

HIGHWAYS REPORT

MONDAY, 18 APRIL 2005

by Mrs S D Beazer

HIGHWAYS REPORT - MONDAY, 18 APRIL 2005BOX ROAD

Following the speed/volume count carried out on Box Road last year, the request to revise the restricted speed limit zone to include Box Road Gardens has now gone forward to the Draft Capital Programme for approval, the outcome of which should be made known in a couple of weeks. The speed limit following on from the Batheaston Bypass towards Box is now 40 mph.

The pathway from the Bus Stop (approximately opposite Dunsford Motors) leading to the Railway Bridge is in urgent need of renovation and hedge pruning. B&NES have been requested to carry out this work as soon as possible.

The road markings at the Roundabout were finally renewed at the end of July 2004.

WORK AT THE BYBROOK

Refurbishment of the Gauging Station at the Bybrook to measure the level of the river (wire under the river) was carried out in the summer by "Halcro".

Contact: Gregg George Tel: 01752-502988 (Plymouth) [Halcro].

CYCLE PATH [Contact Alison Sherwin Tel: 394049]

The proposal for a cycle path has been extensively investigated by Andy Ginn and the position to date is as follows:

The feasibility of different options is to be studied this Financial Year. Possibilities include items such as a proper bridge and path up to the canal, improvements to Batheaston High Street and the path along the river, changes to the bypass. We simply do not know yet. Any work would be carried out in Financial Year 2006/07 (if there is any!).

FOR MY INFORMATION ONLY (NOT TO BE READ)

[Notes from E-Mail from Alison Sherwin @ B&NES]

- a. The bridge pathway is too narrow and therefore does not give the recommended width for a shared use path of 2.5 to 3 metres for the path and 0.75 metre verge each side where there is a boundary.
 - b. The added problem of the pinch point at the south west side of the bridge; and
 - c. The steep inclines either side of the bridge would be difficult to achieve a minimum gradient without major engineering work.
- However, the plan is to request provision in next year's budget for at least a Feasibility Study to connect Batheaston to Bathford.

CHURCH STREET

Dangerous capping on the top of the high wall at **Church Street** was eventually repaired and replaced.

HIGH STREET

Confirmation has been received that money is available for a SLOW sign to be positioned at the top of the High Street. A date for provision however has still to be confirmed.

NOTICE BOARDS

The new Notice Board will be located on the corner of Westwoods and Box Road. The proposed new one for Morris Lane (approximately opposite the existing board) was turned down by B&NES because the location was not accessible ie no pathway. This needs more thought on our part.

*[Quotes for Hardboard Notice Board (Oak) = £760.00 each
from Jefferies Joinery, Unit 1, Greenway Farm, Bath Road, Wick
Bristol BS15 5RL]*

WARLEIGH LANE/A363

A **new anti-frost mirror** has now been fitted at the junction of Warleigh Lane and the A363 which is a great improvement. However, we are not complacent about the constant dangerous situation at this junction and are continually lobbying B&NES Highways Department for remedial action. Latest traffic calming measures provided are **count-down transverse bars and SLOW signs** on the upward approach to Warleigh Lane from The Crown. As at 5 April 2005, B&NES confirm that money is available for 2005 and I quote "Consultation letters will be put out very soon for **double white lines and speed limits**".

At last, after almost 2 years of pleading, the **cats eyes** on the dangerous bends at Sally-in-the-Woods have been replaced. It took almost 8 years to get a drainage system so I suppose we ought to be grateful.– even though I became known as "Cat Woman" for a while!

BIRDCAGE WALK

For several months now I have been vainly trying to get some action on the repair of the Birdcage Walk steps. The situation is slightly complicated in that ownership of the steps is in question, but I will persevere nevertheless. We have recently erected a Birdcage Walk sign which hopefully will hasten repeated requested strimming action etc - it seems hitherto hindered by inadequate signage!

The bollard at the Dovers Park to Post Office slipway has now been removed for easier access by wheelchairs and pushchairs.

