

CHANGES

V11 summarises the progress made and work outstanding after a progress meeting with Mr Daniel Tiffney, Cllr Maria Shankland May 2023
All updates in Red in Annex A and B. The next progress meeting will be confirmed shortly.

FAIRFORD TOWN TRANSPORT PLAN



“Transport planning is a relatively new concept having evolved from transport being originally a self-motivated and self-managed activity, to one that is now a fundamental component of engaging in modern-day life and successful function of any area.”¹ (The Good Councillor’s Guide to Transport Planning, 2019.)

Fairford has an exciting vision for its future both as a thriving market town and a wonderful place for residents and visitors to enjoy. However, as more and more traffic has come on to the roads of the United Kingdom, the Town has before it an important challenge to ensure that all forms of transport can occur safely, at an appropriate quantity and with full consideration to striking a balance between local business prosperity, access for all and the environment. The Fairford Transport Plan (FTP) will provide the actions required to meet this challenge.

Additionally, this Plan contains a list of immediate safety critical repairs and improvements required to the Town’s current transport infrastructure. The Town Council would like to draw GCC Highways attention to Annex B where these repairs and improvements are listed for their urgent attention.

VISION

To create a safe transport environment which allows full accessibility to all homes, businesses and hospitality venues in an environmentally friendly way.

OBJECTIVES

The Town Council has set the following objectives to achieve the vision of the FTP:

1. **Safety.** Safety must come before all other considerations. Therefore, the first objective of the FTP is to achieve the following safety improvements ASAP:
 - a. Ensure GCC Highways actions all safety critical repairs and improvements listed at Annex B
 - b. Establish a 20 MPH speed limit within the centre of the Town as depicted at Annex A. While Fairford’s road structure has remained the same for decades, its population has soared. This limit is essential to balance the increase of both pedestrians and vehicles safely. **Action GCC Highways.**

¹ <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/3070-the-good-councillor-s-guide-to-transport-planning-1/file>

- c. Establish an extended 30 MPH limit the East and West approaches to Fairford as depicted at Annex A. Ensure the current and extended 30 MPH limit areas are accompanied by the correct and regulated lighting. This is essential to safely provide for the new estates which currently border 40 MPH limits where children have to cross roads on the way to school. **Action GCC Highways and Cllr Maria Shankland**
 - d. To ensure compliance with the new speed limits, invite the Police and Road Safety Partnership to regularly conduct speed checks in the Town. **Action GCC Highways and Cllr Maria Shankland**
 - e. Add signage on the East and West approach to the 30 MPH limit to alert drivers for the need to slow down. **Action GCC Highways.**
 - f. Resolve the long-standing parking situation at Victory Villas.
2. **Create Full Accessibility for All.** Due to the age of the Town and its rapid expansion significant impediments to accessibility now exist. This objective sets out to address these problems:
- a. Establish drop-curb access at regular intervals on all pavements throughout Fairford to ensure the Town does not present transport barriers to those with mobility issues. The new locations included at Annex B. **Action GCC Highways.**
 - b. Establish safe crossings which should be at 'Grade' or 'Above' at the following vulnerable points throughout the town:
 - i. Fairford Gate at Pips Field Way.
 - ii. Leafield Rd end of Lovers Lane.
 - iii. Keble Fields.
 - iv. Crossing London Rd at East End Rd.
 - v. Crossing London Rd at Cinder Lane.**Action GCC Highways.**
 - c. Invest in a Joint Venture between Fairford Council and RAF Fairford to provide a bus from RAF Fairford into and around Town at busy times of the day. This is important for the following reasons:
 - i. Between now and 2024 the RAF Fairford community will grow by approximately 700 people. A bus will allow a balance to be struck between ensuring traffic density does not increase with more families and service personnel driving from the Base into Town while still ensuring local businesses prosper.
 - ii. If an effective solution such as a bus is not invested in, emissions and noise will rise from the increase in traffic density caused by the growing base population. A likely consequence would be that Fairford's environment would be damaged.**Action Fairford Town Council and RAF Fairford Senior Leadership Team.**
 - d. To complement the new bus route, developing the pathway from the Market Place over Dilly's Bridge and towards the Base would encourage both Base Personnel and the Town's residents to walk into Fairford thereby increasing accessibility and protecting our environment.
Action Fairford Town Council and Public Rights of Way.

