

Twyford Parish Council
Air Quality Meeting Minutes

A meeting hosted by Twyford Parish Council held at 10.30am on Thursday 24th January 2019 at Loddon Hall, Twyford.

Attendees: Tom Beck (Associate - Transport Planning, WBC), Merv Boniface (Twyford Parish Council), Robert Curtis (Senior Specialist - Transport Planning Team Manager, WBC), Bridget Ditcham (Twyford Parish Council), Joe Dray (Principle Environmental Health Officer, Westberks), John Jarvis (Twyford Parish Council), James McCabe (Senior Planning Officer - Strategy & Commissioning (Place), WBC), Suzanne McLaughlin (Senior Environmental Health Officer, West Berks)
Minutes: Lucy Moffatt (Clerk)

1. Introductions were made.

2. What action will be taken from now till March 2019 and before the next report to DEFRA?

Suzanne McLaughlin (Senior Environmental Health Officer, West Berks) reported that the next report to DEFRA is due in June for the calendar year of 2018. Once the report is approved by DEFRA then it will be published.

Data is continuously being collated from the tube monitors located around the centre of the village and the monitor located on Bell Corner. The monitor will provide more accurate data, recording levels every 15 minutes, and collection of this data has been contracted out to TRL. Monitoring and reporting to DEFRA will continue until such a time the air quality is satisfactory. Suzanne co-ordinates with colleagues on the actions and progress.

Tom Beck (Associate (Transport Planning) WBC) reported on the progress with the air quality action plan measures.

- There are no alternative traffic routes.
- Cycle stand providing 30 covered/secure storage installed on the southern side of the station.
- Planning application being submitted for a park and ride shuttle bus from the Coppid Beech roundabout (Keephatch area) to Twyford at peak commuter times. Timescale 18 months.
- Cycle path review – Tom is advisor on the Local Cycling Walking Infrastructure Plan and they have been looking at the propensity to cycle.
[Merv Boniface asked about the plans to provide a cycle path from Woodley to Twyford. The clerk suggested the spare railwayline as a cycle route from Twyford to Henley also servicing Piggott School pupils]
- Transport planning – review of bus routes and ensuring buses are using the most fuel efficient vehicles.

John Jarvis asked about an emission control zone however Suzanne reported that this had been thrown out in Newbury due to the cost of enforcement.

John Jarvis suggested making the Old Bath road one way for the first stretch with no incoming traffic from Charvil to the centre. He reported that when the road was closed due to the work on the bridges users adapted well using the A4 and Wargrave Road. This would enable the paths to be widened which would be more advantageous for the residents, retirement village, wheelchairs and prams.

Suzanne McLaughlin reported that traffic calming is the key to reducing emissions with single file traffic, keeping traffic moving and removing the stop start.

James McCabe was tasked with exploring options for a bypass. He reported that due to cost this would only be viable alongside development.

Suzanne McLaughlin reported that new developments are installing car charging points. Merv Boniface spoke about plans drawn up by a resident and these were circulated. The plans move the traffic lights further away from the village centre, widen the pavements and slow traffic down.

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3. Are all monitoring devices fully installed and working in Twyford?

Tubes are located in the High Street, Wargrave Road, London Road an at the Station. The monitor and tubes are on Bell Corner. The first quarters data will be available in April/May.

4. What steps have been taken in Wokingham to deal with the unsafe levels of pollution?

Traffic Calming measures have been taken in Wokingham by Wokingham Station and Peach Street.

5. Traffic lights. In the short term sensor alterations - including at the Wargrave Road entrance to the amenity road to Waitrose carpark. Longer Term- change to traffic light system.

Bridget Ditcham raised the issue with the traffic lights with traffic from the Wargrave Road feeding into Waitrose. The lights then change causing tailbacks along Wargrave Road. Discussion took place on traffic light phasing / calming. Merv Boniface urged Tom Beck and Robert Curtis to look at tidal flow traffic lights.

6. Possibility of signage requesting motorists turn off engines.

Agreed that signage would help educate. Suggested a possible joint project between WBC Highways and Public Health. What would be acceptable from a highways point of view?

7. What long and short term goals can WBC and Twyford work towards – actions with dates.

Who?	Action
Tom Beck and Robert Curtis	To consider the possibility of the Charvil option (Redirecting traffic from Charvil along A4/Wargrave Road making traffic from Twyford centre one way for a distance.
Tom Beck and Robert Curtis	To look at tidal flow traffic lights with the aim of slowing traffic down and widening pavements. [Tidal flow refers to a road where a lane can sometimes carry traffic in one direction and at other times in the opposite direction, to help with traffic flow, such as is the case in Wargrave.]
Tom Beck and Robert Curtis	Traffic light phasing/calming
Suzanne McLaughlin	To look into the possibility of signage requesting motorists turn off engines.
Tom Beck and Robert Curtis	Agreed to look at the specific traffic monitoring - vehicles and mix.

Bridget Ditcham thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 11:40am

