

Wallops Traffic Calming Consultation January 2022

1. Background

From the early 2000s, there have been studies, discussions and meetings about the speed and volume of traffic through Over and Nether Wallop along Station Road and Salisbury Lane. From 2010, Section 106 money (from developers) was earmarked for a traffic calming scheme.

A study commissioned in 2013 by Hampshire County Council confirmed that a significant proportion of traffic through Over Wallop was not stopping, the volume of traffic was inappropriate for Station Road and Salisbury Lane, as were vehicle speeds - often in excess of the 30mph speed limit. The study's underlying objective was to develop proposals that would dissuade drivers from using Over Wallop as a short-cut to Grateley Railway Station from the A343. HCC's proposals aimed to:

- Slow traffic along Station Road
- Deter drivers from using Over Wallop as a short cut
- Promote the use of Old Stockbridge Road as an alternative to travelling through Over Wallop
- Improve the level of amenity for local residents

Recommended measures were refined during 2014-15, an initial public consultation was held, and signage was changed at the Old Stockbridge Road/Wallop Road junction. By 2016 three linked measures had been identified: 1) alterations to the Old Stockbridge Road/Wallop Road junction, 2) traffic calming on Station Road including removal of white centre lines, 3) closure of Salisbury Lane to through traffic.

In a 2016 Public Consultation, 164 responses were received. 103 supported the scheme; 43 against, 4 don't know and 11 no response. 52% of respondents supported the closure of Salisbury Lane. 129 also supported traffic calming on the northern part of Station Road (north of the junction with Salisbury Lane)

Implementation was scheduled for 2017-18. Full approval was granted in December 2017. By January 2018 HCC estimated implementation during the 2018-19 financial year. Regular updates were promised. Further dates were given each quarter and the current estimate is Q2 2022.

By 2018-19 the Old Stockbridge Road/Wallop Road element of the plan was abandoned due to cost.

Negotiations to establish permission to build turning spaces on Salisbury Lane continued throughout the pandemic and were finally completed in September 2021. HCC proposed to run the reduced measures as a one year, monitored trial:

- Closure of Salisbury Lane to through traffic
- Introduction of traffic calming on Station Road, without changing the Wallop Road/Old Stockbridge Road junction.
- This plan could be approved by HCC on 27 January 2022.
- HCC acknowledges that, under the revised plan, traffic in Station Road is likely to increase as a result of the scheme even with the traffic calming.
- HCC cannot consider any changes to the scheme, stating that "due to limited resources, the County Council is not able to offer the development of future traffic management schemes"

- Costs to deliver the pilot are estimated to be £289,000, predominantly the turning circles on Salisbury Lane. If the pilot were considered a failure, this money would not be available for any further traffic calming measures.

Success criteria have been reduced from a 5% reduction in traffic along Station Road, to any reduction in volume, to the current proposal of mitigating an increase in traffic with a reduction in speed. There has been no quantification of either the acceptable level of increase or the amount of speed reduction on Station Road which would be deemed successful.

This is the last traffic calming scheme that HCC proposes to implement. No other villages are in line for calming measures and this scheme is only active as a legacy commitment. HCC is clear that there is no alternative to the trial and that in the event that the trial is not a success, no further schemes would be brought forward. OWPC and NWPC would, however, continue to campaign in either event for the money which has been set aside for this specific location, for traffic calming, to be used in a credible way to the advantage of the Parishes. Both the local NDPs and the recent joint Parish Safer Travel Survey, highlight the safety, volume of traffic and speed concerns of residents.

With HCC agreement, Over and Nether Wallop Parish Councils decided to carry out a fresh consultation of parishioners to determine the level of support for the current traffic calming scheme. The consultation ran from 7-18 January 2022 following HCC agreement of the question to be asked.

2. Methodology

Publicity:

A Joint Parishes Working group was formed and a summary of the current situation written (Appendix ii). From 7 January this was advertised on both Parish websites, NextDoor.com, The Hub (OW) and The Pump (NW) – Parish email systems, as well as the NW Facebook page. Copies were put on all Parish Noticeboards in both Parishes, in the Wallops Shop, the White Hart Pub, the Nether Wallop Hall and the Parishes Hall. Both Chairmen emailed interested residents with a copy, asking them to help spread the word to their neighbours and Parish friends. The OW Councillor for Palestine distributed paper copies to Palestine residents. Alerted by Caroline Nokes MP, BBC Radio Solent carried out a range of interviews in Over Wallop and broadcast a short piece on traffic calming with live interviews with both Chairmen, highlighting how to get involved, on Friday 14 January.

