Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Summary Report – Dorset Council Highways WG

December 2024

Working Group Objective:
Review of all Highways related projects and establishing close liaison with Dorset Council Highways.

Working Group Participants:
Andrew Huggins (Chair), Ken Morgan, Alf Bush, Peter Webb, Beverly Barker, Rob Aspray

Background:
PC projects that require Dorset Council Highways interaction and agreement. To set up a more formal working arrangement with DC Highways to progress those projects.

Dependencies:
DC Highways (DCH) approval and partial funding

Status/Next Steps:

1. School Crossing – **Meeting with DCH, Dorset Cllrs, School Head, LMPC 17 Dec where we agreed a revised proposal to go out for public consultation in spring and hope to have crossing in Summer25.**
2. Huntick Road Cycleway –Rozalia Meadows to Jubilee Walk. Submit a formal request to DCH.
3. High Street Crossing – **Need to move this forwards as part of 20mph justification – revisit DCH notes and consider next steps.**
4. Tesco Island – Create formal notice to Tesco of intentions with DCH approval. Planning application submitted.
5. 20 MPH Zones – Apply for central village area to be set to 20 mph. AH submitted application Aug 2024. **Received response – only Wareham Road from R&C to Dillons Gardens. WH have made counter proposal to DCH which is with them for review: factors include High Street + School Crossing.**
6. Huntick Road path – New Working group specifically for this project, has met and progressing initiatives. Step is to request lower speed limits on Huntick Road – **Traffic surveys just completed but one needs to be redone. Expectation is that the data should make the road a viable candidate for 40mph.**

Financial Forecast: **(£000's, excluding VAT)**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**	**2027-28**
Expense to date			
Forecast	210[1]	0	250[2]
Total	210	0	250

Notes:
1. High St crossing 75, 20MPH – 30, Huntick cycleway stage 2 – 35, Tesco forecourt - 80
2. Huntick cycleway stage 3 – 250 LMPC contribution to overall cost.

Notes from Teams meeting 17 Dec 2024:

Present:

3 members from Dorset Highways

3 Dorset Cllrs

LMPS Head

Andrew Huggins + Alf Bush

DCH explained that they had taken our latest proposal into consideration and the points we had raised, and they presented a new proposal, which is a Zebra Crossing in much the position where the current lollipop crossing is, but with a reduced layby comprising one parking space, and parking restrictions reduced to the minimum.

Reason for preference for this location was that mid way between the two entrances satisfies nobody, and many people will cut across and not use the designated crossing point at all.

The majority of people do approach the school from the Village end, and statistically the number of additional houses planned for Wareham Road will add a further 25 school pupils which is not a huge proportion. If this drastically changes then there may be a case for a second crossing lower at that time.

We discussed many other considerations – the bus stop will need to be relocated to between the entrances. The Crossing Patrol person will be retained, funded by LMPC but this will be reviewed annually. We considered the one parking space in the (reduced) layby, and that the café is about to close. DCH said that the crossing proximity to the entrances to th eHannams flats, and the School Entrance was not a significant concern. We discussed single yellow timed parking restrictions but were advised that a zebra Crossing is 24/7, not just a school crossing, so the road marking dependencies were applicable at all times.

Overall we were all in agreement that this proposal is one that we all support and will go to public consultation in the spring and hope os support so it will be built in the summer holidays 2025– there IS budget put aside for it by DCH.

LMPC will undertake to publicise the proposal prior to the consultation so that it gets a positive outcome.

Cllr Huggins to take the lead on this publicity, but DCH offered to do a public drop in session at the school to explain If desired.