

**PL/10/23**

Minutes of the **Planning Committee** meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

**Present:** Cllr. M. Cole JP Chairman  
 Cllr. F. Davies  
 Cllr. L. Draper  
 Cllr. J. Harvey  
 Cllr. A. Mahi  
 Cllr. A. Ralph Vice Chairman  
 Cllr. A. Schaefer Town Mayor  
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury

**Also present:** Mr. R. Newall Buckingham Society  
 Mr. S. Beech Compliance and Projects Manager  
 Ms. P. Cahill Committee Clerk  
 Mrs. K. McElligott Planning Clerk

**Via Zoom:** Cllr. J. Mordue

**Absent:** Mrs. C. Cumming  
 Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
 Cllr. M. Try  
 Cllr. R. Willett

No members of the public attended and so there was no public session.

The Mayor, on behalf of Buckingham Town Council, extended the Council's good wishes to the King for a speedy recovery.

**570/23 Apologies for Absence**

Members received and accepted apologies from Mrs. Cumming, Cllr. O'Donoghue, Cllr. Try and Cllr. Willett.

**571/23 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Stuchbury noted that, as a member of the North Buckinghamshire Area Planning Committee, he will not be voting on applications.

**572/23 Minutes**

Members agreed the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**573/23 Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan/Vale of Aylesbury Plan/  
Buckinghamshire Local Plan**

The Developers' Roadshow was successful with very good attendance; the Chairman has written to the developers, thanking them for taking part in the event.

Cllr. Stuchbury thanked the officers and councillors who attended for making it happen.

## 574/23 North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium

Cllr. Ralph gave a verbal report from their notes of the recent meeting:

- The new Secretary is now in place.
- Cllr. Ralph and Cllr. Hardcastle met with Cllr. Strachan with the aim of improving the relationship between Buckinghamshire Council and parish councils. They are still awaiting an invitation to a further meeting as agreed. This is being chased up.
- Cllr. Hardcastle has offered to run a meeting for parties interested in EDF renewables and solar farms.
- Cllr. Galloway from Newton Longville gave an update on the Buckinghamshire Local Plan and informed the Group that the Design Code for Salden Chase has now been agreed, but that Newton Longville Parish Council had not been invited to comment.
- Tilted balancing and five-year supplies of housing capability – it has been clarified that Buckinghamshire Council have a 4.7-year supply at the moment, not 4.5.
- A421 corridor study – information is being chased up on behalf of the NBPPC.
- Whaddon are expecting an application in the next few weeks for a solar farm and battery storage facility at Whaddon and the Nash valley.
- Regarding the request to ask the NBPPC to look further into why we are not always advised of applications in a timely manner (Q2 presented at the Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee), Cllr. Hardcastle is distributing this to all parish councils in the organisation.

Cllr. Stuchbury asked if the group would consider writing to Milton Keynes Council to request further information. Cllr. Ralph will ask the question at the next meeting.

## 575/23 Action List

- 575/23.1 Members received action reports as per the attached list.  
Cllr. Draper will meet with officers to formulate a motion for the next meeting regarding speed/lighting on the Tingewick Road.
- 575/23.2 Members received a response from DLUHC on sewage capacity.  
Cllr. Stuchbury suggested replying asking about legislation as there are no powers for councils and no consistency. Cllr. Harvey suggested waiting until we have a response from Anglian Water before replying and would like to ask for a precise definition of 'priority' in paragraph three. Members **AGREED** to wait for a reply before responding.

## 576/23 Planning applications

For Member's information the next scheduled Buckinghamshire Council – North Buckinghamshire Planning Area Committee meetings are on Wednesdays 14<sup>th</sup> February and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 2.30pm. Strategic Sites Committee meetings are on Thursdays 15<sup>th</sup> February and 14<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.

Members considered a response to planning applications received from Buckinghamshire Council and whether to request a call-in.

The following responses were all Proposed by Cllr. Cole, Seconded by Cllr. Ralph and **AGREED** by Members (except where noted). Cllr. Stuchbury abstained.

**23/03907/APP**

**OPPOSE**

36 Chandos Road

Existing HMO extension to create 5 rooms with shared facilities and utility/storage.

