

Millbrook Parish Council

Traffic & Transport Advisory Task Group meeting

Held Monday, 7th February 2022 at 7:00pm

Notes from the meeting

Present: Cllr E Woffenden (Chair of the TTATG), N Roberts, S Lewis, N Roberts.
Mr Jim Woffenden (JW), Cornwall Cllr Kate Ewert and Mrs K Heald, Parish Clerk

Apologies received from Cllrs Taggart, Wilton and S Woffenden.

Cllr Elisa Woffenden opened the meeting at 7:05pm

1. To review the Traffic & Transport Advisory Task Group's Terms of Reference

Cllr Roberts highlighted a grammatical error for point 1.2. Remove 'of' after 'comprise'. Subject to this amendment the group recommended the Terms of Reference are approved by the Full Council. The Clerk said the terms state the group can have non-Councillors as members, but they would need the approval of the Full Council.

2. Introduction of Mr Jim Woffenden

Cllr E Woffenden introduced Mr J Woffenden who has agreed to join the group as a temporary member. JW gave brief introduction. His background is in transport planning – looking at strategies and transport approaches. For the last thirteen years JM has worked for Plymouth City Council and has experience on sustainable transport issues.

3. Update on Cornwall Community Network Panel Highway Improvement Schemes.

Update from CC Kate Ewert.

The new Highways Scheme has been announced for this coming financial year. Instead of the Community Network Panel having the final say on what schemes to put forward the decision will be down to the five Cornwall Councillors who are members of the scheme. The Councillors will consider the advice of the whole panel. Approximately £11,000 per Cornwall Councillor will be available. For the first year, expressions of interest will need to be submitted by the end of February 2022. The submissions will be accessed by Highways, these will be priced and decided whether they are deliverable. Projects need to be deliverable for the next financial year.

The goals for Cornwall Transport are:

- tackle climate change
- support economic prosperity
- support healthy active lifestyles and wellbeing
- support community and road safety
- provide equal opportunities for everyone

Any successful application under this scheme will need to address at least one of the goals. CC Kate Ewert said the issues around the West Street Narrows / Hounster Hill will be a big piece of work and will not be deliverable within the next financial year, more likely the year after but suggested an expression of interest is submitted so that it is flagged up as a Millbrook issue.

4. Updates on Hounster Hill Feasibility Study

Update from CC Kate Ewert: The initial report will be ready by the end of this month.

The intelligent transport data collection is scheduled for April. A meeting will take place with Aecom after the video work has been completed.

Options being currently being considered for recommendation are traffic lighting, junction restructuring and a height and weight restriction for the Peninsula.

5. To review communication from the resident of Island House and consider options regarding parking along New Road.

CC Kate Ewert has received a lot of emails from residents regarding New Road. Drivers are having to accelerate too quickly to get into the passing spots. Residents have requested yellow lines on both sides and parking bays along the grass verge. The cars are used as traffic calming.

Having discussed the issue with the Cormac Highways Manager, Mr Will Glassup, currently there are two stretches of the yellow lines, which were installed a long time ago. Mr Glassup put forward a potential solution of three factors of yellow lines, with a more uniform spot to allow traffic to pull in and go past. Within the traffic regulation order (TRO) the yellow lines could be extended along by Island House, which is a current hazard for the residents when pulling out of the driveway.

Recommendation: Redesign the yellow lines along New Road following a design put forward by Cormac Highways.

6. To consider recommendations regarding the child safety issues by Millbrook Tractor Park.

A document was produced showing the existing entrances to the tractor park.

Following discussion, it was agreed to investigate the options of:

- Removing the existing internal entrance to the tractor park (which is extremely boggy) and move the gate further along, opposite the skate park
- Relocate the entrance to the tractor park to along Southdown Road (near the boulder).
- To stop the issue of children being able to run out close to the road a kissing gate / double-gate style is installed.
- A drop kerb is installed along Southdown Road, opposite the proposed new entrance.

Recommendation: pursue proposal to redesigning the tractor park entrances.

The Clerk said the CIL funding could be used for this purpose.

7. To discuss the provision of bike racks in the parish and recommend locations.

The Clerk said a request has been received from a parishioner to install bike racks. JW forwarded a link to Bikeaways (secure lockers for bikes). The Council would need to cover the upfront costs and the individuals would pay for the annual rent.

A suggestion was raised to install bike racks along the paved area by the car park signage.

JW suggested approaching the Co-op to see if a bracket / hitching post could be installed for bike racks. **Action:** Clerk to approach Co-op and put forward options regarding bike rack / cycle security to the full council.

8. To consider revisiting the installation of a disabled parking bay in the village hall car park (previously not actioned due to Covid / the former Clerk being unable to get hold of the supplier)

The action was not pursued due to the Covid and the former clerk not being able to make contact with suppliers.

Recommendation: Installation of a disabled parking pay is actioned.

9. To consider the recommendation to purchase ‘please turn off your engine whilst stationery’ signage.

The group discussed the issue of the cars leaving their engines running whilst parking along West Street. The Clerk showed images of signage.

Having contacted Cormac Highways requesting advice on installing signage on lamp posts the following response was received.

“Unfortunately, the requested sign would be classed as illegal signage and would not be granted permission, even with its good intentions. Has MPC thought of asking the residents to place them on their property?”

The lamp posts are also Highways Electrical within Cornwall Council, and I cannot give permission for their apparatus – I have copied them into the email trail.

I have forwarded you email to Cornwall Council’s Community and Environmental Protection Manager. Hopefully there are relevant initiatives from Cornwall Council that can help with the Parish Councils drive.”

Recommendation: To contact the school to see if they would support an initiative highlighting the issue.

10. To agree priorities and next steps to address the traffic & transport issues in the parish.

Parish Council led / funded (more immediate action)	Cornwall Community Gateway Network Panel
Require a TRO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘No loading’ on the Tanyard corner • Review double yellow lines along New Road • Redesign the play park entrance points and install drop kerbs. • Installation of dropped kerbs along Millpool Head. 	Immediate action Child Safety measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottom of Blindwell Hill • St Johns Road
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate bike racks / cycle security options. • Disabled parking bay in the village hall car park. • Pursue a community led ‘turn off car engine’ project. • Remarking of tarmac in Dodbrook (CC Kate Ewert to check with Highways when scheduled). 	Highlight as priority for next year Hounster Hill / The Narrows.

JW asked if the projects have to be delivered within 2022-23. CC Kate Ewert agreed to contact Highways and enquire whether a build out would be deliverable within 2022-23 or if there would be the option for the design work to be funded by the scheme.

The Clerk referred the group to Cormac’s Review of Safety Concerns from 2016:

<https://millbrook-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Cormac-Consultancy-Road-Safety-Report.pdf>

Cllr E Woffenden closed the meeting at 21:00hrs.