



Highway Authority  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester WR5 2NP

30 July 2019

FAO Henry Harbord

Dear Mr Harbord

**Potential traffic improvements in Evesham Town centre.**

Following the public meeting called by Jim Powell in April this year to resurrect discussion of the potential for traffic improvements in the town, especially the centre, the VECS committee has asked me to write to you as follows:

- It became apparent at the public meeting and in some of the responses received subsequently that there is a serious problem with the use of Brick Kiln Street by HGVs following Sat .Nav. directions. Is it possible to introduce a weight limit of <7.5t in this locality to eliminate HGVs that do not need direct access to the premises in this area? This will help to reduce the risk of damage to building structures within the Conservation Area.
- A scheme that members urge a second consideration of is the use of Mill Street for two way traffic from its junction with Chapel Street/Cowl Street/Oat Street, BUT only allowing access from this junction by cars to travel south and west to the Workman Bridge. Access by lorries would remain as existing i.e. travelling from the Workman Bridge north and east. This would help to alleviate some of the traffic movements on High Street, but would minimise the conflict identified in the consultant's report of the risk of two lorries meeting on the tight corners. Please could this modified scheme be considered during work on the Traffic Strategy.
- Other matters:
  - a) I also wish to bring to your attention a commitment by the committee to look into the possibility of providing additional car parking space to serve the railway station, in the hope to encouraging more movements by train and thus less on the road.
  - b) Members are very keen to see significant improvements to the cycling network in and around the town, such that at least some students could cycle to school/college and thus reduce the number of cars involved in the school run during morning peak hours and during the afternoon traffic flows through the town centre.
  - c) Thirdly, members feel strongly that the idea of a roundabout at one of the 'problem' traffic lights in the town centre should be introduced as a temporary trial i.e. not removing the traffic lights and using painted lines on the highway alongside temporary signage. If this is an initiative that could be taken forward, VECS will use its member's experience to offer a suggestion on which junction might be most likely to succeed with such a change.

If you have any information or advice that you could let us have in respect of these matters, it would be much appreciated.



- Our committee member, Brian Chilver, serves on the Evesham Town Transport Strategy Stakeholder Group and provides reports following any meeting. I note that many action points have been identified to be undertaken as part of the Transport Strategy. I also note that a summary has been prepared this summer of the progress with these action points. This is welcomed, however the comments raise many questions, most of which relate to the likely timescales and deadlines for action. Given the interest in the town in the traffic situation, which affects businesses, residents and visitors alike, perhaps it would be time for another meeting to question the comments in the summary? If this is not possible, I would be happy to list out the points which we consider need further explanation or detail, so that you could then provide VECS with a detailed response to these, which could then of course be circulated to all stakeholder members.
- Members are keen to see improvements in the efficiency of the traffic lights on Abbey Road Bridge. I note from your Summer report on 'Improvements Update' that action is underway, but it would be very helpful in our future deliberations on how the Society can help to improve/reduce traffic movements in the town if you could please let me know when we can expect to see the implementation of further measures to improve traffic flows at this junction.

I look forward to hearing from you, hopefully in time for our meeting on 2 September 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gill Pawson'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Gill Pawson. Hon. Secretary