

Divisions affected: Otmoor

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS MANAGEMENT – 28 APRIL 2022

AMBROSDEN: A41 & PLOUGHLEY ROAD JUNCTION – TURNING PROHIBITIONS AT JUNCTION AND PBUS STOP CLEARWAY

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for the Highway Management is **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposed 40mph speed limit on the Ploughley Road and the prohibitions of turning movements at the A41 junction with Ploughley Road.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on a proposal to introduce turning restrictions at the A41 junction with Ploughley Road in conjunction with the signalisation of the junction, and also a bus stop clearway as shown in **Annex 2**, as a result of the development of adjacent land. It should be noted that additionally a proposal to introduce a 40mph speed as shown in **Annex 1** which is complementary to these proposals was approved at the Cabinet Member for Highway Management decisions meeting on 24 March as part of a package of speed limit changes in the Bicester area.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals has been provided by the developers of adjacent land

Equality and Inclusion Implications

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

Sustainability Implications

5. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

Consultation

6. The Formal consultation was carried out between 17 February and 18 March 2022. A notice was published in the Bicester Advertiser newspaper and an email sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, Bicester Town Council, Ambrosden Parish Council, Blackthorn Parish Council, Cherwell District Council, and the local County Councillors covering the Otmoor, and the Ploughley divisions.
7. Six responses were received during the formal consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Object	Concerns	Support	No opinion	Total
40mph speed limit on Ploughley Road	1	-	1	4	6
No Left Turn into Ploughley Rd	3	1	-	2	6
No Right Turn onto A41	1	2	-	3	6
A41 Bus-stop Clearway	1	-	1	4	6

8. The responses are shown at **Annex 3**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.
9. Thames Valley Police expressed no objections but did express concerns about the possibility of drivers making U turns on the A41 in order to minimise the additional time and distance that otherwise would be incurred by drivers currently making the turns that are proposed to be prohibited; additionally, the police asked for a rationale behind the proposed prohibition of the left turn from the A41 to Ploughley Road.
10. Ambrosden Parish Council expressed an objection to the proposed prohibition of the left turn from the A41 to Ploughley Road, and similar objections were received from two members of the public (one of whom objected to all the proposals other than the proposed bus stop clearway)
11. Noting the above, the proposed turning restrictions are intended to provide for the safe and efficient operation of the junction, with the new roundabout at the nearby Pioneer Road junction 500m to the west of the Ploughley Road junction providing an opportunity for vehicles currently making these turns to re-route with only a modest increase in journey length.

Bill Cotton
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes
Annex 1: Consultation Plan (Speed limit)
Annex 2: Consultation Plan (Turn restrictions)
Annex 3: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:

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April 2022

1. TOPO SURVEY INFORMATION BASED ON AECOM TOPO SURVEY FEBRUARY 2021.
2. DO NOT SCALE FROM THE DRAWING. USE FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
3. EXACT LOCATIONS OF EXISTING TERMINAL SPEED LIMIT ROUNDLETS ARE TO BE IDENTIFIED ON SITE DURING DETAILED DESIGN.
4. THE LENGTHS AND EXTENTS OF THE TRO PROVIDED ON THIS DRAWING ARE INDICATIVE. THE EXACT DIMENSIONS AND EXTENTS FOR THIS SHALL BE PROVIDED DURING THE DETAILED DESIGN STAGE.
5. JUNCTION UPDATE PROPOSED DUE TO THE INCREASED TRAFFIC DEMANDS FROM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT. MODELLING HAS INDICATED THAT TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH THE PROPOSED BANDED MOVEMENTS PROVIDES AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF CAPACITY AT THE JUNCTION. TOLLGATE CROSSINGS WILL PROVIDE CROSSING FACILITIES. ALTERNATIVE ROUTES AVAILABLE FOR DISPLACED TRAFFIC VIA THE A41 AND D4011 JUNCTION.

KEY

	A41 ONLY PROPOSED 40mph SPEED LIMIT (PREVIOUSLY 50mph) 1432m IN LENGTH
	PLOUGHLEY ROAD ONLY PROPOSED 40mph SPEED LIMIT (PREVIOUSLY 60mph) 762m IN LENGTH
	PLOUGHLEY ROAD EXISTING 30mph SPEED LIMIT
	A41 EXISTING 60mph SPEED LIMIT
	A41 EXISTING 40mph SPEED LIMIT



ISSUE/REVISION

ISS	DATE	DESCRIPTION
03	20/10/2021	FINAL PRELIM DESIGN
02	26/07/2021	CHANGES AS PER CLIENT REQUEST
01	21/04/2021	FIRST ISSUE

