

BOTTESFORD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Steering Group

Traffic and Transport Sub Committee Meeting

Thursday 4th of December 2014

Present: Carl Afonso (CA)(Lead) Bob Lockley (BL) Karen Gough (KG) Val Lever (VL) Karen Afonso (KA)

The meeting was very lively and productive with a number of great suggestions from all the members. I am grateful to all for their input and their patience in helping work towards our main goals.

Caveat.

This is simply an initial view of the issues that we have to consider and possibly seen as the more pressing, however we do not underestimate the herculean effort needed to gather Bottesford and surrounding areas residents views and to merge this into a concise plan.

The members of the Traffic and Transport (T&T) team were tasked with considering the following:

The issues brought forward in the Stakeholder Forum and Public Meeting.

- Congestion.
- Safety.
- Public Transport.

Consider the Input and Ideas of Road Traffic specialist Hamilton-Baillie.

Although the latter will not be able to form part of our initial considerations, we have attempted herein to lay our initial thoughts and suggestions free from any financial implications and or planning restrictions.

Congestion.

Issues.

1. Concentration of Traffic around Queen Street and Market Street and High Street.
2. Not enough car parking facilities.
3. School buses.
4. Vehicles parking on both sides of the road in Queen Street and High Street.

Solutions.

1. Seek possible land for extra parking facilities around the centre of the village.
2. Create one way system around Market Street and Queen Street.
3. Consider access to the A52 from Barkestone Lane for school buses thus reducing traffic in the High Street.
4. Consider implementing a residents parking only on one side of the road in High Street and Queen Street with residents parking on one side and public parking on the other.

Safety.

Issues.

1. The need to reconnect with Muston
2. Reduce traffic speeds in areas such as Grantham Road, Nottingham Road, Belvoir Road and Main Street Normanton.
3. Changes to the centre of the Village to assist in pedestrian safety.
4. Lorries exceeding weight limit and using Bottesford and Normanton as a short cut to the A1.

Solutions.

1. Investigate the possibility of building a bridge for pedestrians and cyclists over the A52. Also possibly have a cycle lane to and from the bridge.
2. The only real effective way to reduce traffic speeds that we as a group concluded is to install speed cameras on the various roads, however we recognise that this is a costly exercise. Notwithstanding this, it is felt that the **SPECS** type cameras should be considered. No doubt there will be a better understanding of what can be done after Hamilton-Baillie's visit and report.
3. The placement of zebra crossings at strategic points would it is felt slow down some of the traffic and allow for safely crossing the busy roads.
A crossing by the Spar shop would allow adults and school children to cross in safety. Other locations such as a crossing near the Old School House should be considered.
4. Whilst it is agreed that this is an issue, it is a difficult one to fully identify and offer some resolution we believe that the issue should be raised with the Leicestershire Constabulary and the local police officers and look for their suggestions and cooperation.

It would make sense to obtain data regarding traffic speed in Grantham Road, Nottingham Road and Belvoir Road in the same way that data has been gathered in Main Street Normanton, to ensure that the issue is an actuality not just a matter of perception.

Public Transport.

Issues.

1. Very few trains to Nottingham stop at Bottesford station.
2. No regular bus service to Nottingham.
3. No regular service to Bingham.
4. No regular public transport services in the evenings and weekends precluding our villagers in taking part in the Nottingham night life unless they have the use of a car.

Solutions.

1. Engage with train service provider. Identify how many residents use the trains that are at present not using them. Identify the busy/best periods.
2. Engage with bus service providers and the Planning and Transportation department at Leicestershire CC.
3. Identify how many people would use and how often it would be used if there was a regular service to Bingham.
4. Consider after due diligence and gathering views of residents a Community Transport Minibus system and apply for the funding of it.

Questions that should be considered.

Traffic.

Is traffic congestion an issue in Bottesford.

Would you feel that a new car park could alleviate the congestion?

Would the creation of a one way system in Queen Street help?

Would allowing school buses to access the A52 via Barkstone Lane improve safety and congestion?

Would the creation of a roundabout on the A52 from Belvoir Road improve traffic flow and safety?

Would you like to see a zebra crossing on High Street near the SPAR shop?

Transport.

Do you use the train regularly to Nottingham? If yes how often

Would you use a bus service to Nottingham if it was available?

Would you like to see a regular bus service to Bingham?

General.

It was felt that it is very early to fully appreciate the impact of traffic as a singular entity. More work needs to be done in conjunction with the other sub committees in order to have a fully joined up assessment.

The visit of Hamilton Baillie on the 17th of December and his subsequent observations will naturally impact on any other future reports.

No further meeting was scheduled at this stage.

One paragraph summary. Our vision is for an all encompassing strategy for Bottesford and surrounding areas providing a safe, environment for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians as well as good public transport links to Nottingham and Grantham.