

Froxfield News

October 2023 - Issue #2

From your Parish Council

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Village 40mph speed limit given the go ahead.

Wiltshire Council consultants get behind our request for a standard 40mph speed limit between the village gates.

Froxfield Parish Council applied to WCC Highways to have a Speed Limit Review carried out with the aim of achieving a standard speed limit through the length of the village.

Our ambition to drop the speed limit at the eastern end of the village, past The Pelican, is now a step closer as Atkins, the consultants reviewing our case, have now recommended this action.

Atkins experts agreed that it "wasn't good practice to have multiple changes of speed limit across short lengths of road". The distance covered currently by the 50mph is just 317 metres, but it is clear from the results of the recent survey, that cars are accelerating to excessive speeds well before the end of the village. The standard 40mph speed limit will remove all

ambiguity and ensure that all drivers understand that



Artist's Impression - but soon should be a reality!

they are expected to drive with courtesy and regard the village boundaries as being the two gates. The PC will then seek to reinforce this message by fixing a Speed Indicator Device opposite Riverview. However, the next step will be for Wiltshire Council to publicly advertise the proposed change and fulfil some necessary legal steps. Anyone can comment on the proposed changes during the 28-day period of public consultation. Froxfield Parish Council hopes no one will object to lowering the speed limit and, all being well, and with no serious objections received, lowering the speed limit from 50mph to 40mph could be implemented early next year. This will be particularly beneficial to the cluster of houses at the end of

Speeds recorded

Atkins recorded speeds by following streams of traffic through the village on multiple occasions. The average speed recorded through the village centre was 41.1mph, whilst in the 50mph zone it was 47.6mph. Approaching the gates from the west it was 58.4mph.

Froxfield opposite the Pelican, to residents of The College and for anyone crossing the road nearby.

Froxfield Parish Council will contribute towards the costs of having new signage — 40mph roundels on the the eastern 'Pelican' gates and the replacement of the 50mph speed signage.

- The speed limits at the western end of the village will be unaffected. The 50mph approach to Froxfield from the Marlborough end will remain as will the 40mph from the western gates. At the eastern end, the open speed limit (60mph) will be in place beyond the gates. That means the current short 50mph zone before the gates will change, for vehicles approaching from Hungerford.
- The A4 through Froxfield is classed as a "3A Main Distributor" road within the national network. Says Atkins: "That means the function of the road is as part of a strategic network, providing an inter-urban link." The Parish Council recognises that Froxfield would not qualify for a 30mph speed limit under current national guidance, due to the relatively low number of homes directly fronting the road.



On demand bus service is 'live' next week

Phase 3 of the new Wiltshire Connect bus service goes live on October 30th. Here is what is happening and how it affects Froxfield —

Wiltshire Connect is different from a conventional bus service, in that people can book journeys at a time to suit them using the Wiltshire Connect app or <u>by phone</u>. Anyone can book and travel between any designated pick up and drop off point within each travel zone, and the council's smart technology matches up journeys with other passengers travelling in the same direction...



★ Introduction of the third on-demand bus and extension of the operating area to the east of Marlborough and Hungerford which includes Froxfield, Chilton Foliat, Ham, Shalbourne and Hungerford on October 30th.

- ★ Introduction of the 110 timetabled service between Marlborough-Great Bedwyn and Hungerford to compliment the on-demand service. School journeys will continue to be operated by Swindon Bus/Reds and will run all year round and show service 120. (Service 20/22 will end on 28th October).
- * The designated drop off and pick up zones in Froxfield are: the normal bus stop/bus shelter; the carpark of The Pelican pub; the triangle at the bottom of Brewhouse Hill.
- * All adult fares are £2 with half-price for young people up to the age of 21. Single or 10-journey passes are available.

In addition, there are some tweaks to the new services introduced earlier: A new 100 service between Marlborough and Devizes – 4 Journeys in each direction Mon-Fri — and a revised timetable for the 101 Pewsey-Devizes, based on passenger feedback, with some journeys running earlier or later. Also, From 4th November, the Saturday on demand service will operate between 8am-8pm.

