

Planning, Housing & Economy

John Hoad Strategic Director Planning, Housing and Economy

Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

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3 August 2010

Dear Mike

Re: Agency Agreement for an amended TRO for Kidlington High Street

In the autumn of 2009 Kidlington Parish Council and the Kidlington Village Centre Management Board approached Cherwell District Council for support into looking into the feasibility of pedestrianising the High Street.

Over the last ten years the High Street has seen an increase in intensity in the constant movement of traffic through the street causing serious safety issues for pedestrians. Formal and informal parking has become quite prolific, with little or no enforcement of the double yellow lines. As the density of vehicle use has increased so has their environmental impact on the quality of air and on the street scene. Shopping is no longer a pleasant experience in the street and shoppers are being deterred from visiting. The Parish Council would therefore like something done. Cherwell District Council is happy to support this project and have made available a small amount of capital funding for the feasibility research as well as for the making and promoting of an Order.

The outcome of the preliminary investigations by Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council into what could be done will be going out to public consultation in September 2010. This will include an option to change the current Traffic Regulation Order to restrict vehicular movement in a core period of 10am-4:30pm, consistent with streets in the town centres of Banbury and Bicester. Permits would be issued however for those owner occupiers who require access to private off street parking spaces 24/7. The High Street from Watts Way to Oxford Road would also become one way in order to reduce traffic movements and to make the road feel safer for pedestrians.



Once the outcome of the consultation is known, and should there be sufficient support for the proposed scheme, then Cherwell District Council will ask their Executive Committee to formally recommend the promoting of the new TRO. However I can not take this forward to the Executive without an agency agreement with Oxfordshire County Council being in place, which will permit CDC to promote and make the TRO on behalf of OCC.

Although, I do appreciate the content of the agreement can not be completed until we can confirm the full details of the proposed TRO in January 2011, please could I ask you to liaise with your legal department about drafting an initial agreement now? This would be appreciated in order to keep the project moving forward.

Should you require any further information on the above please don't hesitate to contact me on the above details.

I look forward to working with Oxfordshire County Council on this project.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Chaney
Urban Centres Development Officer