

Meeting of Traffic Working Party held on 10.11.21 in the Town Council office,  
Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem at 14.00

Present: Cllrs P Broomhall, E Towers, G Soul, R Drummond – Wem Town Council  
Phillip Lloyd, Kevin Aitkin - Shropshire Council Traffic Team

Town Clerk – P O'Hagan, Apologies – Cllr Everett

Kevin presented the plan that had been drawn up of the proposed experimental one way system along with the list of the principal stakeholders who will be consulted on the order.

He explained that the principal stakeholder consultation will hopefully be completed by 30.11.21. It was suggested that the two schools in the town, Thomas Adams and St Peters be added to the principal stakeholders list as the proposals may impact on the transportation of the students into school.

Kevin explained that once the responses from the principal stakeholders had been received he would then compile a decision report based on the responses. It was likely that a decision on whether or not to proceed with the proposals would be made before Christmas.

In addition to the views of principal stakeholders an assessment into the impact that the proposals would have on different minority groups e.g. people with disabilities would also need to be undertaken.

It was anticipated that if the decision report recommends that the experimental order is to proceed it could be in place by mid January 2022.

A question was asked as to why the public were not to be consulted prior to the plans being put in place? -It was explained that Experimental Traffic Orders work differently to Traffic Regulation Orders and that the public consultation takes place during the experimental order not before.

### **Communication**

The view was expressed that the public would need to be informed in advance of the proposals.

**It was proposed that if the one way system was to be put in place the following communication should take place:**

- **As well as promotion through the normal channels a joint letter from both councils with a forward written by one of the Town's Shropshire Councillors should be sent to all households in advance of the experimental scheme being implemented.**
- **Shropshire Council will fund and draft a follow up consultation on the one way system which will be delivered to all households once the scheme had been up and running for 4 weeks. The results of this consultation would then help the decision making process around whether the order should be made permanent.**

It was explained that during the first 2 weeks of the scheme cones would be used to ensure that speeding does not become a problem. Later hatching would be used along with semi permanent signage.

Concern was expressed that as the public were not to be consulted prior to the scheme being implemented it was vital that Town Council staff and councillors were fully briefed on how experimental orders worked so that they could answer any queries from the public correctly.

**It was agreed that Kevin would provide a brief guide to the process of making experimental orders prior to the November Town Council meeting.**

### **Further Traffic Matters**

The following matters were also raised

- The need for traffic calming and a pedestrian crossing on Pyms Road
- The need for additional measures at Maunds Corner

**It was agreed that the one way system should be progressed before any further traffic reduction proposals were considered in relation to the town.**

The working party would meet again via zoom week commencing 6.12.21 to discuss the outcome of the principal stakeholder consultation.

The meeting ended at 14.55