

Barrington Parish Council

Chairman:
Cllr Jan de Haldevang

Planning Department
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Dear Sir/Madam,

NATIONAL TRUST SHERBORNE MASTER PLAN Reference: Consultation and briefing Wed 6 Mar 24

Barrington Parish Council welcomes the opportunity, albeit at very short notice, to comment on the National Trust and CDC Plan for the Sherborne Estate.

Cotswold District Council will be aware, following our publication of numerous Parish Council meetings attended by Cllr Tony Dale, of the concerns about increased traffic flow on our 1.5 car width country lane expressed by the residents of Great and Little Barrington.

Gloucester Constabulary is aware of recorded data of peak time traffic volumes rising to over 150 cars/hr with record speeds of up to 57mph. The combination of these increasingly dangerous and damaging local factors, being essentially the development of a 'rat-run' (Lechlade to Stow) or Burford 'by-pass' for commercial and private use have led to the justification for an installation of community and Parish precept funded ASW (Automated Speed Watch) cameras. Despite such an active measure, early evidence suggests a continuous increase in the volume of transiting traffic.

In parallel, following our successful representation and appeal as a founding committee member of WiVTAG (Windrush Valley Traffic Action Group) against the Burford Bridge ETRO (Emergency Traffic Regulation Order) we continue to monitor actively the breaching of the established 7.5t limit over our two single lane bridges. Local farm tractor, trailer or grain and livestock delivery traffic deny us the option for more stringent, physical measures (eg chicanes or bollards). The inevitable 'confrontation' between essential agricultural and commuter traffic is leading to an increase in often lengthy congestion.

The early summary of the National Trust plan makes mention of 3 centres, enabling access to the countryside for walking and bi-cycling visitors. While we understand and respect the local and indeed increased national interest in the countryside, we do urge the study of the impact that such a development will have on the already over-loaded, increasingly damaged minor country lane or local road infrastructure. Furthermore, we encourage and would welcome the confirmation of the coordination of this Sherborne plan within the current consultation being conducted by OCC's (Oxfordshire County Council) Local Traffic and Regional Weight Restriction policy and trial.

Jan H de Haldevang
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