

Notes from A377 Action Group held on Thursday 19 May 2022

10am via Teams

Present: Graeme Barnell (MDDC Councillor Newbrooke Ward, Chair), Jim Enright (Chair NSC PC), Liz Brookes-Hocking (Mayor of Crediton and CTC), Frank Letch (MDDC Councillor and CTC) left 10.25, Stuart Jarvis (DCC Highways) left 10.15, Cllr Margaret Squires joined 10.35am, Jane Hole (Parish Clerk NSC)

1. Welcomes and apologies

No apologies had been received

2. Notes of last meeting 24 March 2022

Agreed

3. Transport Planning in and around Crediton -Stuart Jarvis DCC in attendance

a) Crediton to Exeter Cycleway- update

A meeting had yet to take place between members of this group and the consultants Stuart reported that the consultant's report had been delayed by two months due to pressure of work and complexities of the project. He hoped that the report would be completed by the end of July and that feedback would be available at the next meeting of this Group in July. The outcome of the work should be to recommend a preferred option for the path.

Graeme noted that recent publicity had raised expectations for the project and depending on the outcome of the report it may be necessary for DCC to set out the way forward very clearly in terms of cost and timescale. Liz also noted that expectations were raised and it was difficult to keep explaining delays. The trail was a significant part of forward planning for Crediton and would be discussed at the joint planning meeting next week.

Action Points

- Stuart to provide an update via email before the next meeting of this Group
- Stuart to arrange a meeting between members of the A377 Action Group and the consultants
- Stuart to invite consultants to attend next A377 Action Group meeting to update on their work

b) Joint planning with MDDC

Liz had arranged a meeting for Thursday 26 May with interested parties including Richard Marsh, Stuart Jarvis (Highways), Simon Niles (Education), district and county councillors and local Parish Council chairs to discuss joint planning in and around Crediton.

Action point

- Keep on the agenda

4. Speed Limits

a) Policing speed limits

As there were no representatives from the Police at the meeting, this could item not be progressed

b) Speed -regulations and DCC policies - Nigel Flower/James Bench

No contact had been received from DCC Officers

c) HATOC meeting follow up

Graeme was keen to follow up issues with the police and DCC especially as there had been a recent fatality on the A377 by Downes. He suggested an urgent meeting with both parties.

Frank reported that he would be putting a motion to DCC next week as follows: "this council acknowledges the value of the MOT certificate proving the road worthiness of vehicles. We now need to investigate a system of an MOT type scheme for our roads to show that they are fit for all to use." Frank would also be asking that accidents are called accidents rather than collisions. He would be asking that the road worthiness where the accident had occurred was inspected.

Frank was waiting for Stephen Tucker to carry out Scarf measurements at Cheriton Bishop, Bow and Coplestone. Jim noted that a SCARF test had been requested in Station Road in NSC some time ago and Frank would add this to his list to discuss with Steve Tucker

Margaret joined the meeting.

It was thought that the recent fatality had been caused by driver error. Margaret suggested that it would be best to wait until the report of the accident had been completed before asking to meet with DCC and the Police.

Liz suggested we should look at the accidents statistics for the A377 as this is what the Police would be analysing.

After discussion it was agreed that rather than call another separate meeting, HATOC would be used to try and discuss road safety issues. Margaret would request that the next HATOC meeting on 20 June included a report on the latest accident as well as reporting back on the Smallbrook signage and the Quicke's straight speed limits

Action point

- Margaret to ask HATOC to report back on speed limits and signage at the next meeting in June and a report on the most recent accident.

5. Items for future meeting

Deferred from this agenda

- a) Policing speed limits
- b) Speed regulations and DCC policies

6. Date of next meeting

Thursday 20 July 2022 at 9am via teams