

Divisions affected: *Chipping Norton*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT  
25 JANUARY 2024**

**ENSTONE: CHAPEL LANE – PROPOSED ONE-WAY TRAFFIC  
RESTRICTION**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. The Cabinet Member for Transport Management is **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposed One-Way traffic restriction in the southern section of Chapel Lane, as advertised.

**Executive summary**

2. This report presents responses to the statutory consultation on the proposals to introduce a One-Way Traffic restriction in the southern section of Chapel Lane, Enstone leading to its southernmost junction with the A44 Oxford Road (adjacent to the bus shelter & Post Office), as shown in **Annex 1**. Traffic will enter Chapel Lane at the northernmost junction, and may travel in an east & southwards direction (clockwise) exiting at the southernmost junction where No Entry signs will be displayed to prevent traffic entering from the A44 northwards
3. The proposals have been put forward for road safety reasons, with local residents & the Parish Council raising concerns about the dangers posed by two-way vehicle traffic outside the village shop/post office. The proposals as put forward are considered to be an appropriate means of reducing danger in this location.

**Financial Implications**

4. Funding for the proposals (including consultation) has been provided by the parish council, who will also fund the implementation if approved.

**Equality and Inclusion Implications**

5. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

## **Sustainability Implications**

6. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic, and improve road safety especially for the more vulnerable road users (i.e. pedestrians) in the area.

## **Formal consultation**

7. A formal consultation was carried out between 11 May and 02 June 2023. A notice was published in the Oxford Times newspaper, and an email was sent to statutory consultees & key-stakeholders, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport/access & disabled peoples user groups, West Oxfordshire District Council, East Hanney Parish Council, local District Cllr's, and the local County Councillor representing the Chipping Norton division.
8. A letter was also sent to approx. 425 properties in the area, and street notices were also placed on site in the immediate vicinity.
9. 25 responses were received during the course of the formal consultation, comprising of: one objection (4%), one raising concerns (4%), 22 in support (88%), and one non-objection.
10. The full responses are shown at **Annex 2**, and copies of the original submissions are available for inspection by County Councillors.

## **Officer response to objections/concerns**

11. Thames Valley Police raised no objection to the proposals.
12. The scheme can be justified based on the local knowledge and experiences of residents of Enstone, who by this consultation, have offered a very good level of support and appreciation.
13. The proposal will help manage traffic movements in this specific location, and as such will help improve the overall safety for all users, especially those deemed more vulnerable.
14. The planned signing and lining associated with the proposal will be kept to the regulatory minimum, so as to minimise any visual intrusion/clutter and overall scheme costs.

