

**THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of**  
**Thatcham Town Council**  
**held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 20:30hrs**  
**in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham**

**Present:** Councillor Petra Pemberton (Mayor)  
 Councillors Suzanne Adamantos, John Boyd, Jeff Brooks, Jeremy Cottam, Iain Cottingham, Mark Lillycrop, Dave Lunn, Jay Lunn, Tom McCann, Justin Pemberton, Simon Pike, Stephanie Steevenson, and Val Watts

**In attendance:** Laura Carlin (Town Clerk)  
 11 members of the public

**FULL/2025/070 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mike Cole, Owen Jeffery, Ben Schiffer-Harte and Mark Thomas

**FULL/2025/071 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**FULL/2025/072 WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL: 20MPH SPEED LIMIT PROPOSAL**

Councillors considered the proposed Traffic Regulation Order by West Berkshire Council to lower the speed limit on the majority of roads in Thatcham and associated measures and

**RESOLVED** to provide the following “neutral” response by the Town Council to the Statutory Consultation on this Order:

The Town Council welcomes and supports this consultation by West Berkshire Council on a proposal for 20mph Speed Limit for residential streets across Thatcham. It agrees that it would make the local area more attractive and accessible by non-motorised highway users.

The Town Council notes the objective in the West Berkshire Council Strategy 2023-2027 to “enable 20 mph limits for residential streets where residents want it”. We agree on the importance of the views of residents. As West Berkshire Council is currently undertaking a public consultation on this proposal, we believe that it is premature for the Town Council to take a position on the proposed 20mph speed limit, and we therefore take a neutral stance for this consultation.

In assessing the responses to the consultation, it will be important to give full weight to the reasons given as well as the proportion in each response category. Particular regard should be given to the interests of people with protected characteristics and children, as they may take longer to cross a street, be less aware of approaching vehicles and mobility scooters and buggies may need to use the carriageway if the footway is obstructed by parked cars.

We also observe that people have a greater propensity to respond to a survey if they disagree with a proposal than if they support it.

**RESOLVED** to make the following suggestions for refinements:

**2.1 Station Road**

The 20mph limit in the proposed TRO currently extends from the town centre to just beyond Wheelers Green Way (the roundabout by the Burdwood Centre).

The West Berkshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) identifies a number of Prioritised Strategic Cycle Route Corridors and Key Walking Routes. Station Road forms part of the Cycle Route Corridor 8 and Key Walking Route W7 between Thatcham Station and the town centre. The LCWIP identifies

**Extraordinary meeting of Thatcham Town Council  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

a number of shortcomings in these routes and recommends a number of infrastructure improvements to address them. However, these improvements have generally not been implemented – in many cases because of conflicts with other priorities or constraints of land ownership.

The Kennet Heath estate (Urquhart Road and surrounding Streets) is within the proposed area of the 20mph limit but is separated from the rest of the 20mph limit in the rest of the town by a section of Station Road with a 30mph limit. This also means that residents of Kennet Heath wishing to catch a bus from the bus stop on the north side of Station Road or residents of the estate to the north of station road wishing to catch a bus from the bus stop on the south side will need to cross a busy road with a 30mph limit.

The Town Council therefore suggests that the 20mph speed limit should extend at least as far as Urquhart Road, and preferably all of the way to the station. This would support the strategy in the WBC Local Transport Plan 4 for “50% of trips within Newbury and Thatcham made by walking and cycling”.

## 2.2 Side roads to the A4

The Town Council would like to minimise the clutter from road signs along the A4. There are 25 side roads along the A4, which would all require 20mph signs if the A4 has a 30mph limit and all side roads have a 20mph limit.

However, many of these side roads are short cul-de-sacs, where a reasonable driver could not exceed a 20mph speed limit in any case. We therefore suggest that the following cul-de-sacs are removed from the 20mph speed limit Order:

Along the A4: Bath Road - Service Road to 150-168, Bath Road - Service Road to 130 – 148, Faircross Court, Fortuna Mews\*, Matthews Close, Crown Mead\*, access road to Thatcham Court nursing home\*, access road to 24-28a Bath Road, Anvil Court\*, Chapel Court, Prancing Horse Close, Elms Avenue.

Along Station Road: Langford Way.

Along Lower Way: Clerewater Place (including Jubilee Way)\*, Prince Hold Road\*, Tarn Howes Close, Muddy Lane\*.

Along The Moors: The Thackerays.

This will also reduce the cost of installing signage.

Note: Roads marked with an asterisk\* are listed in the Local Street Gazetteer but not mentioned in the Notice or draft TRO.

The access road to Thatcham Court nursing home is not listed in the Local Street Gazetteer but is at a major junction on the A4 with traffic lights.

## 2.3 Inconsistencies in documentation

Point 3 of the draft Order says that “The West Berkshire District Council (Stoney Lane, Station Road, Victor Road, Hartmead Road, Coombe Court, Kennet Close, The Hollands and Adwood Court, Thatcham) (20mph speed limit and prohibition of waiting) Order 2003 is hereby revoked in its entirety”. That will presumably revoke the prohibition of waiting as well as the speed limit.

Some significant roads are not mentioned in the Order, including Crown Mead (which is relevant for signage for Green Lane) and Beddals Close, the new road in the Lower Way housing development.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 21:12hrs.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_