

Addiscombe Traffic Meeting

1830 on Thursday 27th June 2019

Room 1.01, Bernard Wetherill House

Attendees: Sarah Jones MP, Cllr Stuart King, Cllr Jeet Bains, Cllr Jerry Fitzpatrick, Cllr Sean Fitzsimons, Cllr Patricia Hay-Justice, Cllr Maddie Henson, Cllr Simon Hoar, Steve White, Barbara Bates, Amanda Johnson, Anne Bridge, Gordon Thompson, Jason Hinton, Richard Morley, Miriam De Souza, Mira Armour, Sandra Dodgson, Brendan O'Connor, Dave Shaw

Cllr Stuart King opened the meeting by conducting introductions around the room and recapping the purpose of the meeting as laid out in the agenda.

Mike Barton (MB) then spoke through the options proposed in the agenda as per the below

1. **Diverting traffic from the area as a whole** by wider reconfiguration of largely major roads in the surrounding area - e.g. Open up Factory Lane, Wellesley, Blackhorse Lane, so that the overall flow of north bound traffic flows better on the main roads across the borough. Lobby traffic planner creators to navigate traffic on main roads only – not side roads.
 - **Noted that it is difficult to encourage behaviour change due to use of sat nav's.**
2. **Greater enforcement** of existing traffic control e.g. 20mph speed limit and HGV, 7.5 tonne restrictions.
 - **Council would be keen to see this however enforcement must be carried out by the Police. Would need to establish if there is evidence of volume of these issues to justify the resource.**
3. **Innovative approaches** e.g. using technology to enforce residents only traffic flows similar to congestion charge.
 - **Would need to understand what this sort of technology this refers to. Advised that this was relating to ANPR cameras similar to use in schools, however this would be difficult to introduce use to the number of dispensations.**
4. **Reconfiguration of the flows** in the affected areas. These included :
 - 4.1 Lebanon Road to be one way north bound, as it had been in the past. Rod representing Lebanon Road put forward this proposal.
 - MB can consider an option however dependent on opinions of residents in the road.
 - 4.2 All roads in ladder one way, with two northbound in Addiscombe West.
 - MB noted this could be considered

4.3 Close all the ladder roads to traffic, or make them all both-way (north-south).

- MB was unsure what this means as will restrict all access and foresee would not please all move the issues wider.

4.4. Make Canning Road north bound

- MB advised it is possible but would encourage additional traffic to travel through the area.

4.4 Make every alternate road north bound one way, and the remaining south bound one way

- MB advised this is an option that can be considered

4.6 Mitigation measures for Elgin and Havelock Roads - e.g. Road humps,

- MB advised that there are humps but would need to look into any further options.

Query raised about the point of weight restriction and speed enforcement and why the council use them if there is not the enforcement. SI explained that there is limited police resources, however the highways authority does not have the powers to enforce under the highways act.

SI explained that there is a road watch scheme through the metropolitan police service that can be accessed by local groups with proposals of areas. Some RA reps pushed back to say they had tried to make contact to no avail. Cllr Henson to speak with MB about making contact with road watch for this area.

Miriam De Souza (MDS) explained that there have been two meetings which have been really well attended and that there is a need for all Cllrs to get involved as there will always be an interest for RA's to look after their own area. However there is a need for a safe and sensible approach to a resolution.

Sandra Dodgson (SD) explained her understanding of the agreements at meetings was consensus on safety and there was no consensus on how this would be done and there are very different opinions on the workability of proposed solutions. Feels that Elgin had high levels of traffic and the additional is gone too far.

Richard Morely (RM) explained that ECCO roads are liveable and there was a substantial volume of traffic and now it has reduced to make it more liveable and now there are children playing in the street whereas previously they were not as it was not deemed safe, which is vital as there is no local park. Traffic on Cherry Orchard Road has dropped since 2007 / 2008. On Shirley Road there has been a drop of 14% since 2000. Keen for Elgin Road to become liveable too. Would like to see traffic being pushed back out to trunk roads as he believes they are capable of this.

Barbara Bates (BB) did not agree with this as it would increase journey lengths for residents and therefore pollution. Feels that the one way road in Canning Road forces traffic down Elgin Road.

Dave Shaw (DS) explained that there has been a lot of back and forth for the start of each meeting, but it was agreed that the majority of people would like to see a change and a small minority who are ok with the current solution but accept this is not the case for everyone. Would like to see the Council talk through the concerns and come up with some potential solutions.