3. **Enable Business to Thrive.** As our country enters the post-pandemic era, ensuring every assistance is given to local businesses is essential. This objective sets out to help our businesses from a transport perspective:
- a. Actively promote new greener ways to enter Fairford and access our businesses on foot, by use of the car park, cycle lanes and the bus. This will be started by adding three new cycle racks around the Town Centre and reviewing with GCC Highways where cycle lanes can be installed in and around the Town. The initial cycle ways proposed are along Park St and Leafield Rd, but a more holistic approach will be investigated as described in para 4.C.
 - b. By decreasing the level of transiting industrial and commuter traffic a safer environment will be provided where residents feel more confident to come into the Town.
- Action Cllr Maria Shankland and GCC Highways.**

4. **Ensure all aspects of FTP deliver a more environmentally friendly Fairford.**

There are many areas of this plan which can be used to enhance the environment of Fairford. Emission reduction is of course one key area, but so is noise reduction. Limiting damage caused to our infrastructure by HGVs and high volumes of traffic which currently transit through Fairford daily is key to reducing both emissions and noise. The objectives and actions set in this area are therefore:

- a. Liaise with Poulton and Lechlade Councils and GCC Highways to identify why HGVs travel through both towns and the village of Poulton and find a solution to reduce the quantity of this type of traffic on this route. Investigate with GCC Highways if a weight limit can be imposed on the Town Bridge to help reduce HGV traffic. **Town Councils and GCC Highways.**
- b. Decrease the level of traffic, congestion and pollution in Fairford while still enabling and encouraging access to all businesses and hospitality venues by initiating a social media and traditional messaging campaign to encourage use of the car park at the North end of the High Street and promote the positive health and environmental effects of walking and cycling into the Town for local residents and visitors. Facilitate the latter by the addition of cycle lanes and 3 new cycle racks in the centre of Fairford. **Action Cllr Shankland.**
- c. Link the review of cycle lanes around Fairford with the Gloucestershire LTP plan for a cycle route from Cirencester to Lechlade. **FTC and GCC Highways.**
- d. Ensure the provision of electric car charging points in the Town Car Park. Initial action, follow up on the GCC trail taking place in Gloucester and Cheltenham. **Action GCC Highways and Cllr Simon O'Connell.**

CONCLUSION - IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

The Fairford Town Council Planning and W&C Committees will lead the implementation of the FTP and ensure it achieves its objectives and in turn, its vision. The initial implementation of the plan involves reaching agreement with GCC on our Vision and Objectives to secure the necessary funding for the work required to achieve each objective. The first step towards achieving this agreement will be taken by reviewing this plan with

