024/09775

The decision was noted.

222/24 PL/2024/09642

The decision was noted.

223/24 Church Street Car Park

Councillor J Westbrook spoke to the item.

It was agreed to put a request to LHFIG to re-instate no less than 4 parent and child spaces. Councillor J Westbrook agreed to complete an LHFIG request form.

224/24 Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) Issues

225/24 Roundpond Speed Limit Assessment

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

226/24 Melksham Oak Community School

It was noted that this was in the boundaries of Melksham Without Parish Council.

It was suggested that this matter be deferred until the Gompels planning application had been considered.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor J Westbrook and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillor Pafford to speak.

He noted that MWPC had recommended a roundabout when the school was being considered. Wiltshire Council had a Strategic Site allocated to the east of the school which would require an entrance point which could be a roundabout with an entrance to the school.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Stokes and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

Members felt they were unable to take this matter forward at this time for the reasons discussed.

227/24 Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Ellis advised that an examiner was being chosen and a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was being arranged.

The item was noted.

228/24 East Melksham Community Centre

The committee clerk advised that efforts had been made to find out what was happening with the gifting of the land and solicitors had been notified of the location. A chase up has been sent to the developers.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor J Westbrook and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillor Pafford to speak.

The Clerk of MWPC was trying to confirm a definite date when the three year period for construction commences or commenced. It had previously been indicated by Melksham Town Council that there should be two centres, one in the town and one in the parish. Current available sites were considered to be too small. It may be the way forward would be to find a new site to build one big centre jointly.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Rabey, seconded by Councillor Griffin and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

229/24 Parish Steward

There were no specific requests other than the usual clearance of leaves and general tidying.

Meeting Closed at: 8.35 pm

Signed:

Dated:

This page is intentionally left blank

Email Stream Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council Officers.

Subject: CIL Working Party

This Word document created to remove email addresses from the public domain. It is a cut, paste and edit of the email stream and as such the messages are in reverse chronological order.

From: Locum

Hi Andrew

Please can you take this to the next planning meeting as well. As a council we are trying to steer away from working groups. Just put an agenda item to receive and consider correspondence from MWPC. Please do not put emails into the public domain. Please let Teresa know what you are doing.

Thanks

Tracy

From: Teresa Strange

Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 5:49 PM

Hi Tracey

I am not sure how that would work, this is a joint meeting of Melksham Without parish council and Melksham town council.

If this was part of a town council meeting, how do the parish councillors have a vote?

The point of it being set up, like the joint Shurnhold Fields working party too, was so that decisions didn't ping between MWPC and MTC meetings, often monthly (or every 2 months for the Town Council) and it taking months and months for a decision to be made.

The idea was that the two councils met, with 3 reps each, thrashed it out, got a recommendation that both parties were happy about, and that was sent to the respective councils to ratify.

I am not sure what you are adding to the agenda in March?

All the best, Teresa

From: Locum

Sent: 07 January 2025 17:43

Hi Teresa

Happy New Year to you.

The council is trying to steer away from working groups as they get out of hand and there is danger of them acting like committees.

I think it would be best to add this to the next finance meeting which is now scheduled for the 10 March as the agenda has already been published for next weeks meeting.

Kind Regards

Tracy

From: Teresa Strange

Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 4:02 PM

Dear Tracy

Happy new year to you.

The parish council s finance committee met last night, and on the agenda was CIL income and spend.

The parish council have asked me to chase this request for a meeting of the CIL Sharing Working

Group for the joint funds of the town and parish council. You can see that I asked in January last

year, and we have discussed it when we have met and is on the list of outstanding projects/actions with the town council. Can we please arrange this meeting?

With many thanks, Teresa

From: Teresa Strange

Sent: 05 August 2024 10:36

Hi Tracy

Hope you have had a good weekend, below is the request for a CIL working party that the parish council

requested in January.

Just following up on a couple of things from when we met last week, as I was off on Friday.

All the best, Teresa

From: Hugh Davies

Sent: 20 February 2024 16:21

Hi Teresa,

Sorry I haven't been very communicative.

I'm just drowning

Linda is back to work at the end of the month on a phased I'll have to ask Andrew to add all these things to her list

Sorry

Hugh

From: Teresa Strange

Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 6:30 PM

Hi both

Just wondered if there were any thoughts on this request of the parish council? and the funds you have available?

Kind regards, Teresa

From: Teresa Strange

Sent: 25 January 2024 17:27

Hi Andrew and Hugh

The parish council would like to arrange a meeting of the joint CIL Working Party.

This was 3 members of each council, I am not sure if you have appointed reps this council year, we have not met for a while as we jointly did not have much CIL money between us then.

