

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES of the **Highways and Transport Committee** meeting held on Monday 24th November 2025 at 7.00pm, in the Library, Hungerford

Present: Cllrs, Keates, Hudson, Reeves, Simpson, Cole, Carlson, Mulholland, Day, Winsor, & Hall. Also in attendance: Town Clerk, RFO, Cllr Armstrong and a member of public.

Agenda items listed in order of discussion at Council meeting.

HT20250074. Apologies for absence – Cllr Fyfe

It was confirmed that Cllr Armstrong had joined the R&A committee and will step down from this committee.

HT20250075. Declarations of interest - none

HT20250076. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on Monday 29th September 2025

Proposed: Cllr Keates

Seconded: Cllr Simpson

Resolution: Minutes agreed as a true representation of the meeting held on 29th September 2025, 2 abstentions – with an amendment to delete reference to the ash tree which is an R&A committee item.

Cllr Keates advised the January meeting of this committee will focus on speeding. Both Gareth Dowding and Cheryl Evans from WBC have been invited to attend and we wait their response.

HT20250077. Update on actions from previous meetings, not on this agenda

All actions relating to the Carehome are complete. The Wiltshire Connect Bus unfortunately doesn't travel as far as the Carehome.

The action for District Cllr Gaines to liaise with WBC regarding permission to use adaptors on lampposts is no longer required.

No action will be taken reference the telephone box until the new year.

Two containers are in place at the Triangle Field and one of them has an electric supply connected. They are both brand new and will be used to store the lights once racking has gone in. HTC may hire one out to Hungerford Archers.

A joint litter pick took place with Network Rail (this item is on the agenda). Unfortunately, the second cut to the vegetation along the Cuttings won't now take place.

Cllr Day's report on pigeons was praised. She is producing an information poster and 'do not feed the birds' signs will be displayed around the town centre.

An item has been included in the draft budget for the upgrades required to our CCTV system.

The Police are in contact with Sovereign to see if the lighting can be improved through the footpath near Redwood House and Lindley Lodge.

The hedge that was restricting visibility to motorists and endangering pedestrian safety along Church Way has been cut back from the road and lowered in height by a volunteer working party headed up by Cllr Keates. HTC continues to push for the sovereign land to be adopted by WBC and converted to a footway.

ACTION: Cllr Keates to take photos of the gulleys and forward to TC.

ACTION: West Berks Council (WBC) to supply and install new cycle shelter in Church St Car park, FOC.

ACTION: WBC to move welcome sign to beyond Lancaster Park.

- HT20250082** **Any H&S issues of Concern – *This item was brought forward for the benefit of members of public present.***
 Cllr Simpson reported that the Rugby Club had received complaints from members of public that their cars are getting scratched by the overhanging trees to the south and east sides of the Triangle Field.
- ACTION:** Trim back around the Triangle Field where required.
- Cllr Hudson reported on the recent data recorded by the Speeding Indicator Devices (SIDS). **Please refer to his full report below.** A member of public asked if a SID could be located closer to the high street as it is thought vehicles speed up as they go down the hill. More evidence is required.
- ACTION:** Consider placing a SID in the approved location halfway down the high street on the left as you enter Hungerford northbound on the A338. This location does sometimes get blocked by parked vehicles, but some data should be able to be collected.
 Priory junction is a known accident spot.
- ACTION:** Cllr Hudson will investigate the use of different types of speed monitors such as Black boxes which record speed and volume.
- ACTION:** Peter will find out if HTC can borrow a SID from Town & Manor once the cows leave the Common for the winter.
- ACTION:** Cllr Hudson and Cllr Carlson will examine the data to determine the times of day when speeding is worse so the Police can be invited to do a speed check.
- HT20250078. Feedback on Christmas Light Switch on –** Cllr Keates would like to get a volunteer group together for future as we struggled to get enough marshals on Sunday. Our contractors Shield have done a really good job this year with the installation and will remove all the lights afterwards rather than leave any in the growing trees. All the Xmas lights will remain on 24/7 as the timers are not worth the cost to maintain. The cause of the lights going out on the town hall was due to water ingress on the balcony, which is being addressed.
 Please contact the office to report any outage.
- HT20250079. Railway station – Update on recent joint litter pick with Network Rail (NR) –** Members of NR and Smarten Up Hungerford cleared 35 bags of rubbish from the area north of the platform. NR are going to return in 3 months to assess the area for any future work. Hedging or hoarding could be an option to stop the litter being thrown over the fence. The area can't be utilised for parking as NR do use a section of it, and it is not wide enough.
- HT20250080. Receive information from West Berks Council on devolution of services e.g. gully and ditch clearing, sign cleaning, overhanging trees etc (as presented at the West Berks Parish Conference)**
 There are new items on the delivery service document that WBC would like us to invest into but we are not being informed what statutory minimum service WBC provide.
Proposed: Cllr Carlson
Seconded: Cllr Simpson
Resolution: Push back services to WBC where possible and take the item off our future agendas.
- HT20250081. Note consultation on parking scheme opens on Thursday 27th November.** It was noted there is nothing for Croft Road mentioned and Charnham is only being done in part. Restrictions will result in lorries parking elsewhere.
- ACTION:** Add the parking consultation to the Full Council agenda for a response.
- HT20250082.** This agenda item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

PART TWO

‘The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960’.