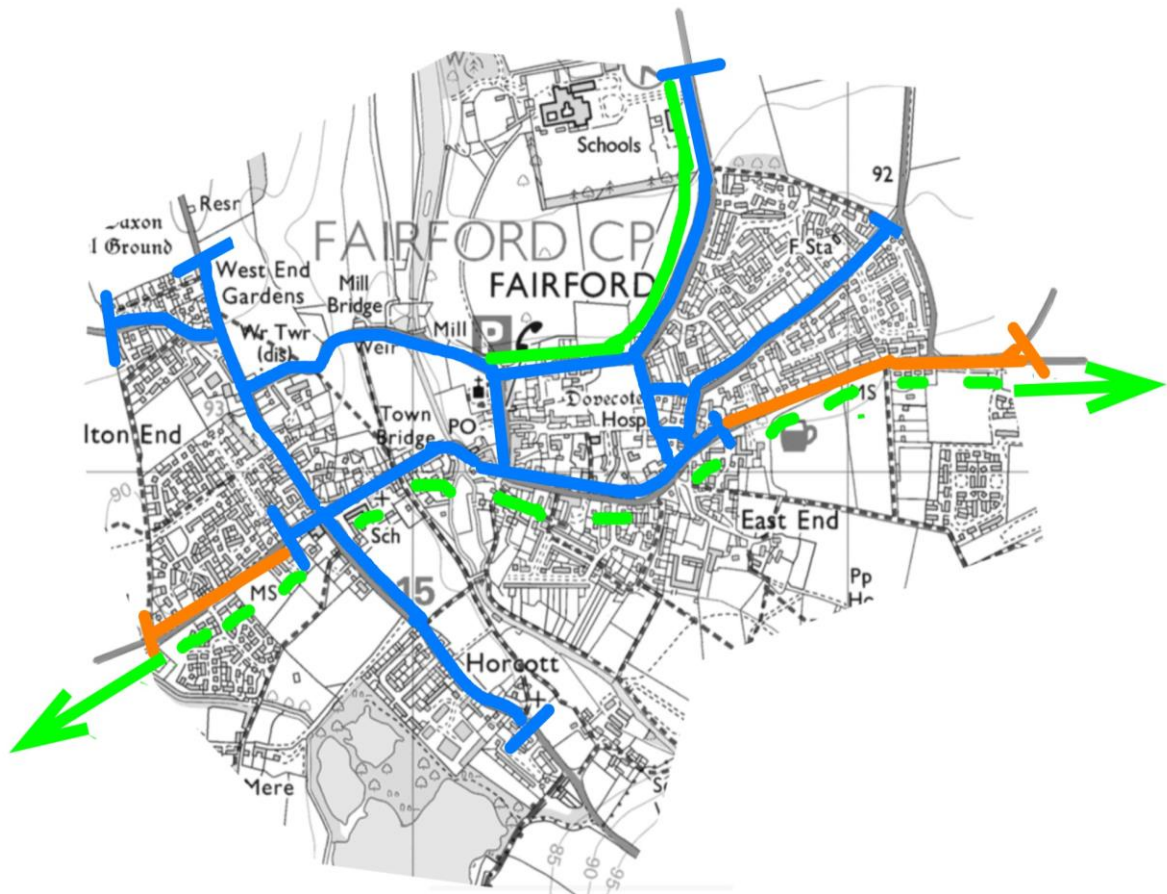
GCC Highways in a face-to-face meetings at regular intervals throughout the year. Thereafter, both committees will ensure each objective is seen through to its completion to achieve our vision of a safe transport environment in Fairford which allows full accessibility to all homes, businesses and hospitality venues in an environmentally friendly way.

For any questions of lines of development associated with the Fairford Transport Plan contact Cllr Maria Shankland on maria@fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk.

Annex A

Charges to 30 MPH limit, introduction of 20 MPH limit and addition of the first cycle lane
Dec 2021

1 of 1



Requested changes

BLUE New 20 MPH Zone

ORANGE Extended 30 MPH Zone

GREEN (Park St and Leafield Rd) Proposed first cycle lane

Proposed future changes

GREEN (Dashed) Indication of intention to provide a cycle lane through the

GREEN (Arrows) Town

Indication of intention to connect Cirencester and Lechlade

Update 28.11.2022

Consultation deadline 15th December

Questions raised over the terminal points of the 30mph – it should extend past Keble Fields Estate

Mill lane to be included in the 20mph.

Query over the relationship between this TRO and the GCC policy of 20mph on residential streets.

ACTION: DT to raise with TRO team and report back

ACTION: FTC to comment formally after 6th Dec Planning meeting.

14th November

A county wide consultation was in progress and would complete in Autumn 2022. FTC is in prime position to implement its 20mph (and extension of 30mph and 40 mph zones) as all work, including speed and volume surveys, the TRO is in progress and police advice has been received (supporting the changes). Action – to follow up with Dan in November 2022 with a view to a local consultation ahead of implementation.

7th Feb 22:

1. The Gloucestershire Police confirmed the speed survey results allow for the proposed speed limit changes to take place in principle. After the changes have been made some monitoring and tweaking may be needed in the form of potential road narrowing to the East of Fairford and a potential physical change on Horcott Rd.
2. It is suggested that the 20 MPH limit on Horcott Rd starts abeam the entrance to the industrial estate.
3. As traffic doesn't generally break limits formal police enforcement is unlikely. FTC will initiate the community speed enforcement program with training provided by the Police.
4. Highways have initiated the TRO process. An initial report will be given to FTC by Mr Tiffney in the near future. After that the formal TRO process will continue with consultation between professional bodies prior to an exact proposal being produced.
5. Further public consultation via the Newsletter will then take place prior to a ticket being raised for the work.
6. 30 MPH zones will be added on Welsh Way and Coronation St to the North of the proposed 20MPH zone
7. Alongside the 11.5K that FTC has given to this project, Cllr Morris agreed to assist with extra finance if required as did Mr Tiffney.