Our reps are Cllr Glover, Cllr Pafford and Cllr Baines.

We can do during the day, I am not sure how your councillors are fixed for that, or you would prefer an evening/early evening?

It would also be useful to know what you have in the shared pot ; to inform the meeting/decisions. I did copy both of you in to an email a couple of weeks ago about your published reserves, to remind the town council that some of the CIL reserve was for jointly agreed projects.

So, as we have an adopted Neighbourhood Plan, which means the council that the planning application is in, now gets 25% of the CIL that Wiltshire Council gets, and not 15% as before. This additional 10% is because of the joint plan between MTC and MWPC and we agreed to put in a shared pot and use for joint projects. The only one agreed to date is the Real Time Information in the bus shelters. The town council vetoed the other suggestions of the parish council.

We anticipate having 34,011.18 at year end 31st March 24, and 38,419.34 during 24/25 in the 10% pot.

For background info:

The CIL working party met on 19th July 2022.

Both councils considered projects to put forward at their respective full council meetings on 3rd October 2022.

At our meeting on 24th October 22 we report that we had heard verbally from the town council that they had not agreed to our suggestion of improved walking routes, but just to the Real Time Information. I don't think we ever heard anything more from the town council. I recall agreeing with Patsy that it wasn't worth meeting as there was only about 5k between us in the pot in 2023 so not worth meeting, but that is not the same now. Off the top of my head you had some 50k+ in your CIL reserve, and might have more not in a reserve and so some of this is for the joint project?

Kind regards, Teresa

Wiltshire Speed Survey Report

Introduction

Firstly, thank you to the 87 Towns and Parishes that responded. That is a really high level for a survey of this nature.

To reiterate – my objective is to establish whether the experiences of the Parishes within my Division on the outskirts of Corsham in North Wiltshire reflect those of other Parishes in the County.

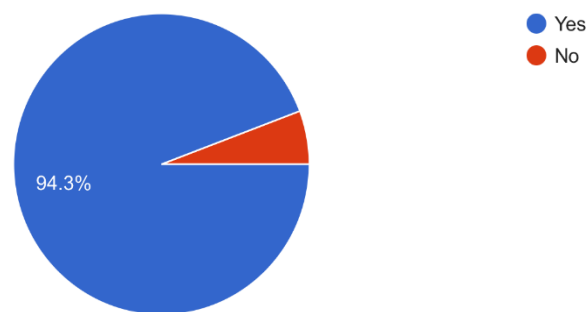
Speed of traffic

The speed of traffic is clearly an issue in pretty much every Parish. The strategy to deal with the problem is quite varied and the response from Highways and LHFIFG also quite varied.

The first chart below indicates that the majority of Parishes experience issues with the speed of traffic. Note for each chart the number of responses is listed – this will not always be 87 and needs to always be considered when attempting analysis.

Do you have speeding issues in your Parish

87 responses

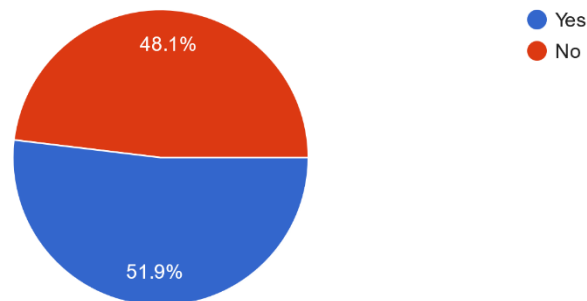


Of those that experienced speed issues 45% had requested a Speed Limit Assessment, 63% used a Speed Indicator Device and 48% had set up a Community SpeedWatch Team. Which indicates that PCs consider the speeding issue is sufficiently serious to warrant action. However, when trying to get speed limits reduced around 50% of those had problems (see below)

Speed Limits

Speed Limits Have you encountered any issues with getting a speed limit changed?

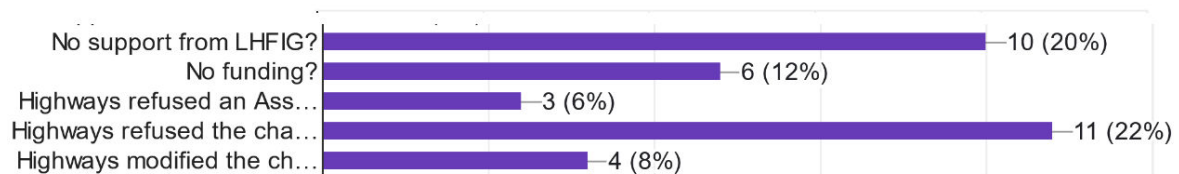
79 responses



The reasons for those problems were varied and many answers were very detailed. The top 5 reasons given are listed below.