*Members' response was agreed before a site notice was posted in the neighbourhood. If, after the statutory notice has been posted, neighbours make comment and possibly raise valid planning reasons not obvious to Members viewing from the public domain, they reserve the right to amend their response.*

*Members acknowledged that the town needed single-person accommodation, but in an appropriate place – and this was not suitable. Members had opposed the conversion of the house into 7 HMO units, 23/1938/APP (approved 13/10/23), and this addition could add considerably more on-street parking on a narrow street with a primary school close by, and the school transport bus stop for the Royal Latin School further along. The houses opposite are Edwardian and have no garage or driveway parking so the road is reduced to single carriageway for much of its length, making access for buses and emergency vehicles problematic. Members noted and agreed with BC Highways' opposition to the application on the grounds of insufficient parking.*

*The relocation of the cycle parking to the front garden implied the loss of the landscaping to the street scene and is a much less secure place than that in the gated rear garden currently approved.*

*There was no response from Waste & Recycling on the document list, but it was noted that the drawings showed 12 bins – 6 green and 6 blue – where the approved plans for the previous application showed 16 (8 of each), and this was surely not adequate for 13 units of occupation.*

*The D&A Statement was that prepared for the previous application and did not address the changes made by the proposed extension.*

**24/00021/APP**

**NO OBJECTIONS**

43 Lime Avenue

Householder application for proposed single storey rear extension and front porch extension.

*It was felt that the blocky nature of the flat-roofed extension might be alleviated by the addition of a lantern skylight over the island kitchen unit, as the only other natural lighting was via the patio doors.*

**24/00085/APP**

**OPPOSE & CALL IN**

7 Krohn Close

Householder application for single storey side extension and two storey side/rear extension (amendment to approval 20/01018/APP) to include annexe accommodation (retrospective).

*Members saw this application as seeking approval for the retention of the approved extension as a separate dwelling, as evidenced to Enforcement in the summer of 2023 (case number NC/23/00374/COU); however, they acknowledged that even if the original plans were to be enforced, given that a second staircase has been introduced to this small building, it would remain possible to revert to two separate lettable units with minimal work. There is no access, so far as we can tell, from the house to the extension at first floor level, and on the ground floor, though a communicating doorway has been created since Enforcement took action, it could easily be blocked up again, requiring 'policing' of any conditions requiring adherence to the approved plans.*

*The approved application (20/01018/APP) accepted a reduced parking provision, and two dwellings would therefore have insufficient parking space. The original house only has a garage (built to the old standard measurements) and the hardstanding immediately in front of it in the adjacent parking court.*

*A garden fence has been installed at the rear, separating the land to the rear of the house from the triangular remnant behind the extension. leaving inadequate amenity space for the new build both to side and rear, contrary to Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan Policy DHE6, Provision of good quality private outdoor space.*

*Members therefore opposed the division into two dwellings, and expressed the hope that it would be returned to a single extended dwelling and garden, with access at first floor level and the removal of the new fence, with appropriate conditions to maintain it as such.*

*They also decided that the application needed to be called in, as allowing the unauthorised separation into two dwellings could set a precedent.*

*Cllr. Schaefer also said that she would call it in as a Ward Councillor, and the other two East Ward Councillors would be approached to add their support.*

**24/00147/APP**

106 Pillow Way

Householder application for single storey rear extension.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

*Members felt that a lantern skylight, rather than a flat one, would add interest to an otherwise boxy extension.*

**24/00227/ALB**

55 Well Street

Listed building application for insertion of partitions and cellar vents.

**NO OBJECTIONS subject to the satisfaction of the Heritage Officer**

**24/00243/APP**

Alder House, Verney Close

Convert existing undercroft to 1No 1 bed ground floor residential unit.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

*Members had no objections per se to the conversion, provided the conditions listed by Highways were included. It was suggested that contacting the nearby businesses with commercially serviced bins housed in the access area could lead to a general tidying up if the application was approved.*

*Clarification would be appreciated on the following points:*

- Five bins are to be accommodated in the bin store; three more are shown in the small garden attached to the basement flat to the west of the block of flats (the approved plans for 20/00483/APP showed 4 green and 4 blue skip bins in the undercroft). Apart from the garden gate not being wide enough to get a 4-wheeled bin through, the haul distance is well over the 10m Waste & Recycling state is their maximum for such bins.*
- The cycle shed as shown is 4m wide; the diagram in Buckinghamshire's cycle parking standards show 3 racks need a space 3m wide so this is not big enough for 5 racks.*
- It is not clear whether the cycle shed doors open the full 180° which makes it easier to manoeuvre a cycle into the rack inside. If they only open to the right angle illustrated, then the orientation of the shed needs to be turned through 90° to face along the paved area towards the flats on safety grounds, because of the sudden drop in level to the south of the paving.*

