

County Councillor report November 2024- Cllr Paul McLain

Mon 11/11/2024 12:20

Hopefully you received the advance notice of the short closure of the Lane to the Falklands and I see from your report that the drainage team have now been in touch re Watery Lane culvert.

I believe all councillors received the update re the main road safety proposals. GCC officers advised me:

“The design team is working on design for road safety improvements in the area such as pedestrian crossings, road marking updates, signage updates and eventually reduced limit of 50mph with average speed camera enforcement for the A48 from Minsterworth to Westbury on Severn.

With a plan to implement some of village gateway improvements in the village this financial year, including improved signage and road markings where these are located.

These designs are currently going through approvals and will have an RSA 2 audit before delivery on site with our primary contractor.”

AND (I believe also copied to parish councillors)

“Our team are in the process of preparing a design for the footway between Oakle Street and the bus stop, as per the community request. The design is currently at a preliminary stage which allows us to prepare an indicative cost estimate and determine the viability of providing the footway when evaluated against the road safety measures along the A48. At this early stage, the cost estimate is c.£42,000 to provide 136m of footway between Oakle Street and the bus stop. This figure may be liable to increase dependent upon the locations of any utilities, traffic management requirements, etc. While we agree that there should be a footway at this location, this is beyond the road safety budget because of the limitations of funding and because this provision would be primarily for accessibility to the bus stop and that no collisions have occurred involving pedestrians at this location.

“In the meeting in July my colleagues discussed installing gateway signing and lining works at Minsterworth by the end of autumn. Unfortunately, we are unlikely to have the works installed by the end of November. The revised target for implementation of these works is the end of the calendar year, subject to weather, and shall be undertaken by our term maintenance contractor. Our design drawings are currently going through a final check and authorisation process and will then be sent on to our works contractor.

“Other aspects of the Minsterworth improvements, such as the traffic islands, road markings, average speed cameras, and proposed speed limit order, are progressing as anticipated and are still on track for delivery in summer 2025.

“I would also like to provide you an update on the 20mph proposals along Church Lane and adjacent roads. We are commissioning speed surveys along these roads to help support the Parish’s request.

Once we have received this data, we will be able to advise whether existing speeds support the introduction of a 20mph limit. It will be at this stage that we will require confirmation from the Parish whether they are willing to fund the speed limit order.

“I apologise for the delay with the gateway features, and we shall endeavour to have these installed by the end of this year as mentioned above. All other elements of the works are on track, and I would like to reaffirm Gloucestershire County Council’s commitment to improving road safety in the county.”