If you answered Yes to the previous question was this due to

50 responses



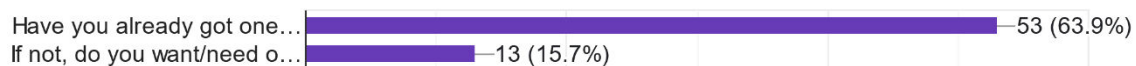
From the above responses there appear to be around 40 Parishes that encountered problems with Speed Limit Assessments and of those 24 cited either Highways or LHFIG as the obstacle.

Speed Indicator Devices(SIDs)

Many Parishes already have SIDs and there is further demand from those that do not have one already.

Speed Indicator Devices(SID)

83 responses



The main obstacles to PCs acquiring SIDs appears financial, deployment issues and no support from LHFIG(see below).

if you are interested in using a SID have you encountered

36 responses



ANPR cameras

There seems to be good awareness of ANPR cameras like those from AutoSpeedWatch that can be deployed by Parishes

Are you aware of automatic numberplate recognition cameras such as those made by AutoSpeedWatch?

85 responses



Comments

The following is a small selection of the numerous comments made (thank you – I have read them all).

PARISH NAME REDACTED ...had the speed survey/metro count, which did not show a theoretical problem. Our problem is that it is national speed limit right through the village, with no pavements etc. LHFIG considers that a speed limit review would be a waste of resources as unlikely to recommend the installation of a limit. LHFIG are now open to discussion about some road markings etc

The results so far from our traffic surveys fall within the 85th percentile indicating to WC that there are no real speeding issues, however on narrow roads with no pavements 30 miles an hour is too fast.

Wiltshire council have done speed surveys and while we did have speeding it wasn't enough to be considered a problem and thus leaving us very little to actually do to slow traffic down all while still getting complaints from residents that the traffic is too fast and pedestrians (a lot of families with small children walking to and from primary school and preschool) are feeling unsafe.

We have not asked for speed limit to be changed we have tried to educate drivers with SID and this has worked. There is no need for any part of the parish to have speed limit altered

We are about to apply for 20mph for school area. We wanted to extend a 30mph limit some years ago but there were not enough house frontages. It seems to take a long time to apply and get SID's installed.

We have not applied for a speed limit change - we would like to do this, guidance on doing this would be greatly appreciated.

Summary

The speed of traffic is considered an issue in many Parishes and the response from Wiltshire Council a mixed experience.

My opinion

The speed of traffic is a major issue, particularly in rural areas. Perhaps it is more of a problem now with greater volumes of higher performance cars on rural roads. Perhaps SatNav doesn't help by driving motorists off the main roads.

Historically the emphasis of Wiltshire Highways has been to optimise journey times and this was probably a commonly held objective. As a result, the weightings that have been given in speed limit assessments has favoured the motorist. January 2025 sees the introduction of new requirements in Wiltshire for assessments to give more weight to the local experience of pedestrians, cyclists and also the motorist. Highways reported today (14th Jan) on how they will achieve these changes this week.

Up to now Highways have relied on reports from their external consultants in making assessments. These reports have focussed on metrics and an assumption that motorist behaviour will be only marginally affected by a reduction in speed limit. Hence, a reluctance to reduce limits and a similar reluctance of Parishes and LHFIF to fund assessments.

The Department for Transport Guidance on Speed Limits includes a great deal of criteria including that of considering vulnerable road users in a decision. This means that in villages with no pavement weight should be given to the impact of speed on the safety of pedestrians and active travel generally. However, this was only guidance and the ultimate decision-making is delegated to the Local Authority. Which is why I'm very pleased that Wiltshire's Cabinet has approved changes to broaden the criteria considered and consider the impact of speed on the local community.

I am not so naïve as to think that reducing speed limits is a panacea and will solve all issues of speeding alone. But I think it is the starting point. The first question should always be 'what is the appropriate speed for a section of road taking into account all users?', followed by 'how it can any change be achieved?'. For a decade or more the question has been 'how fast is the traffic moving?' followed by 'do we dare reduce it as the motorist may take no notice?'.

Delivering a change in motorist behaviour is a challenge. The use of SIDs is helpful with the inadvertent offender but probably has little impact on the persistent one. For this the daytime use of

a network of Parish Council owned cameras (eg. AutoSpeedWatch) could be a resource for identifying those who flout the limits and deliver a profile of behaviour that could be fed as intelligence to the Police for enforcement.

Enforcement at hotspots is already taking place with the use of data from SIDs by the Police but enforcement teams are a scarce resource.

Finally measures to introduce traffic-calming is a last choice coming, as it does, with a high price tag.