- The 'existing' ground floor drawing does not show the landscaped bed in this corner of the amenity area and along the north wall boundary; is this to be removed? (see the approved soft landscaping plan at 20/A0483/DIS for the actual existing layout)

**577/23 Pre-application feedback (Tingewick) Not in our parish**

Members considered the implications for Buckingham:

- Flood alleviation – Tingewick Brook enters the Great Ouse on the Golf Course and there is potential for flooding.
- Prior to considering flood alleviation works, perhaps a hydrology survey should be considered.

The Chairman suggested that we reply to this consultation and that our comments point out our concerns on the effect that this would have on Buckingham (potential flooding), requesting that we be kept informed throughout. Cllr. Ralph Secoded and Members **AGREED** (Cllr. Stuchbury abstained). **ACTION PLANNING CLERK**

**578/23 Planning decisions**

578/23.1 Members received for information details of planning decisions made by Buckinghamshire Council.

**Approved**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Site address</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>BTC response</b>
23/00870/ALB	White Hart Hotel	Internal alterations and refurbishment, and new fire escape <sup>(1)</sup>	No objections subj.Env.Health
23/03405/APP	4 London Road	Ch/use to HMO for 7 & first floor rear extension	Oppose & call-in <sup>(2)</sup>
23/03456/APP	43 Treefields	Replacement conservatory (amend <sup>t</sup> to approval 23/01825/APP)	No objections
23/03643/APP	20 Lenborough Rd.	Single storey rear extension	No objections
23/03498/APP 23/03499/AAD	Former Little Chef (now Starbucks)	Signage and Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning system	No objections
23/03538/ALB	7 West Street	Restoration of ground floor partition wall, lining of cellar walls and new floor (part retrospective)	No objections subj. Heritage Officer
23/03651/VRC	32 Nelson Street	Variation of wording on decision sheet for 21/01491/ALB (Materials)	No objections subj. Heritage Officer
23/03723/APP	126 Burleigh Piece	Single storey front extension	No objections
23/03759/APP	6 Lace Lane	First floor rear extension	No objections
23/03789/APP	10 Toki Road	Demolish existing extension and erect new rear extension	No objections

23/03914/APP	122 Moreton Road	1 <sup>st</sup> fl. side & rear extn, alts to front, render whole house	No objections
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- (1) Official confirmation of decision made on 17/11/23; the outdoor works, including the TV screens, have been removed from the application due to objections from the Heritage Officer.
- (2) Call-in refused 10/1/24.

### Refused

Application	Site address	Proposal	BTC response
23/03496/AAD	6 High Street	2 illuminated shop signs	Oppose

### Withdrawn

Application	Site address	Proposal	BTC response
26/03620/APP	9 Bushey Close	Demolish conservatory & garage; replace with granny annexe	Oppose

### Not for consultation

### Approved

Application	Site address	Proposal	BTC response
23/03755/ATP	11 Moreton Drive	Maintenance work on 1 Lime & 1 Sycamore following storm damage	No objections

### Refused

Application	Site address	Proposal	BTC response
23/03373/CPL	54 Overn Cresc.	Cert/Lawfulness for dropped kerb	Oppose
23/03669/CPL	33 Willow Drive	Cert/Lawfulness for dropped kerb	Oppose

578/23.2 Planning Inspectorate

578/23.2.1 An appeal was lodged against the refusal of **23/00942/APP** Stoneleigh House, 17 Castle Street, MK18 1BP Change of use from boutique hotel to private residence. On 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, and withdrawn on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 as another appeal has been submitted relating to 23/02120/APP; if official notification arrives of the details and start date of the later appeal before the meeting of the later appeal, Members will be advised verbally and can discuss whether there is anything to add to their previous comments. The Clerk's Report has been updated to reflect this change.

578/23.2.2 An appeal has been lodged against the refusal of **23/02456/APP** 31 Highlands Road, MK18 1PN Replacement front boundary wall (retrospective).

This is a Fast-Track Household Appeal, so there is no opportunity to submit additional comments, but existing comments may be withdrawn before 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

The Town Council's responses and related information are in the Clerk's Report.

The Chairman informed Members that the Stratford Road appeal has been refused.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed a press release to show the planning weight of the Neighbourhood Plan and the resulting decisions. Cllr. Harvey Seconded.

