

County Council Meeting, 24 February, 2022

RE: LTN decision

PRESENTATION by Edward GLOVER

on behalf of *Friends of Henley Avenue* residents' association

The aim of the Alliance parties to improve the environment and encourage *Active Travel* may have been well-intentioned but the approach, has **lacked integrity**.

Firstly, the approach has been **undemocratic**: the LTN survey of residents in March 2021 deliberately excluded residents living on the 'boundary roads'. Then, in August, a private survey of those excluded residents reported that 67% believed traffic had significantly increased, and 65% believed pollution had worsened. These results were ignored by local county councillors. And most recently, of course, the county council has dismissed the democratic result of the public consultation, which voted overwhelmingly (63%) in opposition to the LTN scheme.

Secondly, the approach has been **hypocritical**: councillors have acclaimed that LTN residents have been able to walk and cycle on their roads with less traffic and pollution; however, simultaneously, they have refused to accept that the very opposite has been true for residents living on the boundary roads where correspondingly higher levels of traffic and pollution have created HTNs (High Traffic Neighbourhoods).

Thirdly, and lastly, the county council has been guilty of **discrimination**: older people and disabled people have experienced unwarranted obstacles and restrictions to their mobility. Moreover, emergency services, mobile carers and delivery vehicles have all been hampered by barricades that have made journeys unnecessarily longer. And why is it that the county council has chosen only to segregate people living in East Oxford, whereas no such impediments to travel exist in any other part of Oxford?

You, the Alliance parties, have failed to 'sell' your vision of a healthier Oxford to the electorate of East Oxford; You have adopted a patronizing 'we know what's best for you' attitude, and striven to impose your plans despite the clear opposition of the electorate.

Please stop now! Seek a public consensus for a new environmental plan that equitably shares the environmental benefits in all parts of Oxford ... or pay the price at the ballot box!