So, I am looking forward to seeing the new recommendations filtering down and Parishes and LHFIGs having confidence that their experiences are being listened to and acted upon.

Thanks

Once again, thank you for such a magnificent response. I hope you have found the report of help. If not, please let me know. Or if you have a helpful suggestion please contact me.

I intend following this survey up in a years time to measure progress.

Regards

Derek Walters

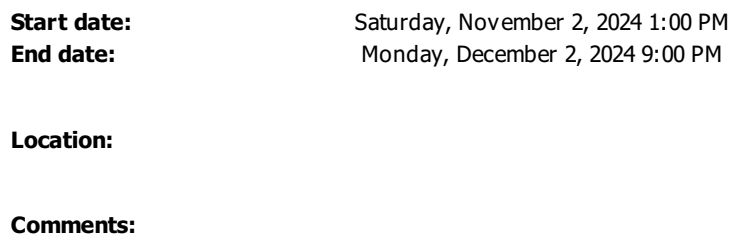
Cllr Corsham Without

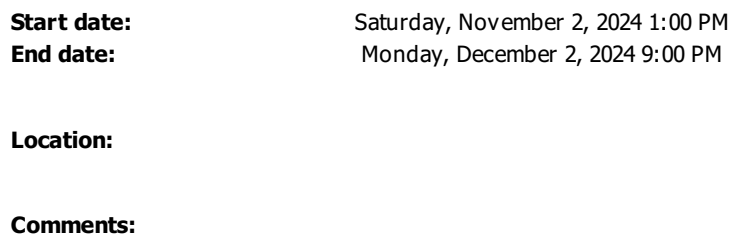
Vice-chair Environment Select Committee

This page is intentionally left blank



Start date:	Saturday, November 2, 2024 1:00 PM
End date:	Monday, December 2, 2024 9:00 PM
Location:	
Comments:	



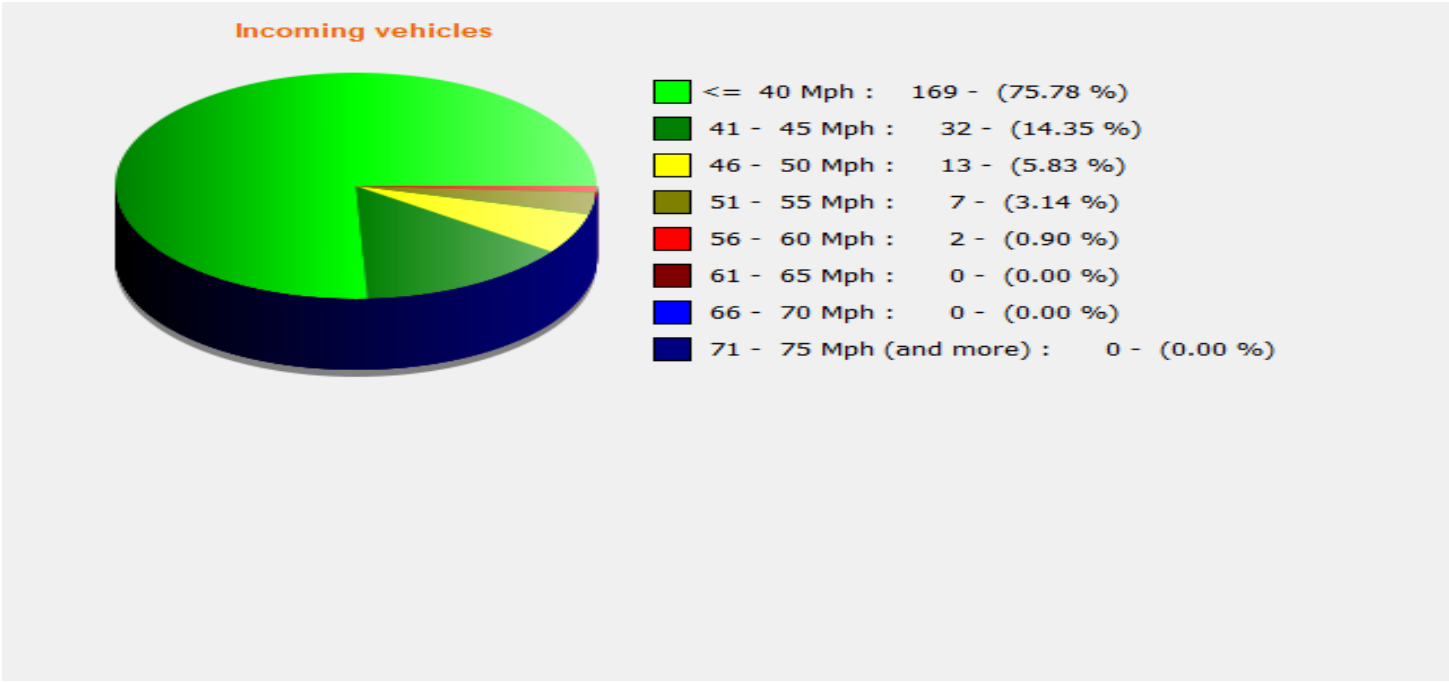




Start date: Saturday, November 2, 2024 1:00 PM
End date: Monday, December 2, 2024 9:00 PM