Bill Cotton  
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

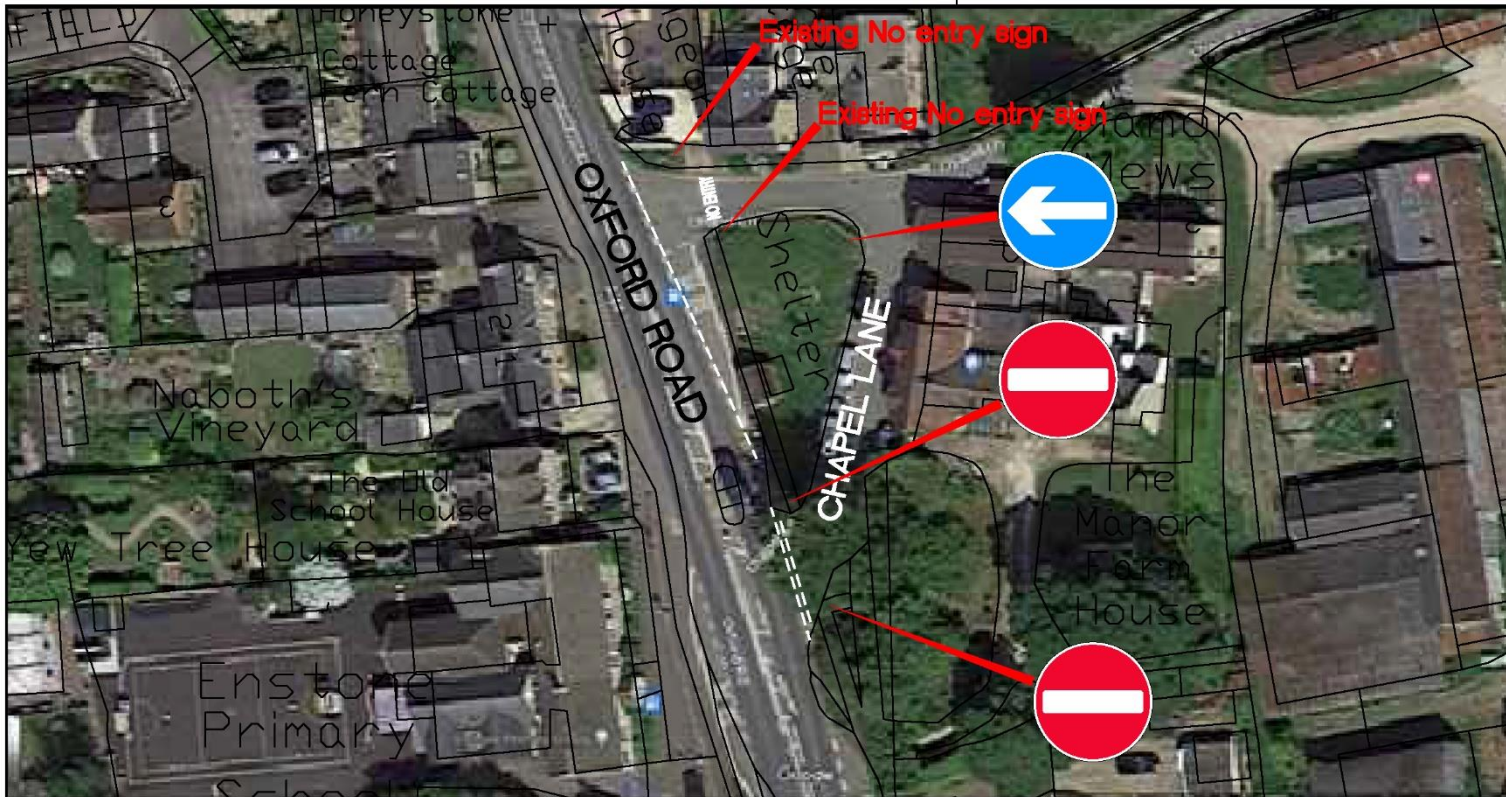
Annexes

Annex 1: Consultation plan  
Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:

James Wright (Senior Officer - Traffic and Road Safety)

January 2024



Drawing No.

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Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved



Additional entry signs (optional)



New No entry signs and road markings

<p>Oxfordshire County Council  <small>Queen Juliana          Director of          Communities Operations          County Hall          New Road          Oxford          OX1 1ND          Tel: 0345 310 1111</small></p>																	
<p>Project title</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Enstone</h2>																	
<p>Drawing title</p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Chapel Lane Proposed ONE WAY</h3>																	
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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<b>No objection</b>
(2) Local resident, (Enstone)	<p><b>Object</b> - I state most emphatically that I am entirely opposed to the proposed one-way restriction. In my opinion it is quite unnecessary from a road safety point of view and to be deplored from an aesthetic perspective.</p> <p>We in Enstone have at present a still pretty, visually attractive, traditional-looking village centre around the small green, which would be utterly despoilt by the introduction of more, metallic street furniture in the form of the proposed new signs and by the painting of new markings on the road surface.</p> <p>I have lived in Litchfield Close, Enstone for about ten years and before that was a frequent visitor to the village throughout my childhood. In all that time I could count quite easily on the fingers of one hand the number of occasions I have witnessed a vehicle not entering or leaving Chapel Lane in the direction your proposal would wish and even then (because of the geography of the roadway) they have always done so at very slow speed, without posing any danger to anyone. In my 53 years of life I have never seen or heard of any accident of any kind occurring in Chapel Lane.</p> <p>In reality, in my view, no significant danger or peril to road users actually exists under the existing state of affairs. Therefore, the Council's proposal is, to my way of thinking, entirely unnecessary and unwanted and would be - were it to go ahead - on balance very much to the detriment of the village and a thoroughly wasteful and inappropriate expenditure of all too scarce public funds.</p> <p>I for one DO NOT WISH THIS PROPOSAL TO BE IMPLIMENTED and hope most earnestly and sincerely that it will be dropped.</p> <p>There are potholes galore of a dangerous depth along extended sections of the Old London Road between The Beaches and Enstone that have been present for years now, unattended. These DO pose a genuine danger to the integrity of vehicle tyres and oblige drivers to swerve erratically to avoid them. In my opinion, the Council's resources would be far better employed in repairing these menaces than in squandering them unnecessarily in Chapel Lane where the proposed measures are unwanted and would serve only to destroy the present beauty of the heart of the</p>