May 2023

TRO scheme in Fairford (20mph, 30mph)

Fairford Town Council had a recent meeting with the TRO team (Traffic Regulation Order Team), Gloucestershire Highways and Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) in relation to feedback provided by Fairford Town Council (FTC) to the proposed speed reduction scheme in Fairford.

TRO team has summarised key principles of setting up local speed limits, some aspects and constraints of funding, resources and implementation tools.

FTC and GCC have provided some additional insight on the reasons behind the proposal including local residents feedback and inquired about how near misses, active travel and residents voices are considered in setting up the speed limit.

Some areas that were discussed included the extension of the 30mph speed limit on the East side and West side of Fairford on A417 London Road. West side was mutually agreed to extend to Welcome to Fairford sign with exploration of the traffic calming measures to ensure the compliance. East side of Fairford is still in discussion around the termination points of 30mph and appropriate measures. TRO team will have another internal review with a further discussion with FTC.

In addition to High Street and Park Street that were included in TRO team proposal for the 20mph zone, Fairford Town Council has explained their reasons behind the request for further extension of 20mph speed limit along Leafield Road, and some other areas in the centre of Fairford (Bridge Street, Mill Lane, Coronation Street, Milton Street, The Lower Croft) forming a better consistency, safer access to some local amenities and a future cycle route around town. GCC has supported FTC in their proposal and it was agreed, that in light of the additional information, TRO team will discuss it with their management team internally.

With regards to the additional traffic calming measures, FTC has previously applied for the VAS (Vehicle Activated signs) and has the speed guns available to support with the Community Speed Watch. In addition FTC has successfully applied for funding for speed cameras.

A survey is due to be carried out by the Police to agree locations for CSW+ cameras to be installed.

Gloucestershire Highways have confirmed that they have some additional speed surveys completed for the 20mph areas in query and will provide them to the TRO team for further consideration. Next meeting is scheduled towards the end of June 2023.

ANNEX B

Immediate Repairs and Improvements Required to Current Infrastructure Dec 2021

This annex contains requests for immediate repair to current transport infrastructure along with safety improvements which are urgently required to cope with our increased population and traffic density.

The repairs are listed in priority order of safety and are urgent.

The improvements were assessed by FTC and a transport professional and are commended to GCC Highways for implementation to mitigate the risk of the Town's larger population and increased road traffic. FTC would like to draw GCC Highway's attention specifically to the dangerous situation facing school children crossing London road at the most Easterly point of Fairford.

Repairs

B.R.1

Location: Exit of Pips Field Way onto A417

Issue: The contrast red surfacing alerting drivers to the 30mph limit is worn away.

Action: GCC Highways to repair 30 MPH contrast surfacing.

UPDATE 28.11. 22. Improvement subject to where the new speed limit boundaries lie. On hold until speed limit boundary confirmed.

~~B.R.2~~

~~Location: Exit of alley way adjacent to the Bull Hotel and A417.~~

~~Issue: Deformation of pedestrian safety barrier.~~

~~Action: Cllr Morris.~~

UPDATE 15th August 22. Completed!

B.R.3

Location: Throughout the Town (with the worst examples on Coronation St, Mill Lane and around the Market Place).

Issue: Eroded pavement drains with sharp rusted edges in need urgent of repair before injury is caused.

Action: GCC Highways replace all damaged pavement drains in Fairford starting with the priority list provided by FTC and then moving on to fix all affected drains.

UPDATE 15 August. Work still not completed, Dan committed to escalating this work. Check progress at the next meeting.

UPDATE 28.11.22 – a ticket has been raised and this work will be completed by the end of March 2023.

7 Feb 22

4 drains have been checked near Bridge road and will be done by April 22. GCC Highways will do the rest of the priority list after April 22.