Location:

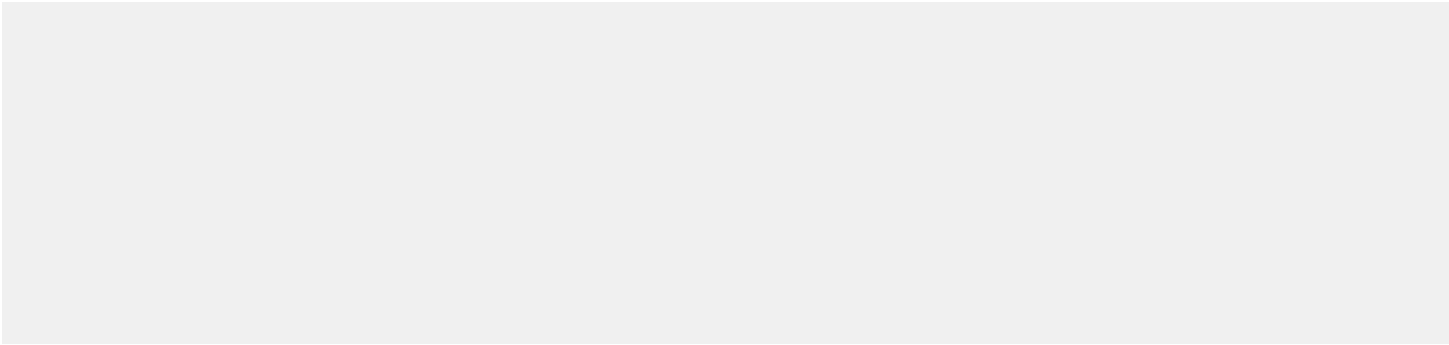
Comments:



Start date: Saturday, November 2, 2024 1:00 PM
End date: Monday, December 2, 2024 9:00 PM

Location:

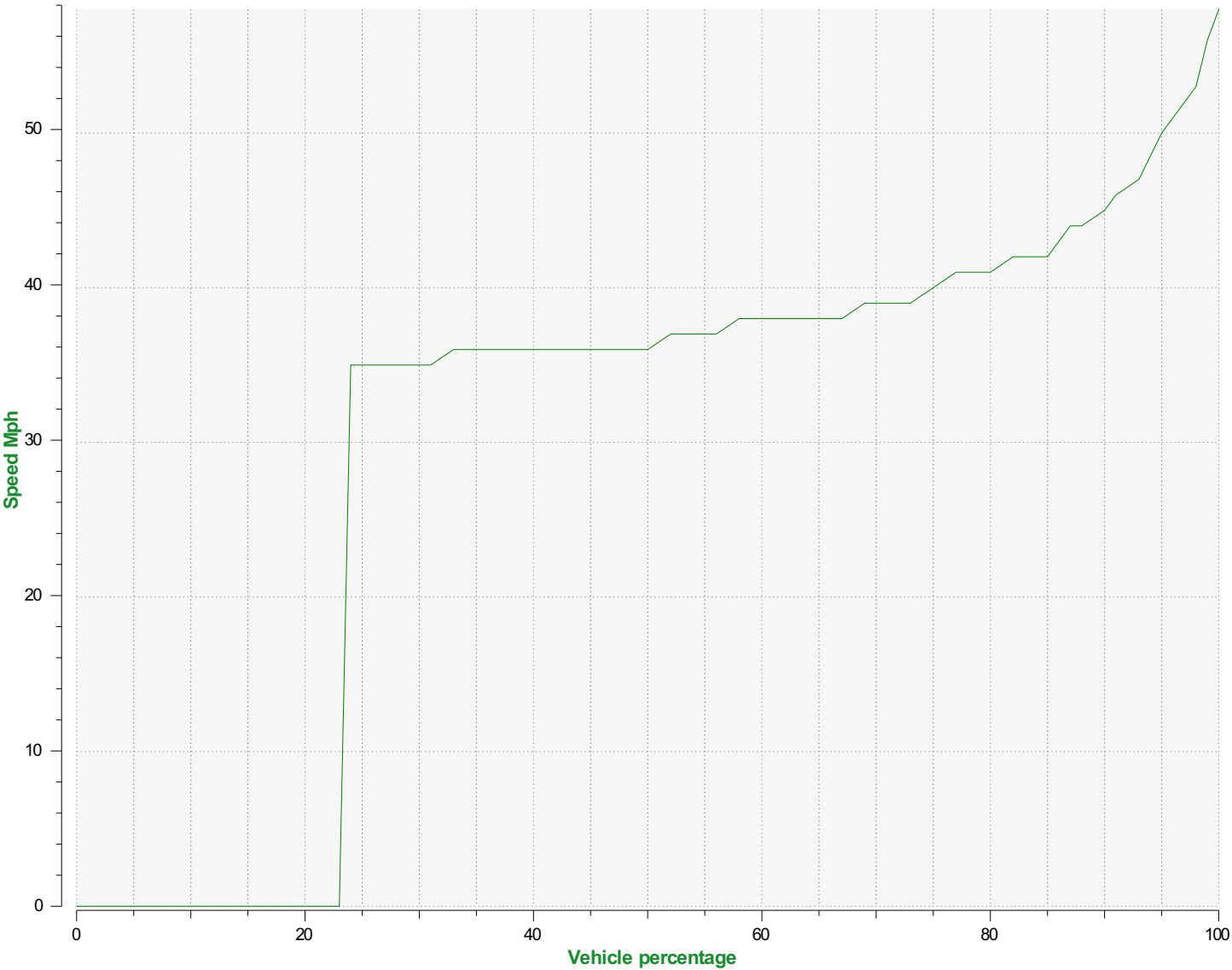
Comments:



