

Updated review of LOWER STREET Issues with proposed actions

Your Parish Councillors continue their efforts to ameliorate the disruption caused by the various issues that have been increasingly impacting our community during the Summer of 2020. A review of the issues affecting residents and possible actions to reduce their impact, was published in August for consideration at the September Council meeting.

This updated review reflects the conclusions reached at that meeting and the actions taken during September 2020 to progress the proposed solutions.

Issue	Action taken	Possible additional action	Rationale
<p>Parking in a manner likely to put others at risk or impede traffic flow</p>	<p>Application to install double yellow lines at critical locations, see (Lower Street Experimental Yellow Lines- Proposal) agreed and submitted.</p> <p>Request to police for increased vigilance submitted.</p>	<p>Residents parking scheme in Lower Street</p> <p>Close off/ restrict, access to the river.</p>	<p>Double yellow lines have been proven to be effective, particularly where there is clear justification for their implementation. It is important to recognise that the installation proposed is not targeted at nuisance parking, but is expected to ensure unimpeded traffic flow.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the installation of double yellow lines will increase the justification for police response</p> <p>To be approved, a residents parking scheme will need to be monitored by a warden and fully funded by residents, with the requirement that at least 50% of residents will participate. The potential cost is likely to make such a scheme unviable for the number of properties involved. In addition, the experience of implementing such schemes has demonstrated that issues such as the number multi-car households can make schemes unworkable. Residents have not yet been formally asked to consider this.</p> <p>See separate report and (River Garden Plan)</p> <p>The employment of a warden, with or without a residents parking scheme in operation, is likely to prove financially</p>

		Employment of parking warden	unviable. The only possible consideration would be if neighbouring communities were interested in sharing the cost of a warden, however even this would still have significant implications for the level of precept that would be required to fund it.
Parking in a manner likely to inconvenience residents	<p>Greater use of 101 telephone reporting and Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) internet reporting by residents is encouraged.</p> <p>Requests made to police and Ipswich Borough Council (IBC) for increased vigilance.</p>	<p>Creation of off-road, visitor parking facility.</p> <p>Residents parking scheme in Lower Street</p> <p>Close off/ restrict, access to the river.</p> <p>Employment of parking warden</p>	<p><u>101 and CPE processes</u> have been established to provide facility for individual citizens to report transgressions directly, they are not intended for representational (i.e. council) use. The Parish Council will seek to promulgate awareness of the processes and facilitate their use through regular publication of relevant information.</p> <p>Initial approach to Black Horse re the possible use of the field adjacent to the A12 for visitor car parking. Response indicated that such action might be acceptable to management, but only if a Council funded attendant were to be appointed (<i>see rationale re parking warden, above</i>). This option, at this or an alternative location, remains under consideration.</p> <p>See rationales in respect of ‘residents parking’, ‘river access’ and ‘parking wardens’ provided for dangerous parking, above.</p>
Littering	Larger and additional litter bins, installed. Increased emptying rate arranged.	Removal of litter bin and installation of notices	A bin with greater capacity has been installed at the weir and the existing bin installed at the river garden. Arrangements made for increased frequency of emptying, during the period of high use in the summer.

		encouraging visitors to take litter away with them.	Consideration given to removal of bins to encourage visitors to take rubbish home but not considered likely to be effective. Option discarded.
Anti-social behaviour	<p>Greater use of 101 telephone reporting by residents to be promoted.</p> <p>Request submitted to police for increased vigilance.</p> <p>Preliminary enquiry re possible Public Space Protection Order made to Babergh District Council (<i>the body that will need to approve the issue of such an order</i>)</p>	Close off/ restrict, access to the river.	<p>See rationale provided in respect of nuisance parking, above. Effective action against anti-social behaviour is problematical. Offenders have to be observed in the act by the relevant authority or indisputable evidence of offence provided by those experiencing the behaviour. Both are difficult to deliver in practice. Ongoing action by council required to maintain residents' awareness of process and facilitate use.</p> <p>To supplement the recommended use of 101 telephone reporting the council has made provisional approach to BDC for a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Lower Street, (Public Space Protection Orders)</p> <p>See separate report</p>
Increased traffic volume and speed	A traffic survey has been requested to determine whether the perceived increase in traffic flow and speed along Lower Street, is factual.	Make application for a locally set speed limit.	<p>It is essential to obtain relevant evidence if any application for traffic control measures is to have any chance of success. The survey will run for ten days after which a report will be prepared however, we have to recognise that even if the perception of increased traffic flow and speeding is supported by the survey, the introduction of additional traffic calming measures will not necessarily be approved.</p> <p>Dependent upon the outcome of the survey.</p>

The parish council will continue to work on implementing the above actions and will review progress at the scheduled ZOOM meeting to be held on Monday 9th November 2020, parish residents are welcome to attend. Please contact the Clerk on parishcouncil@stratfordstmary.org.uk for details of the meeting or copy of related documents should internet access not be available.