~~B.R.4~~

~~Location: Southern T-Junction in Market Square.~~

~~Issue: Anti-skid surfacing completely worn away.~~

~~Action: GCC Highways replace anti-skid surfacing.~~

~~UPDATE 15 August 22. Work planned with new contractor. Check at next meeting.~~

~~UPDATE 28.11.22 — a ticket has been raised and this work will be completed by the end of March 2023.~~

~~The modern solution to this anti-skid surfacing is a 2 tone covering of the same area costing 10K.~~

~~Funding is now in place — 3K from Highways, 2K from Cllr Morris and 5K from FTC.~~

~~Mr Tiffney will now apply for the road closure on London Rd and raise a ticket for the work which will take place this summer.~~

~~Update May 2023 COMPLETED~~

B.R.5

~~Location: Crossroads at the Northern end of the Market Square.~~

~~Issue: These drop kerbs were put in without the required studs.~~

~~Action: GCC Highways install studs on both drop kerbs.~~

~~UPDATE 15 August 22. Completed!~~

B.R.6

Location: Junction of Park St and The Croft, Cinder Lane and Hatherop Lane

Issue: Flooding of drop curve crossing. This crossing is on the way to both the Primary and Secondary Schools so experiences high volumes of pedestrians.

Action: GCC Highways fix the flooding on this drop curve crossing.

UPDATE 15 August 22. This piece of work is proving costly and as yet has no completion date. Dan committed to escalate if required but suggested it won't be done until FY23/24. As this is on key pedestrian traffic routes suggest the issue is escalated by FTC via Cllr Morris.

This item was in Cllr Smith's instructions to be completed. As of 7 Feb 22 this had not been done.

At the October progress meeting Mr Tiffney suggested a gulley tapped into a soakaway would be investigated and noted that this issue needs to be resolved on both sides of the road.

As at 13 Dec 21 the GCC Drainage Team have been commissioned to do a infiltration test which would be done by Apr 22 and the build next completed next FY. Both FTC and Cllr Morris asked GCC Highways for this process to be expedited as it causes so much disruption to pedestrians.

A similar situation exists on Cinder Lane and Hatherop Lane – these locations were handed to GCC Highways for them to investigate.

7 Feb 22 – no fast track available. Infiltration test commissioned. Date from drainage team unknown. By next meeting if no action, Cllr Morris will elevate.

UPDATE 28.11.22 – Cllr Morris keen to get this problem addressed.

ACTION: DT to go back to Atkins to request they revisit the issue and look at soakaways in the adjacent park

ACTION: DT to commission drawings for gullies to drain away surface water as an alternative solution.

Cinder Lane drainage – the soak way located at Treleigh, London Road (private residence) needs to be rebuilt. This will be programmed in to the next financial year.

B.R.6.

Location: Various.

Issue: Pathway repairs.
Action: GCC Highways.

Update 15 August 2022. The work has been assessed and costed, but did not have a date to complete. Check progress at next meeting.

UPDATE 7 Feb 22.

P1 – path from Catholic Church to Dilly's Bridge. Urgent tarmac resurfacing required on sections. Visited by Ian Soule (PROW) on 06.12.2021. raised as a safety issue. Requires urgent attention.

~~P2 – Section of path from Dilly's Bridge to Back Lane. Urgent hoggin type surface required, reprofiling to create camber and wooden edging to be replaced. Visited by Ian Soule (PROW) on 06.12.2021. raised as a safety issue. Requires urgent attention.~~

~~UPDATE 28.11.22 – work commissioned and will take place in Jan 23 – jointly funded by FTC & PROW.~~

~~May 2023 – COMPLETED~~

P3 – Path from East End to Keble Lawns. Tree roots causing the surface to break making it impassable for wheelchair users. Also the camber of the slope to the road edge is too steep and badly angled. Visited by Ian Soule (PROW) on 06.12.2021. raised as a safety issue. Requires work to level the path and re-site the dropped kerb to make safe.

ACTION: DT & PROW to consider for 23/24.

Improvements

OF ALL IMPROVEMENTS B.I.1 AND 2 ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT AND URGENT FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

B.I.1

Location: Eastern approach to Fairford just after the junction of the A417 and Morecombe Way (currently in a 40mph limit).

Issue: The speed limit is too high. This is now an area which is home to a large new housing estate with many parents and children walking to school daily. A lower speed limit has been requested and detailed in Annex A, however, with immediate effect increased awareness of the level of pedestrians and school children is required in the form of additional signage.

~~Action: GCC Highways is requested to:~~

~~A. – Install Slow Children Crossing signs on both sides of the road. These are available at [safety signs for less](#) for just £41.~~

~~B. – Paint two slow down signs on the road. One before the junction in B.I.1 and one after it. These are available at competitive prices at [Riggotts](#).~~

~~Update 15 August 2022. This work is largely complete, just waiting some elements of the 'boost' agreed below. Check with Dan on progress at the next meeting.~~

UPDATE 28.11.22 – see TRO

UPDATE 7th Feb 2022.