	village.
(3) Local resident, (Enstone, The Spinneys)	<p><b>Concerns</b> - Re- Cost/benefit of the proposal. Given the location and restrictions it does make sense for traffic to flow in one direction. However, do not most people drive into the shop parking area from the south entrance as, it is by far the safest entrance and there is already a No Entry signage on the road should anyone be incompetent and attempt to use this blind exit. How many accidents or near misses have actually occurred?</p> <p>To be precise in section 3 Traffic Order document, One-Way Traffic 3. The "Section if Road" means that part of Chapel Lane leading southwards from the northernmost section of Chapel Lane east of the A44, to the southernmost junction with the A44.</p> <p>the southernmost junction of Chapel Lane with the A44 is actually several hundred yards down the hill. Unless you are proposing the whole length of Chapel Lane becomes a one-way system, which I believe is not the purpose of this proposal/amendment.</p>
(4) Local group/organisation, (Unlimited Oxfordshire)	<p><b>Support</b> – The proposal seems to be very sensible, as it will remove conflict between turning vehicles at the northern end of the short north-south length of Chapel Lane. That conflict causes some vehicles to come very close to the narrow footway, which must be intimidating for pedestrians, particularly those who use walking aids or have poor eyesight.</p> <p>Therefore Unlimited Oxfordshire supports this proposal.</p>
(5) Local resident, (Enstone, Bicester Road)	<p><b>Support</b> - It makes sense to have a one way system - I thought there was already one in place and one exit (the proposed 'IN') as it currently stands is completely blind because of the house on the corner.</p>
(6) Local resident, (Enstone, The Drive)	<p><b>Support</b> - For increased safety for drivers and pedestrians.</p>

(7) Local resident, (Enstone, Cleveley Road)	<b>Support</b> - It's already treated as a one way may as well make it official
(8) Local resident, (Enstone, Lidstone)	<b>Support</b> - It feels safer to have one -way traffic
(9) Member of public, (Enstone, Crossways Court)	<b>Support</b> - Live in village
(10) Local resident, (Enstone, Banbury Road)	<b>Support</b> - Likely to be safer for all.
(11) Local resident, (Enstone, Chapel Lane)	<p><b>Support</b> - This will make the entry and exit on and from the a44 a lot safer. Currently only having no entry signs at one end of this road seems to cause confusion for many drivers from what I've witnessed. Regularly drivers pull onto Chapel Lane at the current 2 way junction and then turn back onto the a44 at the wrong end, assuming they can simply loop around, completely ignoring the no entry/exit signs. As this corner is completely blind, both from Chapel Lane and the a44, someone will cause an accident eventually.</p> <p>A one way system would also stop people clogging up the top of Chapel Lane doing 3 point turns where it is already narrow when cars are parked.</p> <p>Overall it would be much more simplified and safer to have this section as one way.</p>
(12) Local resident, (Enstone, The Drive)	<p><b>Support</b> - I am a local resident who regularly uses the shop, and drop off and pick my daughter up from the school bus every morning and evening from the consultation area. It is a common site to witnessed vehicles parked on the double yellow lines the left of the proposed one way exit, such that the when cars are parked in the designated parking area (directly inform of the shop) there is very little space to pass via the gap. Certainly an emergency vehicle such as a fire engine or ambulance would not be able to get through.</p> <p>I have personally witnessed at least 4 cars wing mirrors or doors being hit/damaged due to the limits space. Road rage is a common occurrence when vehicle enters the proposed exit of the one way system and other vehicles are in the process of exiting, especially when cars are parked both sides. I have also witness Oxfordshire Council refuse lorries exit the no exit sign on the blind corner onto Oxford Road. The current situation is extremely dangerous and poses a significant risk if emergency vehicles can not exit the area safely, when cars are parked at both sides. There is no way of turning when the space are fully with parked cars. I would actually go afar as the entirety of Chapel Lane should be one way due to the extremely narrow lane and all the numerous parked cars.</p>