Start date: Saturday, November 2, 2024 1:00 PM
End date: Monday, December 2, 2024 9:00 PM

Location:

Comments:



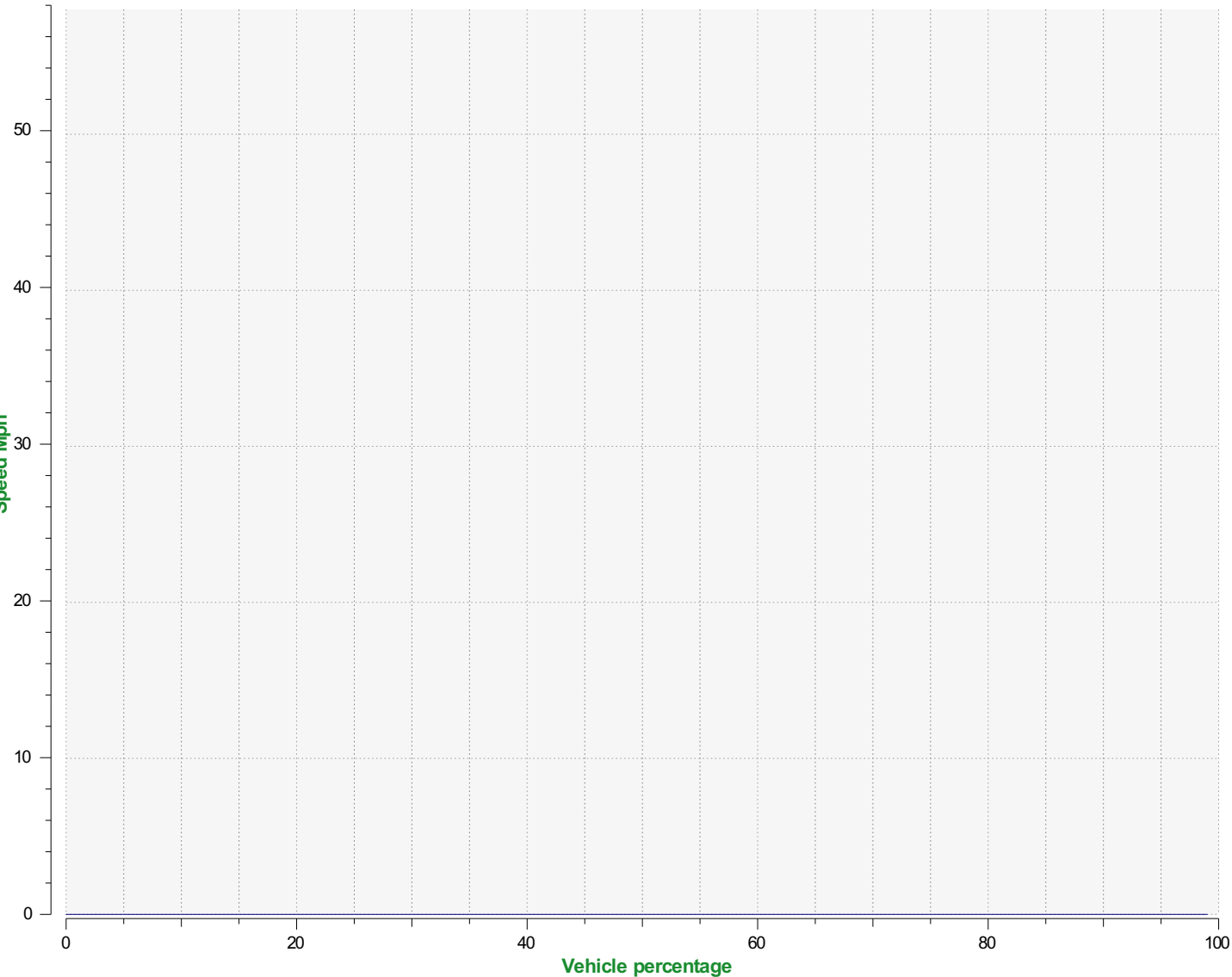
Speed percentiles (incoming)