The Compliance and Projects Manager noted that a decision on this Proposal cannot be made at this meeting as it is not an agenda item. The Chairman requested that this is moved to the next suitable meeting.

**ACTION PLANNING CLERK**

### **579/23 Buckinghamshire Council matters**

Members received news of Buckinghamshire Council new documents and other information from Buckinghamshire Council Members present.

Cllr. Schaefer:

- Regarding the planning application for the land behind Manor Park in Maids Moreton, they will be attending a members' workshop tomorrow on strategic sites.

Cllr. Stuchbury:

- Health Centre Lace Hill – proposals are now in the public domain and a report will follow.
- Osier way – no consideration given to accessibility and the scheduled phasing means that the planned crossing will be of little use early in the development due to its siting. Drainage and sewage have still not been clarified.

Cllr. Cole noted that work has started on Osier Way before conditions have been satisfied. This has been reported to Enforcement.

#### **579/23.1 A421 study:**

Members received verbal comments from the Chairman on the letter from Cllr. Broadbent which was circulated to all Members on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January:

- The first meeting was held in September and feedback was given to Buckinghamshire Council and to Atkins, the contractors. The scheduled November meeting was cancelled.
- The comments and feedback from town and parish councillors were considered and consultants have now been carrying out further testing on some of the options to better understand their long-term effects on traffic flow. This will take a couple of months to complete, and the next workshop is likely to be later in the spring.

#### **579/23.2 Consultation on proposed alterations to parking hours and charges**

Members discussed and **AGREED** that Officers will draft a response to the consultation which will be presented to Full Council at the Interim meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> February. The response will **OPPOSE** the changes and will include the following points raised by Members, and any others that are identified:

- A public consultation should take place due to the significant changes which includes the extension of charging days and times.

- Are these additional changes going to form part of the 2024/25 Buckinghamshire Council Budget as the changes were not included in the paperwork that went to the Budget Scrutiny Committee?
- a FULL public consultation should take place. This view is supported by comments made by Cllr. Broadbent, Cabinet Member for Transport, when answering a question from Cllr Stuchbury at the Budget Scrutiny meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Cllr. Broadbent confirmed that though charges could be varied as desired, changes to the tariff structure, including hours when charges were applicable, required a full public consultation. [Budget Scrutiny Inquiry Task and Finish Group - Monday 8 January 2024, 10:00am - Start video at 2:00:32 - Buckinghamshire Council Webcasting \(public-i.tv\)](#). (Time stamp within video 3:27:00 to 3:31:00.)
- This seems to be solely about income generation, a short-sighted policy to help to balance their books.
- Buckingham is not a commuter-belt town. Many residents stop on-route home to visit local shops (from independent stores to Waitrose).
- The extension in hours (7am to 7pm and Sundays/Bank Holidays) will strangle the economy of the town, impacting local restaurants, pharmacies, and other retailers before 8.30am and after 5pm.
- Residents who park overnight and leave before charging commences are more likely to park in the surrounding streets.
- Residents currently leave their vehicle in the car park on Saturday evenings after drinking alcohol to avoid drink driving.
- Incorrect information: the Swan Pool is not in Aylesbury.
- This is highly likely to result in an increase in parking in residential streets to avoid charges.
- The fragility of a rural town economy will be impacted significantly.
- Parking charges at the new Winslow station are much higher than other stations; this will have a negative impact on the number of people who choose to take the train rather than driving. An 8-hour working day plus travel either side will almost always exceed the 9-hour threshold for a day rate.

**ACTION COMPLIANCE & PROJECTS MANAGER**

**580/23 Updates from representatives on outside bodies**

There were no updates.

**581/23 Buckinghamshire Council Committee meetings**

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|----------|--|--|
| 581/23.1 | N. Bucks Area Planning Committee (17 <sup>th</sup> January 2024) <i>No Buckingham applications</i> | (14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024)   |
| 581/23.2 | Strategic Sites Committee  | (18 <sup>th</sup> January 2024) <i>Cancelled</i><br>(15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024) |
| 581/23.3 | Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committee  | (15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024)   |
| 581/23.4 | Transport, Environment & Climate Change Select Committee   | (1 <sup>st</sup> February 2024)  |



The Planning Clerk and Cllr. Schaefer attended this meeting and informed Members that:

- Network Rail and East-West Rail representatives were present and confirmed that only the new bridges will be able to accommodate electrification.
- Accessibility of some public footpaths to the station may be difficult, but stations will be accessible.
- The timescale for opening is early 2025.
- Significant progress on air quality has been made with 73% of their carbon zero planning met.
- A trial begins in Wendover next week for pavement gullies for kerbside EV charging and some lamppost triple chargers.
- Four out of five management areas meet the standards.
- Active Travel – Buckingham has been changed to a ‘light version’ as we have a detailed cycle infrastructure.
- A debate about e-scooters and e-bikes revealed that only the rentable council scooters are legal. Concerns were raised about sharing pavements with pedestrians and a separate lane for e-bikes is being considered.

Members **AGREED** to append the meeting notes to these minutes.

**ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK**

Cllr. Cole reminded Members that there have been no BMKALC planning forum meetings since 18<sup>th</sup> July. Notice has been received that there will be a meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February, but once again it will be an online forum despite assurances that future ones would be face-to-face.

#### **582/23 Enforcement**

Cllr. Harvey reported a large advertising board outside the Old Town Hall. The Planning Clerk and Estates Manager have checked this, and the board is between the planters and parallel to the kerb so does not present an obstruction, although it could cause a distraction to drivers.

The Planning Clerk is awaiting a response from enforcement on all cases where closure has not been confirmed.

#### **583/23 Rolling lists – updates**

- 583/23.1 Tree felling applications (*no change from last time*)
- 583/23.2 Land grab reports (*No change from last time*)
- 583/23.3 Call-in requests – updated and revised format
- 583/23.4 HMO Licences – January 2024 update

Members thanked the Planning Officer for their work on this.

#### **584/23 Matters to report**

Members were asked to report any damaged, superfluous, and redundant signage in the town, access issues or any other urgent matter. The Chairman reminded members that the Town Clerk has requested that, where appropriate, reports are made by Councillors on FixMyStreet in the first instance. The Compliance and Project Manager confirmed that this is to ensure that issues are reported immediately to expedite their resolution.

**585/23 Chairman's items for information**

No items.

**586/23 Date of the next meeting:**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 following an Interim meeting of the Full Council.

Meeting closed at 9:17pm

Chairman ..... Date .....

DRAFT

Transport, Environment & Climate Change Select Committee - Thursday, 1st February 2024 10.00 am

Points to note:

### E-W Rail

- Q: (Cllr. Caffrey): are bridges being constructed to allow for future electrification?  
A: New ones are; existing bridges are being refurbished and some have their parapets raised, so that will have to be done later.
- Q: (Cllr. Caffrey) you seem to be aiming for 2040; not sooner? Chiltern have been 'aiming for' electrification since I was a boy.  
A: (Network Rail) it'll be sooner rather than later
- Q: (Cllr B Chapple) Will footbridges (on public footpaths) have steps or ramps?  
A: No footbridges have step-free access, partly due to space requirements, partly due to rural environment
- Q: (BC) Is the frequency still to be one passenger train and one freight train each way per hour ?  
A: (Network Rail) Once the operator has been announced we will be in a position to consult with the community
- Q: (BC) and at what hours? and during the night? People living close might want to invest in sound insulation now, not wait for next year.  
A: (NR) We may be able to share the information before next year.
- Q: (Cllr. P. Martin) The Audit report says that EWR must do more to engage with the public. When it will start running, with what frequency, bio-net gain, loss of trees and any replacement

### Climate Change

New Cabinet Member Climate Change and Environment - Tom Broom taken over from Gareth Williams

- Significant progress on air quality
- 73% of zero carbon plan achieved
- Q: (Cllr. E Gemmell) – so we could achieve 100% by 2030 not 2050?  
A: No, the last bit is the most difficult as there is a national problem with supply of alternatives. Some parishes have plans with earlier dates, so a good way to progress to zero carbon is to help the parishes to achieve their aims.
- Q: (Cllr. S Guy) The Council's vehicle fleet is the second biggest cause of carbon emissions. Why are we still buying petrol & diesel vehicles? We asked for free charging for staff (eg Social Services) vehicles and were told it wasn't possible. Some people live in flats or terraces but may be able to charge at the kerbside.

Should we consider installing cable gullies f.o.c. across pavements, like we do dropped kerbs?