To find out more about the scheduled services with bus routes 110/120. The new timetable of services to Froxfield pictured above can also be found online by clicking this <u>link</u>.

Wiltshire Council



CAROLINE THOMAS

Announcing the new services, Cllr Caroline Thomas, WCC Cabinet Member for Transport, said: "Wiltshire Connect has been a fantastic success so far, with more than 5,000 passengers using the service, and more than 2,400 people downloading the easy-to-use smartphone app. We want to build on this!"

More information including maps, timetables, links to download the booking app and instructional videos are available on our website at www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk. The Wiltshire Connect app is available to download on Apple and Android devices, and anyone without access to a smartphone can call 01225 712900 to book their ride.



Passengers can board the 110 bus at any timed point shown on the timetable without pre-booking. Rides can also be booked on our ondemand service when the 110 bus is not running.

	120		
Marlborough High Street, Lloyds		0900	
Froxfield		0912	
Hungerford, High Street	0723	0918	
Ham, Crown and Anchor	0731	0926	
Shalbourne, The Plough	0737	0932	
Great Bedwyn, Railway Station			1638
Great Bedywn, Square	0744	0939	1639
Great Bedwyn, School		0942	
Marlborough Savernake Hospital	0800	0952	1650
Marlborough High Street, Post Office	0808	0958	1656
Marlborough, St Johns School	0813 SCH		

	120	
	1525 SCH	1615 SCH
1200	1535	1620
1206	1541	1626
1215	1550	1635
1216	1551	1636
1218	1553	1638
1226	1601	
1232	1607	
1240	1615	
1246		
1258		
	1206 1215 1216 1218 1226 1232 1240 1246	1206 1541 1215 1550 1216 1551 1218 1553 1226 1601 1232 1607 1240 1615 1246

SCH = Starts from St Johns on school days Service 120 is operated by Swindon Bus/Reds. Different fares apply.



BULB PLANTING ON THE WATER MEADOW



Please join us at the water meadow nature reserve to help plant a selection of bulbs ready for spring.

Saturday October 28th Starting at 10am



We will be planting **Snakeshead Fritillaries**, **native daffodils** and **blue bells**

If you can spare an hour or so, and would like to help work on our nature reserve, do come along and help us plant the cleared space at the eastern end of the water meadow.

Bring your own gardening gloves and trowels.

Help for as little or as long as you are able.

Bulbs sourced from <u>Meadowmania</u> - experts in wild flowers and British flora plants



Froxfield Parish Council meets in the Memorial Hall every two months.

See our website www.froxfield.org for dates, agendas and minutes of previous meetings.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 20th November where we will discuss the budget for 2024/25.

Remembrance Day Service

At All Saints Church, Sunday November 12th: A special service of Remembrance led by our local Lay

Minister David Wilson begins at 10.50am outside by the War Memorial with the reading of the names of the village's fallen soldiers from the

two world wars. Parish Council Chair Vanya

Body will then lay a wreath at the War

Memorial before the gathered observe the two minute silence at 11am. The remaining service will be held inside the Church.

Small individual crosses will be available for

villagers to place in memory of a

family member. (Donations appreciated.)



Wine, Rhyme and Prose Evening

for all the Family
Sunday 26th November 5-7pm
All Saints Church, Froxfield

"Bring a favourite poem or piece of prose that you have enjoyed or written which might remind you of a wonderful event, a beautiful day, a lovely cup of tea, a special person or just makes you smile, and then share it with us all while sipping a delicious glass of mulled wine with friends and family.

A retiring collection will be held to raise money for the church's organ."

Jan Heppenstall, All Saints Parish Church Committee

This newsletter is being emailed out to residents of Froxfield who have signed up to our email news service. We hold a list of those wanting to be kept abreast of the PC's activities and being informed about opportunities to get involved with village projects. If you are not already on this email broadcast list and would like to be, send your details to the PC Chair: v.body@froxfield.org

• We will not share your name with any other organisation and information sent to you will relate to Froxfield Village matters.