

## **Charlbury Town Council**

### **Strategy Framework for Highways and Transport**

Adopted by the council on 15 December 2021

#### **Background**

The direct responsibilities of a town or parish council when it comes to highways are very limited. However, Oxfordshire County Council has opted to transfer responsibility for a number of matters onto town and parish councils; particularly the promotion and funding of new road traffic regulation initiatives.

In 2021, OCC launched a 3-year scheme to promote the extension of 20mph zones, subject to funding principally coming from town and parish councils. This will form an important initiative for Charlbury and be a focus of activity for this Town Council.

Other factors in highways and transport regulation are principally outwith the control of a town and parish council, particularly county council and national policy.

#### **Principles**

The Town Council supports the following as priorities identified by the council or the town:

- Making our streets safer by action to reduce speeds, in the knowledge that speed reduction will most effectively be achieved by physical calming measures and police enforcement
- Reducing carbon emissions as part of wider efforts to act on the declaration of a climate and ecological emergency
- Take proactive measures to facilitate and promote active travel
- Where possible, support local businesses by trying to identify additional locations for improved access.

#### **How will we take this work forward?**

Work to reduce traffic speeds will be taken forward with townwide engagement on proposals as part of the Oxfordshire County Council 20mph scheme.

Additional proposals for active travel and traffic regulation will be taken forward from time to time as part of a Traffic Regulation Order process, guided by a cycling strategy and recommendations made by Walkers are Welcome and the Journeys workstream.

The Council's Climate Action Plan will make longer term recommendations as to how to achieve significant carbon reductions.

Other initiatives will be considered on their merits and supported where they contribute to the above aims and principles.