our streets

an update for the Shelford School community





Message from Great Shelford Parish Council

Firstly, can I thank all those who answered the travel survey, those at the school who have helped us all explore the issues and the children who participated in the "Our Streets" workshops so enthusiastically: **all your feedback is crucial in creating a solid case for change**.

The vision we all share is for a safer and more pleasant place to live in and travel through and we are excited that there was strong support for meaningful improvements to the built environment. Do see below for a summary of the **survey results**.

As a Parish Council we have limited powers and funds to make these changes, but as I know the challenges first hand (living across the street from the school) we are determined to make a compelling, evidenced case and propose some inspiring solutions that can't be ignored. We continue to inform and lobby Cambridgeshire County Council which does have the authority and together, I am confident we can effect change!

Below is an **update** on the Parish Council's next steps, plus **posters** that the children helped create that we will display around the village (and which we would be delighted if you wanted to display in your windows too), and some other helpful links and resources.

Lyn Disley

Chair of The Parish Council Transport and Traffic Infrastructure Working Group (TTIWG)

A detailed overview of how GSPC is addressing traffic issues can be found on our website



glossary

GSPC Great Shelford Parish Council

A Parish Council represents the community on planning and other proposals that affect the Parish.

It is responsible for looking after the local public recreational spaces, certain aspects of the highway, plus cemeteries and allotments.

TTIWG

Transport and Traffic Infrastructure Working Group

The aim of this GSPC working group is to respond to the amount of transport and traffic issues impacting the village of Great Shelford and help GSPC define a community-led position to the individual and cumulative impact of these issues.

This group is made up of local volunteers, including several parents from school, plus parish councillors and meets fortnightly as well as sending representatives to consultations and meetings.

survey results

Launched in March 2023, this anonymous survey invited the school community to help GSPC understand how families and staff make their way to school and pre-school (and how they would prefer to, given the right circumstances).

Full survey results will be available on the Great Shelford Parish Council and Shelford School websites soon.

Parent/carer survey summary

- The main barriers to cycling with children were to do with safety: too many cars, the state of the roads, no separated cycle paths, illegal parking, cars mounting pavements etc. Age and cycle training were also a factor, but do not seem to be deal breakers.
- Those who did drive cited time poverty and distance from school as the main barrier to walking or cycling. For one family, a round trip to school and back by foot would take an hour.
- Suggestions for how to encourage more active travel included proper enforcement of yellow lines, traffic calming measures, a one-way system around Woollards Lane combined with wider pavements, walking bus initiatives combined with a designated "kiss & drop" zone somewhere, and discouraging through traffic.
- Nearly half of respondents would be willing to help with active travel initiatives.

In summary, there is wide support to make significant changes to the village environment that will make walking and cycling more pleasant and safer around the village.

Staff survey summary

- Compared with the pupils, the majority of staff live quite a distance from school.
- Nearly 60% drive to school, with 20% distance parking.
- Some would prefer to get to school via active travel means, but road safety issues (traffic, poor road surfacing), lack of cycle routes or decent public transport make it unfeasible at the moment. Easier interventions such as proper cycle parking and a cycle to work scheme might encourage some to switch to cycling.



glossary cont.

GCP Greater Cambridge Partnership

This is the local delivery body for a City Deal (a bespoke package of funding and decision-making powers negotiated with central Government) to improve transport, housing and skills, made up of elected representatives, plus some university and business representatives. Projects include greenways, stations, travel hubs and public transport schemes.

CSET

Various traffic management schemes along the A1307 and a proposed guided busway between Cambridge Biomedical Campus and a new travel hub in Babraham, overseen by GCP.

EWR East West Rail

A national infrastructure project intended to facilitate east-west travel and to bring economic benefits to the area between Oxford and Cambridge.

next steps

GSPC will...



Publish the independent traffic consultant's report on potential approaches to mitigate traffic issues and improve active travel around Great Shelford

Make improving Church Street (outside the school) a focus initially, with the potential to use experimental traffic orders to prototype possible solutions (specific consultations to be run around this)



Connect with local politicians and highway departments and make targeted applications for change

Print and display the posters created by the school

What you can do...

Continue to engage in active travel



Organise and participate in walk/bike to school initiatives

Practise considerate and legal parking

Continue to report accidents, concerns and near misses

Parking enforcement

We know that reducing illegal and antisocial parking around the village will make walking safer and reduce road rage by maintaining passing spaces.

At the moment it's a criminal matter outside the city of Cambridge, so only the police can issue fines, but they are too stretched to patrol for this.

Cambridgeshire County Council has therefore applied to make it a civil matter, so hopefully in November this power will be devolved and so the South Cambridgeshire District Council will then be able to employ their own traffic wardens.

GSPC will then lobby to get traffic wardens to patrol the village at the most pressing times of the day to encourage better parking!

RULE 238: NO PARKING ON DOUBLE YELLOWS AT ANY TIME







PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR ENGINE



Years 5 & 6 Our Streets Project

Engine idling is bad for you, the environment and your car

It is also **illegal** to idle on a public road Highway Code rule 123



DID VOU KNOW.P

Idling for 1 minute is equal to filling 150 balloons with harmful pollutants.

Please switch off your engine!



Years 5 & 6 Our Streets Project