

Central Chilterns Area Traffic Management Project

Chiltern Local Committee

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1 Purpose of report

- a To update the Local Committee on the current position of this scheme and to introduce the new Chilterns AONB Transport Officer who has been appointed to take this project forward.

2 Proposed action

- b The Local Committee is invited to:
 - i **WELCOME the appointment of the Chilterns AONB Transport Officer;**
 - ii **NOTE his immediate priorities;**
 - iii **DISSEMINATE this information to the groups they represent.**

3 Supporting information

- c Members may recall that in July 2000, a report was considered by this Local Committee that outlined the aims and progress to date of the Central Chilterns Area Traffic Management Project. Progress with this project has been slower than anticipated mainly due to the delay in appointing a project officer to further develop and oversee the implementation of the project.
- d The project is a partnership between Buckinghamshire & Hertfordshire County Councils, Chiltern District Council, The Countryside Agency and the Chilterns Conservation Board. The partners are pleased to report that the appointment of the Chilterns AONB Transport Officer, Mr Shaun Pope, has now been made. Shaun commenced his employment on 29 May 2001 and will be present at the Local Committee meeting.
- e In the short time since his appointment, Shaun has been reviewing the progress to date and has been getting to know the various partners and contacts necessary to take this project forward. All Local Councils in the project area have already been sent a letter to this effect.

- f The involvement and support of Local Councils and interest groups will be essential in taking this project forward. The Local Committee will also have opportunities to contribute to the development of the project. Any observations or problems that are known to the Local Committee members, or their representative groups, and that may need to be addressed by this project will be welcomed at this early stage.

- g Priorities over the coming months, include:
 - Establishing a Forum of the Parishes, Districts, and County Councils in the pilot area, and developing Interest Groups for example walking, cycling and equestrians.

 - A regular project Newsletter will be published shortly explaining the project aims and emphasising the importance of community participation. This will also be available on the Chilterns Conservation Board Web site when it goes live.

 - A Hierarchy of roads in the pilot area will be established, from data collected by Hyder and will be used as part of the process in establishing “Quiet Lanes”.

 - A Signing audit of the pilot area has taken place to establish the condition and nature of signage in the area. This will form the basis of further work on signage and possible village entry treatments.

 - The involvement of the community including the Parish, District, County Councils and Interest Groups in this project will be key to its success, we aim to achieve this through extensive participation and consultation.

 - There are four schools in the pilot area. These will play an active part in this project in conjunction with the “Safer Routes to School” initiative.

- h This project is innovative in nature and one of very few in the UK within the field of rural traffic management. It is hoped that good practice learnt on this project could be adopted throughout the Chilterns AONB where appropriate.

- **Report ends** -