<p>(13) Local resident, (Enstone, The Paddocks)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Seems a practical simple solution to the problem. Slightly restricts options for traffic exiting Chapel Lane itself, but makes their entry to the traffic flow more predictable</p>
<p>(14) Local resident, (Enstone, Cleveley Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I concur with the planned one-way route around this island. It is the way I use as I feel it is the safest way to gain access to the shop and for leaving the parking bay to join the A44 going south(ish) bound.</p>
<p>(15) Local resident, (Enstone, Cleveley Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - This proposal will prevent vehicles from entering Chapel Lane from the south and then having to either 3-point in an inappropriate place or drive the length of Chapel Lane to exit. It will also prevent vehicles entering Chapel Lane from the south from exiting to the north against a No Entry sign and on to the A44 at a dangerous junction.</p>
<p>(16) Local resident, (Enstone, Chapel Lane)</p>	<p><b>Support</b>- The one way system should have been implemented years ago. The flow of traffic around the green with a one way system will be much safer. Currently, people driving in from the wrong end do one of three things. Drive down Chapel Lane, a U-turn before driving out the only legal way, or illegally turn out ignoring the no entry sign, which is incredibly dangerous, as no visibility. It's really important that this goes ahead.</p>
<p>() Local resident, (Enstone, Chapel Lane)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Excellent. I have been campaigning for the one-way system to be implemented for many years!</p>
<p>(17) Local resident, (Enstone)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Thank you for the letter regarding the proposed one way system on Chapel Lane in Enstone. It's a good idea to have a one way system and I wondered in the process of you could address the parking?</p> <p>I have attached a photo and where there is a red cross a vehicle frequently parks making it a tight fit for passing traffic. I think this is due to the double yellow lines having been painted over with grey paint? This could be legitimate but it could spoil the flow of traffic if it continues.</p>
<p>(18) Local resident, (Enstone, Oxford Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I have received your letter with enclosed map. I agree with the changes, and for years now I have already been following this route to get to our village shop. Well done</p>



<p>(19) Local business, (Enstone, The Green)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – We are completely agree with your decision which is good for residents. Please consider our shop deliveries too. Every week we are getting deliveries from other cash and curries like Bestway and bookers. normally they are using big trailers to deliver product. normally Delivery drivers parked their vehicle on the oxford road then reversing in to the chapel lane to deliver us because big trailers unable to turn other way (currently no entry sign board way).</p> <p>we are unable to take deliveries from oxford road because we are getting deliveries from wood pallets. Oxford road is very narrow road delivery vehicle parked on that road which will make more congestion to other road users.</p> <p>if you have any additional sign like only delivery vehicle or similar any other sign which would be perfect to our small business.it will help us lot.</p> <p>small request -front of the shop there are restriction parking spaces only for 2 hours free parking but every one parking more than two hours, Saturday and Sunday they are parking whole day Which will affect our business. our customer unable to park their vehicles front of the shop. i think if we can change for 30 minutes free parking would be perfect to us and our customer.</p>
<p>(20) Local resident, (Enstone)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – As a resident of Enstone and a regular user of the shop, I think the One Way proposal very sensible.</p>
<p>(21) Local resident, (Enstone, The Spinneys)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – We have lived in Enstone for 50 years and welcome this change in Chapel Lane. It has been along time coming and hopefully will make the area in front of the shop safer for pedestrians and motorists.</p>
<p>(22) Local resident, (Enstone, The Spinneys)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – We agree with the proposals for the One-Way restriction for Chapel Lane, a sound idea.</p> <p>Whist on the subject of 'Road Safety', I have concerns with the grass verge at the junction of Cox's Lane &amp; the Charlbury Road (in Enstone). The height of the vegetation significantly restricts the view for drivers exiting Cox's Lane onto the Charlbury Road. In the interests of safety, I cut the grass about 3 times a year, I have approached the parish council but understand this in not their responsibility (so much for road safety). Does the County have any responsibility for this situation please?</p>

<p>(23) Local business, (Enstone)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – fully support the proposal to create a one way system in front of the Enstone shop. This should have been done long ago but from Parish Council minutes they appear to have been indecisive about parking issues in this part of the village. In addition to the one way system we would ask you to seriously considering parking in front of the shop by limiting this to ONE SIDE OF THE ROAD only. This would ensure there is always proper access for Emergency Service vehicles and of course access for agricultural vehicles to the Manor Farm fields we own.</p>
<p>(24) Local resident, (Enstone)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Please make it one way. It is dangerous as it is now.</p>
<p>(25) Local resident, (Enstone, Oxford Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I am in favour of the suggestion which to be honest I thought was in place anyway. This is the way most people use this road - as in, in one side (the north end) and out the other (south). I think that any formalisation of this way of use can only be a good thing.</p>