HT20250083. Consider maintenance contract for Street lights effective from April 2026

Proposed: Cllr Carlson

Seconded: Cllr Simpson

Resolution: Recommend to Full Council, to appoint Volker to provide the maintenance contract for HTC streetlights from April 2026, excluding the emergency call out service.

HT20250084. Consider budget requirements for 2026-2027 for Highways & Transport

Proposed: Cllr Keates

Seconded: Cllr Cole

Resolution: Recommend to F&GP a draft budget of £122,097.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Speed Indicator Devices (SID) Update: Nov 2025

The signs are generally operating well and are effective at reducing speeds. It is surprising how consistent the reductions are when we leave the signs in place.

There are four HTC SIDs and two Town & Manor signs.

The longer lasting batteries that are working well. We also have an updated app downloaded so I can obtain the data more efficiently again.

Having a SID on each main road approach to Hungerford seems to be the best way to slow traffic entering the town. Although the A4 exits at Dobbies, Charnham Street and Salisbury Road do have speeding problems.

The Charnham Street SID with the solar panel has been repaired by Traffic Technology and seems okay.

The Downgate Common SID has also been repaired for the T & M.

Updated results are on the latest spreadsheet attached as a pdf.

To summarise the sites:

- 1) A4 westbound from Newbury opposite Dobbies.

Highest speed over the time was 96 mph, the average 29mph. The average speed entering the town is 37 and 29mph past the sign. A 22% reduction and a very effective sign in the gateway to Hungerford. These are similar to before.

749	02/07/2025	22/11/2025	37	96	29	36	45	76	37	29	22
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- 2) A4 Cotterell Close eastbound out of town

749	10/07/2023	24/07/2023	24	70	16	26	31	21.2	24	25	-4
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We have not had one here for sometime. It did not seem to have much effect, but that is in part as drivers are leaving the town and accelerating away.

- 3) A4 westbound by BMW garage.

19577	24/10/2025	15/11/2025	28	60	24	27	31	29.1	28	29	-3
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Highest speed is 60mph and the average at 27mph. A small increase from 28mph to 29mph, but due to traffic accelerating out of the town. Any reduction would be a win.

Good to have the site working again.

- 4) A4 eastbound on Charnham St by Charnham Lane

21804	17/01/2025	15/11/2025	31	80	26	31	37	51.4	31	27	13
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The maximum speed is 80mph, with an average of 12mph. On approach a speed of 31mph reduces to 27mph at the sign. This is a 13% reduction in speed and a real success.

5) A338 Salisbury Rd Southbound.

19577	24/06/2024	15/07/2024	30	57	26	31	37	59.0	30	28	7
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Not used this site for a while. Maximum speed is 57mph, average speed 26mph. Speed on approach reduces from 30mph to 28 mph at the sign. This is a 7% reduction and an achievement given the wide road and that drivers are leaving the town.

6) A338 Salisbury Rd Northbound...approach to Priory Rd roundabout

19577	01/07/2025	15/11/2025	30	82	26	29	34	45.3	30	28	7
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The latest data shows its an important site to slow drivers approaching the roundabout at Priory Rd (accident location) and the High St. The maximum speed observed was 82mph and the average is 30mph. The speed reduction has improved by 7%, and given the down gradient this is a major success. Very similar to the period before.

7) Common at the Kintbury gate

21550	13/07/2025	15/11/2025	30	108	24	31	37	51.6	30	29	3
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Max speed was a high 108 mph, the average 30mph. There is a reduction from 30mph to 29mph, which is at least something. The effect seems small probably as the gate with cattle grid slows traffic on the approach to the Common.

Cattle have damaged the sign and may need repairing.

8) Common, Park Street eastbound towards Kintbury

751	15/11/2024	17/01/2025	30	60	26	29	34	40.4	30	27	10
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A maximum speed of 60mph. The average is below 30 at 26mph at the sign. There is a 10% reduction in speed, which suggests a real positive effect with vehicles leaving Hungerford.

Recommendations:

Recommendations/ things to think about

- a) Still need to find a suitable location on Church Street so we can check out speeds there as well.
- b) Need to clarify if we can borrow one of the T & M's SIDs on the Common during winter. If so can locate elsewhere.
- c) A4 Charnham St / Charnham Lane has road works obscuring it. So suggest we move to High Street for a bit due to the concerns about speeds on it. After that A4 Cotterel Close?
- d) The damaged SID on the common by the Kintbury Gate may need repair. For T & M.