Three methods of comment were offered:

1. Using the link: <https://tinyurl.com/Wallops-traffic-calming> from 7-18 January 2022
2. Paper: forms for comment and details of the scheme (kindly provided by HCC) were available at the Wallops Parish Hall on 15 January 2022 from 10am – 4pm.
3. Phone: for those unable to use the link or attend the Wallops Parish Hall, comments could be telephoned to the Over Wallop Parish Clerk on 01264 772460 between 10am and 2pm on 14 January

Question:

The approved question was: **What Is Your View On This Trial?**

Fully Support	Partially Support	Neutral	Somewhat Opposed	Fully Opposed
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Comments:

Controls:

- Online comments fed automatically into Google Forms. The Chairman of Over Wallop typed paper and phone votes into Google Forms, to create one consolidated version of the data. All paper and phone forms have been retained.
- One independent volunteer (not on the PC, not a resident of Station Road or Salisbury Lane) who created the Google Form, had access to names linked to votes.
- All information sent out had names removed. One member of OWPC reconciled votes with the address lists and elector numbers, and the Chairman of OWPC analysed and categorised the comments. Neither had access to names.

Analysis:

- 401 forms were received.
- 30 votes were disallowed, either because the household had voted more times than the number of electors listed on the Parish address lists supplied by TVBC electoral services, or because the address was not listed as being in the Parish. All the excess votes were consistent by household ie all voted in support, or all opposed. In each case the number of votes was reduced to the number of electors at that address.
- 371 votes were therefore counted, a 126% increase in the turnout since the 2016 consultation.
- Returns were analysed by street to determine the spread.
- Comments were categorised by theme and then grouped by subject.

3. Results

What Is Your View On This Trial?

Fully Support 140	Partially Support 38	Neutral 7	Somewhat Opposed 29	Fully Opposed 157
178 47.98%		7 1.89%	186 50.13%	

Distribution by location of voters:

371 replies were received from across both parishes. In outline the distribution was:

Palestine	20	(5.4%)		
Over Wallop*	280	(75.5%)	Station Rd/Orange Lane	129
			Pound Rd/ Evans Close/Fine Acres	67
			King Lane/Craydown Lane	21
			Salisbury Lane/Cottage Rd	63
Nether Wallop	58	(15.6%)	New Rd/Jacks Bush	16
			Farley Street	12
			Village	30
Kentsboro/B3084	13	(3.5%)		
Total	<u>371</u>	<u>(100.0%)</u>		

*Areas of both Station Road and Salisbury Lane are in Nether Wallop. See Appendix iv for full details

4. Comments

327 comments were received. Many of them made multiple points which are reflected below (see Appendix v. for full text):

ABOUT SALISBURY LANE

Comment Summary	No. Mentions
Do It Now/Support for traffic calming trial	58
Calm, not close, Salisbury Lane/Salisbury Lane one-way	30
Salisbury Lane is dangerous	19
Close Salisbury Lane / Close Salisbury Lane at A343 junction	17
Don't close Salisbury Lane	10
Support closure but no turning circle near me	1

ABOUT STATION ROAD

Comment Summary	No. Mentions
The plan is to protect Salisbury Lane at the expense of Station Road.	78
Calm and protect Station Road. Station Road is dangerous. The plan doesn't address dangers on Station Road.	55
Speed concerns at northern end of Station Road where there are no plans for calming	22
There isn't a problem on Station Road/ Station Road can cope/ This is NIMBYism/	10

opposed will affect my commute/no calming	
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SPEED & VOLUME

Comment Summary	No. Mentions
Slow traffic down in Parish to 20mph	37
Concerns about volume of traffic on King Lane/Station Road/ Kentsboro/A343	27

PROCESS

Comment Summary	No. Mentions
Cost concerns	12
Success Criteria must be speed and volume. Qualitative measures also should be included.	10
Concerns about Parish Council's role and motivation	8
Whole plan ludicrous/disastrous/irrational for village	8

SUGGESTIONS

Comment Summary	No. Mentions
Amend Wallop Road/Old Stockbridge Road junction. Improve Old Stockbridge Road/A343 junction.	44
Improve crossroads at George/A343 first	19
Put pavements on Station Road / Salisbury Lane	6
Traffic Calming throughout Parishes including cycle routes	5
Improved signage to stop lorries	5
Close Station Road at Catherston Stud	5
Focus on signage and chicane positioning	5
Keep hedges, banks and branches cut on Station Road	4

INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS

Comment Summary	No. Mentions
Jack's Bush is worse	1
Speed cameras on A343	1
Cut off slip road by War Memorial for seating area	1
Widen Salisbury Lane	1
No Speed Bumps	1
Nether Wallop will see more traffic	1
Put in average speed cameras	1

5. Conclusion

Over and Nether Wallop Parish Councils are pleased that the parishioners have been given a chance to make their views known on the amended scheme. The response demonstrates that strong views

are held, that the parishioners are divided and that traffic calming in the Wallops is critical and urgent. We ask that HCC looks at and considers the results in detail. We look forward to your response.