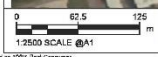
DRAWING STATUS

PRELIMINARY

PROJECT NUMBER
 60651838

SHEET TITLE
 PLOUGHLEY ROAD
 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER
 PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS

SHEET NUMBER
 P 60651838-PLO-DWG-20-PD-TRO-02



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PROJECT
**PLOUGHLEY RD /
A41 JUNCTION**
OX26 6HQ

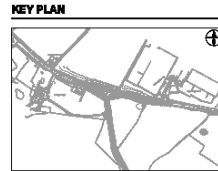
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- NOTES
1. THIS DRAWING IS BASED ON OS MAPPING AND TOPO SURVEY INFORMATION FROM AECOM TOPO SURVEY FEBRUARY 2021.
 2. DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING. USE FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
 3. THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL OTHER PRELIMINARY DESIGN DRAWINGS.
 4. THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED BUS STOP IS AS PER OOC REQUEST TO REDUCE THE RISK OF AN ACCIDENT OCCURRING IN THE EVENT THAT A VEHICLE OVERTAKES A WAITING BUS STOP IN ITS EXISTING LOCATION, WITHOUT HAVING CLEAR VISIBILITY OF ONCOMING TRAFFIC.
 5. THE PROPOSED BUS STOP LOCATION IS 100m WEST OF THE EXISTING BUS STOP.

- KEY
- - - HIGHWAY BOUNDARY
 - ▭ PROPOSED LAYOUT
 - ▭ PROPOSED ROAD MARKINGS
 - - - EXISTING BUS STOP LOCATION



ISSUE/REVISION

02	20/10/2021	FINAL PRELIM
01		NOT ISSUED
00		DATE DESCRIPTION

DRAWING STATUS

PRELIMINARY

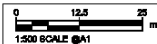
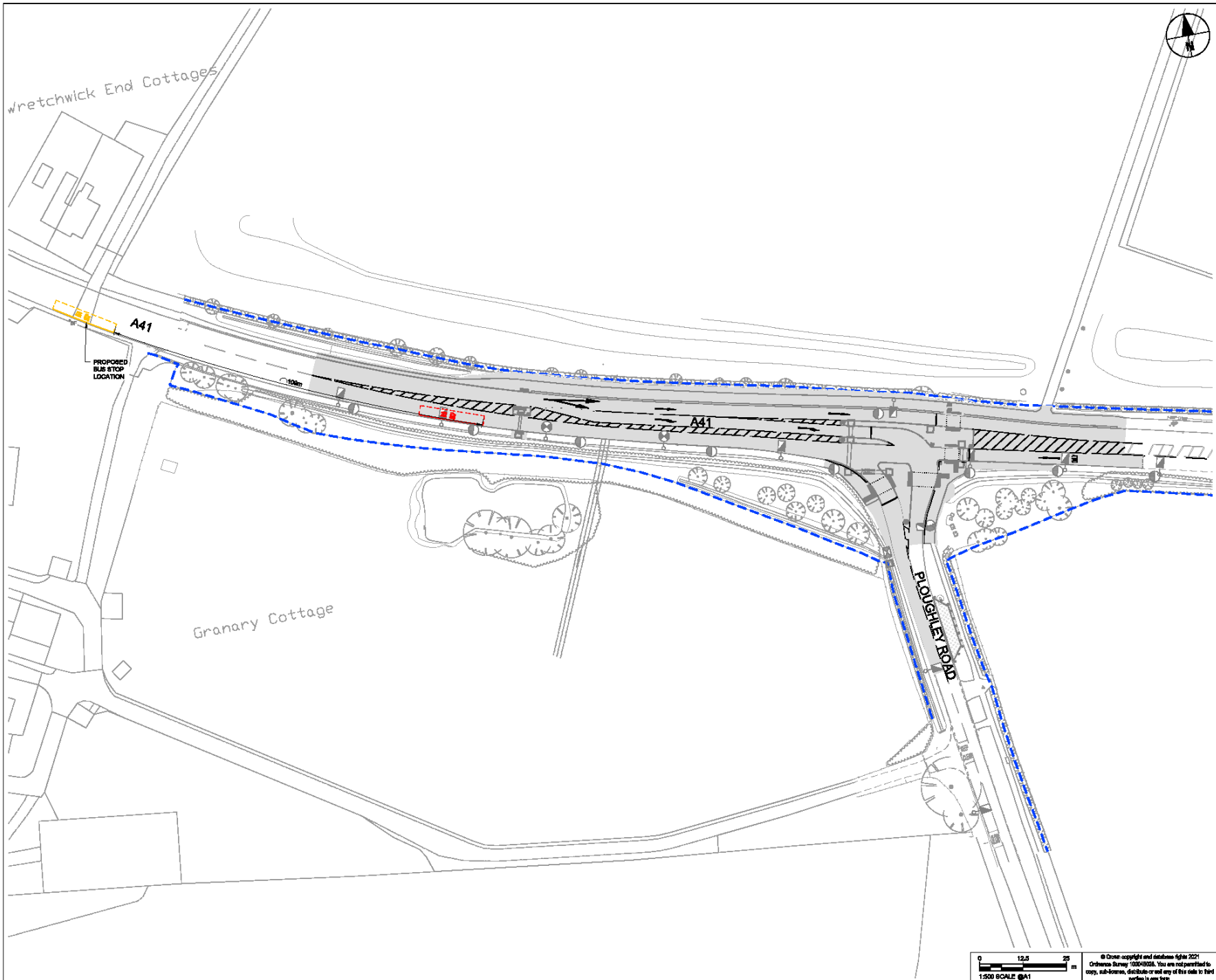
PROJECT NUMBER
00851838