V30: 35.00Mph V50: 36.00Mph V85: 42.00Mph

Start date: Saturday, November 2, 2024 1:00 PM
End date: Monday, December 2, 2024 9:00 PM

Location:

Comments:



Speed percentile(outgoing)

V30: 0.00Mph V50: 0.00Mph V85: 0.00Mph

Start date: Saturday, November 2, 2024 1:00 PM
End date: Monday, December 2, 2024 9:00 PM

Location:

Comments:

Wiltshire Council

Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Temporary Closure of: A3102 (Part), Melksham Without (Ref: TTRO 10072)

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic:

A3102 (Part), Melksham Without; from its roundabout junction with Eastern Way to its junction with Brick Hill.

To enable: Wiltshire Council to carry out carriageway resurfacing and associated works.

Alternative route: via A3102 (unaffected length) – A342 – A4 – A350 – A365 – C502 and vice versa.

The closure and diversion route will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on 24 February 2025 and the closure will be required between the hours of 19:00 and 06:00 weeknights only until 08 March 2025. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months.

For further information please contact Tarmac on behalf of Wiltshire Council on 07803 953739.

Highways Assets and Commissioning, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN

21 February 2025

This page is intentionally left blank

Indicative Plan : A3102 (Part), Melksham Without



Wiltshire Council

Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Temporary Closure of: Footpath 22 (Part), Melksham (Ref: TTRO 10091)

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all users:

Footpath 22 (Part), Melksham; from its junction with Footpath 23, Melksham for a distance of approximately 33m in a south easterly direction.

To enable: re-railing item on the WEY. Remove and replace crossing. Rail mounted machinery running up and down the site.

Alternative route: Footpath 22, Melksham (unaffected length) – A350 – A365 – Footpath 28, Melksham – Footpath 22, Melksham (unaffected length) and vice versa.

The closure and diversion route will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on 08 March 2025 and it is anticipated that the closure will be required until 27 March 2025. Access will be maintained where possible although delays are likely due to the nature of the works. The Order will have a maximum duration of 6 months.