A: (Cllr. S Broadbent) Cable gullies go live in the Wendover trial next week, but they do not give an automatic right to the parking place. We will be introducing some lamp-post trickle chargers – 1000 by end of 2027.

When we replace fleet vehicles, we consider electric ones first, but no suitable bin and gritting lorries yet exist. Smaller vehicles will all be electric within the year. A new contract for charging points at the offices is now in place. Pool workers (eg Social Services) will be able to use them.

Cllr. Broom: Cross-department working is valuable but can be frustrating – we need actual delivery not virtue signalling.

- Q: (Cllr. M Collins) The increase in log-burning is polluting the atmosphere – is this taken into account in the figures?

A: (TB) This affects both Climate Change and Air Quality. We have AQ Management Areas in place and the Community Boards network will catch any significant increases. We won't put any resources in until the issues are identified.

(MC) We need to be pro-active; it's increasing at an alarming rate – a national concern.

(TB): there are 5 AQMAs in the County, and all pollution levels are decreasing, only one is not yet below the limit. Can't commit resources on speculative information.

(BC) It's up to people's consciences.

(Cllr. R Carrington) Our Climate Response Team should be the first port of call.

This report is dated 14<sup>th</sup> November – it is now 1<sup>st</sup> February – any changes?

(TB) That was the date of publication, this is the first meeting available since. No deliberate delay. We're well ahead of targets, should make 75% by 2030.

### Active Travel

Cllr. S Broadbent: The report highlights the achievements of the past year. The ambition is to have a county-wide greenway web of paths and cycleways. People may only use parts of the system, so we need to know where work is needed, maybe only the first and last mile and use existing routes in between. Need to comply with national guidelines to access funding.

- User amenities like benches included in funding bid..
- New signage will have journey times as well as distances
- Consultation on LCWIP proposals in 2024
- £3.3million funding obtained so far includes officer time
- School Travel Team initiative has resulted in 70 School Travel Plans including 'walking buses' – rated second in country

- 7km of new routes, some s106-funded

- Q: (Cllr. S Guy) What type of users? Does it include e-scooters and e-bikes? If not, what policing is in place?

A: (Cllr. D Watson) E-scooters only within the trial area, and only on designated shared-use paths. Anywhere else, not legal.

(SG) Concerned about pedestrians.

(SB): Towpaths are wide enough mostly. Signposting shows permitted users. E-bikes can go anywhere ordinary bikes are allowed.

(Cllr P Brazier) Towpath improvements can link outlying villages into system.

(SB): We are working with the Canal Trust, mainly towards the Herts. Border. Depends on local conditions – there's a lot of work on widening to do. Can't do much about bridges, expect cyclists to slow down. However, really good walking environment esp. in town.

Q (EG): 'Bike buses' – can we start getting action on that?

A (SB): The School Team are promoting this; I don't have any further info.

(EG) Maybe the PTAs are a better contact – want to promote Active Travel to schools.

(Cllr M Collins): I understand why we have to have shared foot/cycle paths, but cyclists seem to reckon it is theirs by right and can be very inconsiderate to other users.

(SB): All users need to have regard for other users. We will segregate as much as possible but there isn't always the space. There is clear signage for shared space. Perhaps the Community Boards could look at particular problem areas.

New types of crossing will separate wheelers from walkers, but it will take time to replace them everywhere.

New developments all have the blue roundels – if they aren't there, cycling on the path is not permitted.

Q (Cllr. P Cooper): E-bikes are improving, and now can have a range of 50 miles, so a potential for commuting, not just local trips, and they cope well with hills.

Perhaps should be separated from other '*wheelers*' [*regular bikes, wheelchairs, prams, mobility scooters*], and need to accommodate separately when planning new routes. Develop plans now, so ready when funding becomes available?

A (SB): Many places in the county have hills, the LCWIP are working on the distance element between routes, which is different for e-bikes and ordinary bikes. There is also age separation – older people like e-bikes, younger ones e-scooters. Perhaps e-bike routes can be considered - they aren't motorbikes just power-assisted pedal bikes.

(Cllr. Chapple) Every e-bike is one less car on the road, and they (and their insurance) cost less.

((Cllr. Cooper) And they aren't just the hire bikes, many of them are now privately owned; they need to be planned for at stations etc.

(SB) The 'amenities' funding will include cycle parking and charging, and parking at stations.

The only legal e-scooters are the County's rental ones; they have lights, geolocation etc. All others are illegal on the public highway, though we have no ability to enforce this.

END