SHEET TITLE
**PLOUGHLEY ROAD
TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER
PROPOSED BUS STOP LOCATION**

SHEET NUMBER
P 00851838-PL0-DWG-20-PD-TR0-04

Project Management Initials: Designer: RW Checked: BS Approved: MS BID A1 (8/8/2021) 04/11/2021

Issue Number: 04 Date Issued: 20/10/2021 Issue By: 00851838-PL0-DWG-20-PD-TR0-0003.DWG



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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<p>40mph speed limit on Ploughley Road - No objection No Left Turn onto Ploughley Road from A41 - Concerns No Right Turn onto A41 from Ploughley Road – Concerns A41 Bus-stop Clearway – No objection</p> <p>In principle I do not object, but as you know I did raise concern during previous consultation with lowering the speed limit on the A41 in and around the Bicester corridor which connect on to these proposals. This current site is currently under severe road construction and it is difficult to imagine whether the new design will be sufficient to achieve good levels of compliance. I acknowledge roadside development is increasing, however there appears little roadside frontage at the moment.</p> <p>My next question relates to the Prohibited turn manoeuvres at the Ploughley road junction. Turning right out would appear to be engineered to achieve compliance however I raise slight concern at the expectation that drivers who might wish to turn right will be expected to travel to Graven Hill roundabout in order to then travel east. Could this lead to some motorists choosing to 'U' turn in the road compromising safety?</p> <p>The left turn into Ploughley road from the A41 is also prohibited but it is not explained why! An engineering solution to achieve good compliance is not evident on the drawing and my fear is this will receive constant poor compliance. These restrictions must not place any burden for enforcement on the Police.</p>
(2) Ambrosden Parish Council	<p>40mph speed limit on Ploughley Road - Support No Left Turn onto Ploughley Road from A41 - Object No Right Turn onto A41 from Ploughley Road – No opinion A41 Bus-stop Clearway – No opinion</p> <p>Ambrosden Parish Council broadly supports the proposed changes to the speed limits, but is opposed to closure of the left turn into Ambrosden from the A41. Ambrosden Parish Council would also support the extension of a 40mph limit on the A41 to incorporate the turning to Marsh Gibbon, just past railway bridge, on both sides</p>

(3) Ambrosden Parish Council	Comments - Would you take into consideration that the stretch of the A41 under review has had twelve accidents reported along the stretch from Mill House Farm and beyond, two of which resulted in serious injuries to local parishioners.
(4) Cherwell District Council	No observations
(5) An individual, (Yarnton, Spencer Avenue)	<p>40mph speed limit on Ploughley Road - No opinion No Left Turn onto Ploughley Road from A41 - Object No Right Turn onto A41 from Ploughley Road - Concerns A41 Bus-stop Clearway - Object</p> <p>I cycle in this area occasionally so am interested from that angle as the cycle path is in need of improvement, hence I use the road. My concern is the junction improvement works is to allow an increase in the volume of traffic, the works themselves, I suspect, will act to slow traffic down anyway. Not sure if a bus clearway would be helpful. I haven't noticed a high level of bus traffic. No Right Turn onto A41 from Ploughley Road- wont this just move the traffic to Blackthorn increasing the issues there?</p> <p>No Left Turn onto Ploughley Road from A41- this seems bizarre, again would move traffic to blackthorn. Appears nonsensical.</p>
(6) An individual, (Oxford, Rymers Lane)	<p>40mph speed limit on Ploughley Road - Object No Left Turn onto Ploughley Road from A41 - Object No Right Turn onto A41 from Ploughley Road - Object A41 Bus-stop Clearway - Support</p> <p>This road seems to have no special features which necessitate reductions in the speed limit. Moreover, visibility</p>

	seems clear and therefore I can't see why turn restrictions are required.
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