

29 January 2025

## Traffic & Transport Forum Notes

### 1. Introductions

Those Present: Graham Bennett (GB) (chair), Cllr Luisa Auletta (LA), Cllr Anna Presswell (AP), Cllr Jacqi Hodgson (JH), Cllr Chris Beavis (CB), Cllr Tim Bennett (TB), Cllr Sara Collinson (SC), Cllr Ashton Chadwick (AC), Cllr Wendy Bloomer (WB), NR, HC, GE, VC, RM and BC.

**Apologies:** RO, AF, Cllr John Cummings, GED

**Note keeping:** Lisa Baumbach

### b) Minutes of previous Forum

Agreed

### 2. Update from Devon County Councillor

- The Highways Neighbourhood Officer has recently left. A new person will be appointed.
- The Devolution process poses a number of issues that are currently unknown. For Devon County Council (DCC) this may affect recruitment in the near future and attention will need to focus on what can be achieved quickly before changes come into force. In addition, Parish and Town Councils may incur considerably more work.
- An upcoming meeting with the corporate infrastructure and regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee is scheduled for Thursday 30 January and will be an opportunity to discuss Highways issues and budgets. JH will be fighting to ensure that Parish and Town Councils don't become a catch all in terms of Highways especially as funding isn't available to these Councils for these roles.
- SW Peninsula Transport is going to have another consultation. Proposals will be circulated in due course.
- Themes for the Traffic and Transport Forum and Steering Group will be fed back into DCC.
- Cllr Hodgson will be meeting the Highways team about the 20's Plenty scheme in Totnes. The hope is to fill in the gaps that aren't yet 20mph in Totnes.

**Action** – AC to share a paper written by Rich Garton on the 5 ways to implement something that will work to slow traffic for those communities that don't have 20mph speed limits. Document will be circulated with these meeting notes.

### 3. Community Matters for Highways

- SC raised the issue of a near miss on the old bridge. When this was reported to DCC they maintained that they only note accidents and fatalities so won't proceed with further action to improve safety on the bridge. SC pointed out that this policy is unlawful and could be reported to the Equalities Commission. It needs to be escalated to a higher level at DCC because engineers may not be aware of what their legal duties are.

**Action** - JH will raise at the upcoming meeting at DCC.

**Action** – Everyone was encouraged to report any incidents on the bridge, including near misses, to DCC.

- The recent meeting with the MP was a positive meeting and will be reported on at the Steering Group meeting.

**4. Wrap up**

Nothing to note

**5. Next meeting – 23 July 2025**