Cllr Fitzsimons raised that the closure of Blackhorse Lane has seen a major transfer of traffic due to this closure. Raised that there has been a large diversion and when this reopens this may see a further increase in Elgin Road.

MDS raised that there is a closure proposed for St James Road. Read a section of Croydon's Transport Policy which she believes contradicts the current situation as there is no balance between Addiscombe East and Addiscombe West. Mira Amour (MA) supported what MDS said and was keen to push back to the council.

Jason Hinton explained that there this is not a need to share it out as this will push traffic to the next available road. MDS stated that is not the case

MB explained that that traffic will detour as it needs to not necessarily the next available road. MB feels that the best option will be to look at changing the North and South options between the roads. MB recommended that look to change ladder roads direction as Addiscombe West are currently carrying majority of south traffic.

Anne Bridge (AB) feels that Lebanon Road is far safer now and raised concerns about introducing too much northbound traffic into the area.

Sarah Jones MP expressed that there needs to be consensus between residents and expressed that her view is not the view she feels should hold the weight. Sarah Jones MP explained there are three things she feels need to happen with different time frames.

- 1- In the short term to work with police to improve enforcement.
- 2- In the medium term to make four roads northbound and four southbound.
- 3- A long term plan would be to look at something more substantial for the whole area.

DS accepted that there are three streams with different time frames and potentially could there be multiple options for a medium term solution.

SI advised that there needs to be less talk of a division between Addiscombe East and Addiscombe West and need to find a solution for the whole of Addiscombe and accept that not everyone will be happy but look to please the majority. Understand that there is going to be a displacement of traffic but hoping to make more streets safer and liveable.

MA asked about time scales. SI explained that the LIP programme for 2019/20 is set and that these have been seen as a priority for this year. The reality is that there is insufficient funding this year and it will be 2021 before works are possible. MB explained that there is a need for residents to form a consensus and then carry out a public consultation. Cllr King explained that there is a need to understand the

Council has finite resources in terms of both finance and officer time and if there is no consensus which will be seen through committee and a lot of these resources are wasted and other projects have been put on hold for something that will not be delivered.

Cllr Bains said that after three meetings it is positive to see people from all areas in one room and looking for a joint solution. Cllr Bains feels that we have exhausted options asking residents for options and need to secure three to four options and look at a potential process.

MA raise that Canning went to TMAC and the majority was not in favour and it was still implemented. Cllr King explained that there is a policy that is followed and that this meeting is to move forward.

Cllr Fitzsimons explained his understanding that there is a need to find a solution that the majority will agree with and not an option that everyone agrees to.

Steve White (SW) raised concerns that there are greater issues due to lane closures on Wellesley Road and Pitlake Bridge. SI explained this is because there is capacity for these roads to have lane closures. SW then raised that there are further issues with the placement of enforcement in Wickham Road. SI reiterated that there is a need for resident groups to contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

DS explained that he does not see that there will be a consensus from all residents on a proposal so would be good to receive options from the Council based on options that have been put forward.

Cllr Bains explained that there is now a need for this process to move forward. Cllr Hay-Justice advised that if there are multiple options then it would be good for the Council to advise how achievable they are.

MDS raised that the status quo has been set by what was done in Addiscombe west and in Canning Road and officers need to abide by NOLAN principles.

Cllr Fitzsimons explained that there is a need for consensus from residents however this is not about putting all options forward there is a need to consult both areas and find an option that has broad consensus across areas.

DS asked that it was fed back how best to make contact re enforcement and how to get the ball rolling. With medium term would be good to understand some time frames and look at boundaries of areas covered and viability of options and what would be the next steps and what the Council would deem next steps once there are options that are deemed to be possible.

RM asked if there was modelling software, MB advised that there is not for one way working.

BB suggested that Canning Road be reversed in the meantime to relieve pressure from Elgin Road, which was contested by others.

SI brought the meeting to a close by explaining that he feels this meeting has been useful. SI agreed for MB or a member of his team to help make the contact with Road Watch. SI advised that there is no point the council drawing up options, so we will move forward with putting together the four south and four north option and carry out an informal consultation which would then take 3 - 4 weeks and then needs to be analysed to go to TMAC and for a formal consultation prior to delivery.

Cllr King closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and giving their opinions as these are what matter as he does not live in roads and it is the RA's that are affected.