BUS SHELTERS

The request for the Bus Shelter adjacent the Green to be filled in on one side at the last APM has caused quite a few problems. Glass proved to be far too expensive and we asked for comments via the Bathford Bulletin. To date none have been received. We have to be very careful with considerations of overall appearance plus the undoubtedly unwelcome arrival of disruptive individuals.

A Parish Plan suggestion for a Bus Shelter to be provided upwards from The Crown instead of the present open air situation is now being progressed.

PROSPECT PLACE

There was considerable and justified concern in Prospect Place last June 2004 when several vehicles lost control from Monkton Farleigh and consequently careered downwards into Prospect Place, demolishing property, cars and the stile. Incredibly no-one was hurt. As a result of this, a petition was sent to B&NES and the Police for the urgent provision of ONE WAY only access upwards from the Narrow Track sign. But to date, no action.

And finally:

KINGSDOWN ROAD

B&NES have also been alerted several times about 2 or 3 dangerously leaning trees on the Kingsdown Road. We are still awaiting action.

Are there any any questions please?

1. ***RE: PROCEDURE FOR DOUBLE YELLOW LINES – As at 2000

The Review will probably take place within the next 12 months. This Review will cost approximately £80,000.00 for about 50 locations.

Public consultation will be carried out by B&NES as part of the TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) process.

TRO = Lengthy statutory procedure
Consultation with the Police
Public advertising
Consideration by the relevant Committee if objections to the proposals are received

Only a small number are processed each year.

2. FOLLOWING DECRIMINALISATION - AS AT APRIL 2003

Now via Dorothy Miley (395234) – Parking Team Leader

a. I sent her a copy of proposed Double Yellow Lines for Ashley Road and Dovers Park in March 2003.

b. Her reply dated 28 March 2003:

“Unfortunately I was not aware of this request. I will therefore include this in future proposals. I cannot estimate a date for processing yet but I will include it in a larger review that our consultancy will process. I shall keep you informed of it and the Parish will be contacted during the consultation.

B&NES suggestion the Parish Councillor contribute £2,000.00 towards Double Yellow Lines refused!!

3. AS AT MARCH 2005

Proposed D/Yellow Lines for Ashley Road, Dovers Park and Keep Clear markings in High Street advertised by B&NES.

Letter of complaint sent by Parish Council (and individuals) – time lapse between notices being displayed and length of time to complain inadequate.

HIGH STREET TRAFFIC CALMING - PRIORITY POINTS 1, 2 & 3

19 NOVEMBER 2001

Approved by Parish Council.

Displayed in the Post Office.

Put in Bathford Bulletin: Any comments to go to Nick Jeanes (Area Traffic Engineer (394256)).

Subsequent Action:

- a. Plan No 1: Mr & Mrs Rideal (just above Prospect Place) objected to Priority Point and it was subsequently moved (by B&NES) to just above New Road.
- b. Plan No 2: Residents of approx Nos 59-62 High Street objected to Priority Point and it was subsequently moved (by B&NES) to British Legion.
- c. **Traffic Calming Phase I (3 x Priority Points in High St) eventually installed February 2003.**

Subsequent uproar about Priority Point 1 (at British Legion) after 2 accidents but after Parish Council request to remove it, B&NES refused to remove it for at least 6 months.

- d. As at April 2004: Provision of 8 humps suggested by B&NES rejected by Parish Council for High Street.

Opted instead for:

- (i) Permanent Flashing SLOW DOWN 30 mph hour box (£6,000.00) – sited prior to approach to No 87 High Street (Wiltshire border entry to High Street).
- (ii) Resiting of 30 mph speed signs further back towards Wiltshire border.
- (iii) Additional build-out (£2,500.00) prior to Dovers Park to reduce traffic speed going DOWN.
- (iv) Provision of “Regular Speed Check” sign or similar.

As at April 2005:

- 1.. Still waiting for para.4 (i)-(iv) to be provided.
- 2. Priority Point 1 (British Legion) still in place.