A and B Completed. A 'Boost' was agreed by Cllr Morris and Mr Tiffney to further highlight the crossing.

Update May 2023 – see TRO

B.I.2

Location: Just East of the junction of the A417 and Hatherop Lane.

Issue: This is the drop kerb where all parents and children from the new estates to the East of Fairford cross the road on the way to school or when coming into the Town. Not only is this crossing in a dangerous 40mph zone, foliage pictured prevents pedestrians from getting a clear view of the traffic before crossing.

Action: GCC Highways is requested to *immediately* remove enough foliage so that pedestrians have a clear and safe view of oncoming traffic.

~~UPDATE 15 August 2022 . Completed. GCC committed to monitor this and keep the view sufficient to enable safe crossings.~~

B.I.3

Location: Exit from Honeybone Close onto A417 on Western approach to Fairford.

Issue: Inadequate path prior to the start of the normal pavement surface causing difficulty for pedestrian access from the West of Fairford into the Town.

Action: GCC Highways add proper pavement to join the exit from Honeybone Close with the start of the pavement in picture 2.



Picture 1

Picture 2

~~UPDATE 15 August 2022. Completed!~~

~~7 Feb 2022~~

~~Barrier installation in Picture 1 Complete. Cllr Morris has requested action to solve the inadequate pavement from Cllr Stephen Andrew.~~

B.I.4

Location: Crossroads of A417, Coronation St and Horcott Road.

Issue: There are no accessible crossing points on this junction which is now used by many new residents going to and from the schools and the Town. This means that anyone with reduced mobility or pushing a pram etc struggles to cross safely.

Action. GCC Highways install three drop curve crossing points around the crossroads. One on Horcott Road, one on Coronation St and one crossing the A417 in front of the Marlborough Arms pub or in front of Coln House School.

UPDATE 15 August 2022. A recent meeting of Phil, Roz and Dan had taken place on site. Dan committed to progressing this issue to find a safe pedestrian solution around this

crossroads. Check progress at the next meeting. Possible escalation via Cllr Morris may be required due to the potential scale and cost of this project.

7 Feb 2022

Mr Tiffney and FTC agreed this is a complicated issue to solve, but that to enable pedestrian access to the Town from the growing population at this end of Fairford it is one for which a solution must be found. On top of this from the perspective of encouraging pedestrian access to Fairford and decreasing car journeys. Into the Town, this item is crucial to solve.

Feb: Progress meeting 31 March 2022 will start at the cross roads for a detailed explanation of this problem. At this point the issue of signage for HGVs will be highlighted and resolved.

UPDATE 28.11.22 4 dropped kerbs have been proposed at a cost of circa £16k. Match funding to be sought FTC & GCC.

Prior to final design the location of the kerbs and any additional safe crossing measure should be considered in order to make the crossing as safe as possible.

**UPDATE May 2023 – Cllr Shankland & Dan Tiffney has a site meeting on 9th June 2023.
Notes to be added.**

B.I.5

~~Location: Junction of Hatherop Lane and Hatherop Road.~~

~~Issue: There are no crossing points on this junction for the many pedestrians that use this route to travel to and from the schools.~~

~~Action: GCC Highways is requested to:~~

~~A. Add a dropped curve crossing point on Hatherop Road to the West of Hatherop Lane.~~

~~B. Add the Slow Children Crossing signs to highlight crossing to drivers.~~

UPDATE 15 August 2022- Completed

B.I.6 – NEW

Keep clear markings, parking and traffic speeds at Quenington Road/Dynevor Terrace/ West End Gardens have been flagged by residents as an issue.

UPDATE: - DT in email correspondence with resident.

B.I.7 – NEW

Erosion of the verge on The Croft.

UPDATE: - DT in email correspondence with resident.

B.I.8 – NEW

Look at installing zebra crossing at Keble Fields crossing once TRO is in place.

B.I.9 – NEW

Victory Villas verge.

ACTION: DT to cost up tarmacking the existing area in order that it can continue to be used for parking, but more formally and protects the existing services.

Query – could a footpath be included?

Query – would residents support the scheme?