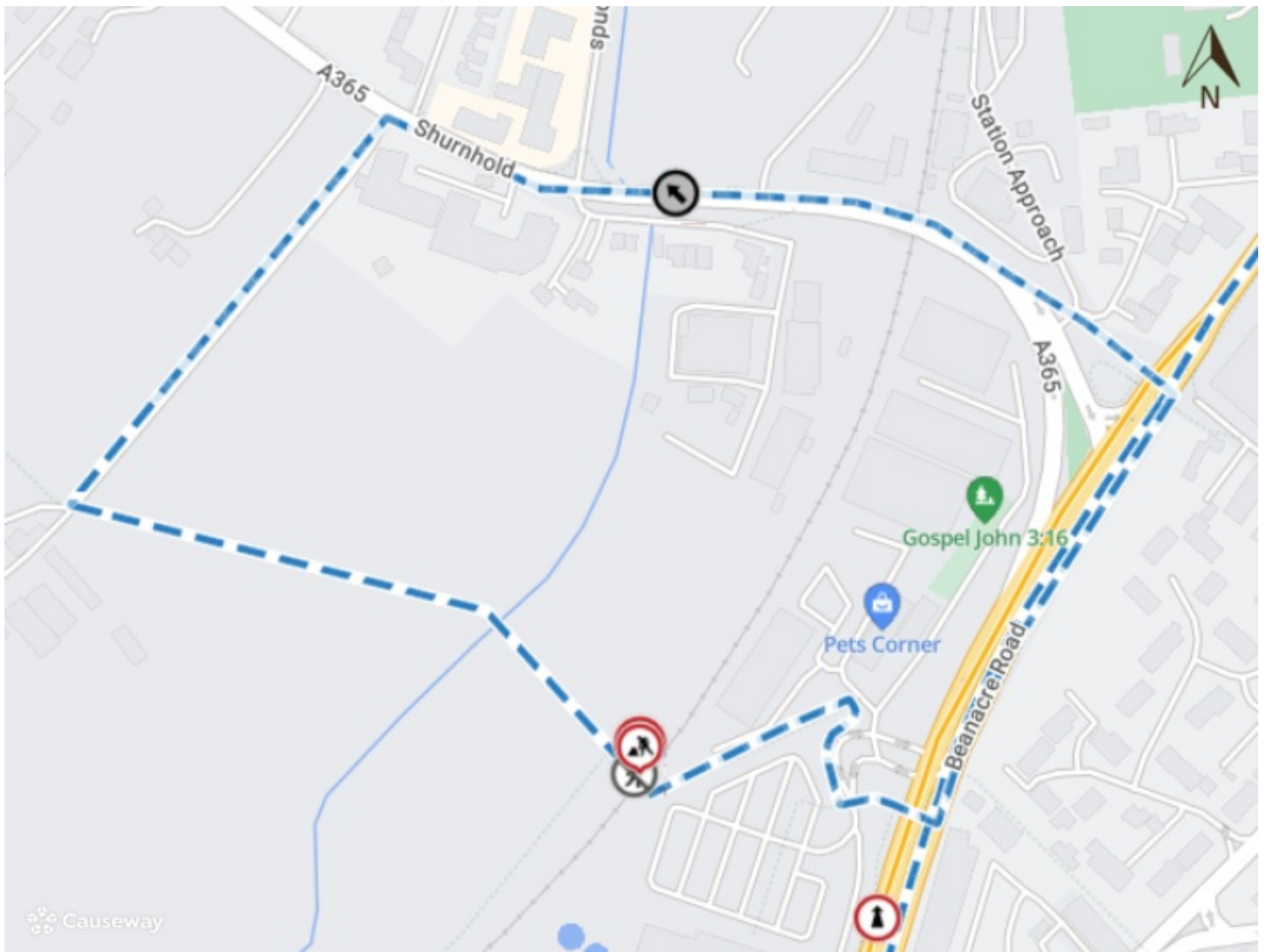
For further information please contact Sunbelt Rentals on 0370 050 0792 or Ben Braine (Countryside Access Officer) on 07788 345979 or Wiltshire Council (out of hours) on 0300 456 0100.

Highways Assets and Commissioning, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN

28 February 2025

This page is intentionally left blank

Indicative Plan : Footpath 22 (Part), Melksham



Imagery © 2025 [MapTiler](#) | Imagery © 2025 [Hexagon](#) | © [MapTiler](#) © [OpenStreetMap contributors](#)

This page is intentionally left blank

15 January 2025

Development Services

Tel: 0300 456 0114

Email: developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk

www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference:	PL/2023/11188
Application Type:	Outline planning permission: Some matters reserved
Site Address:	Land at Blackmore Farm, Sandridge Common, Melksham, SN12 7QS
Proposal:	Demolition of agricultural buildings and development of up to 500 dwellings; up to 5,000 square metres of employment (class E(g)(i)) & class E(g)(ii)); land for primary school (class F1); land for mixed-use hub (class E / class F); open space; provision of access infrastructure from Sandridge Common (A3102); and provision of all associated infrastructure necessary to facilitate the development of the site (Outline application relating to access)
Applicant(s):	Gleeson Land Ltd

This is to inform you that under the Council's delegation scheme the above application will be determined at the Strategic Planning Committee at Council Chamber - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN on 23 January 2025. The meeting will commence at 10.30am.

The agenda and the committee reports for the meeting are published 5 clear working days prior to the committee meeting (e.g. Tuesday the week before a Wednesday meeting where there is no bank holiday). These are available on the Website [Browse meetings - Strategic Planning Committee | Wiltshire Council](#). Please note that the meeting will be live streamed on the [Council's YouTube Channel](#) so that you can watch the meeting online should you wish to do so.

If you would like to register for a public speaking slot, you should contact committee@wiltshire.gov.uk for attention of the officer listed on the front of the agenda (not the case officer for the application).

The deadline for registration is 10 minutes before the start of the meeting, however in accordance with the procedure for planning committees, no more than three statements in support or three statements in objection may be made at the meeting for each application. In most cases, the first three people to register would fill those speaking slots. Statements and comments beyond the three in support and three in objection will not be received.

If you require any further information regarding the committee, please do not hesitate to contact Democratic Services at committee@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Head of Development Management

This page is intentionally left blank