

PARISH MEETING

FILE NOTE

12th October 2023 at 7:00pm

TRINITY VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Chaired by: Mr Philip Le Sueur, Connétable

In attendance: Deputy T Binet, Minister for Infrastructure & Environment
Mr T Dodd, Department of Infrastructure & Environment
Mr C Dodd, Department of Infrastructure & Environment

Background

The meeting was called at the request of a large number of Parishioners following an exhibition of the proposed Trinity Village Improvement Scheme on Saturday 15th July 2023. Following the Exhibition in July, Parishioners' comments and suggestions were considered and the revised, and somewhat reduced plans, were presented to the Parish Meeting. Approximately 100 Parishioners attended the meeting and all were given the opportunity to speak should they wish to do so.

Welcome

The Connétable welcomed the Minister, his officers and Parishioners to the meeting and advised Parishioners that they would, in the first instance, be shown a presentation of the new scheme and that the Connétable, Minister and Officers would then receive comments and questions.

Presentation

The meeting was shown the proposed speed limits in the vicinity of the revised Improvement Scheme and it was noted that these had been derived in partnership with the Roads Committee and Infrastructure and Environment.

Mr Dodd went on to present the proposed crossing on Rue ès Picots. It was noted that the courtesy crossing was preferred to a zebra crossing as the latter form of crossing would, by law, require street lighting and a line of sight of approximately 20 metres on each side which, in this case, would reduce the parking available for Trinity Village Stores.

Mr Dodd informed the meeting that the Department was ready to commence work on the new Scheme at the end of October 2023 and that the work would take approximately three weekends.

The visuals shown to the meeting are attached to this file note.

Questions, comments and discussion

This file note outlines the questions, comments and discussion at the meeting:

Parishioner A: I am not sure why we are here as it seems to be a carte blanche?
Minister: There was a lot of disagreement with the main project and Parishioners were promised a meeting to show a simplified scheme.
Mr T Dodd: There were workshops which a sizeable number of Parishioners attended and they wanted the Scheme. The revised Scheme provides a balance between Parishioners' competing needs.

Parishioner B: Will drivers have to give way to traffic coming from the East?
Between 7:30am and 9:00am approx. 700 vehicles use the road. The road will be too narrow.
Mr T Dodd: The Government has a priority of putting pedestrians first. Drivers will be required to give way to traffic from the East. A zebra crossing would need a sufficient line of sight on both sides of the road.
Parishioner C: With this sort of crossing, pedestrians do not have priority?
Mr T Dodd: No. It is a courtesy crossing which forces a driver and pedestrian to make eye contact so that both can ascertain if it is safe to pass/cross.
Parishioner D: Having crossed and walked the road with children for many years what about having a raised crossing with a zebra crossing on top?
Mr T Dodd: A zebra crossing comes with street lighting which has been resisted but it could be a possibility for the future.

Parishioner D: Exiting Le Grand Clos will be difficult for residents as other drivers are unlikely to let them out, having been stuck in a queue of traffic.
Minister: It will be no different to the similar crossings in St Martin.
Parishioner D: The road in Trinity is busier.
Mr T Dodd: The traffic Engineers are satisfied that cars will be able to pass swiftly and that traffic will not be backed up.
Parishioner E: A lot of school traffic passes through Rue ès Picots which does not happen in St Martin. The road is a lot busier than the road outside the school in St Martin. Drivers will just use the route behind the Parish Hall and along La Rue de la Petite Falaise and La Route du Boulay.
Mr T Dodd: There will be no time advantage in using this route but the Department is going to monitor the traffic flow over the next 12 months.

Parishioner F: Many parishioners do not want the road narrowing or a raised platform and would prefer a zebra crossing.
Mr T Dodd: A full width crossing would lose parking for the shop and that is not what anyone wants to see. It would also require lighting etc by law
Parishioner F: Parishioners want the crossing to be nearer the entrance to Le Grand Clos

Mr T Dodd: If this were to happen a new location for the bus stop would need to be found and the road entrance to the pub would need to be closed.
Connétable: Any lights for a zebra crossing would also be flashing lights.

Parishioner G: There have been no accidents on Rue ès Picots for over 25 years.
Connétable: In the last 25 years, the heart of the Parish has seen an increase in the population. The Government and Parish have a duty to keep the public safe. The traffic needs slowing down.

Mr C Dodd: The Trinity Active Travel Improvement Plan, a survey undertaken in October 2021 resulted in a large number of Parishioners requesting lower speed limits and better access for pedestrians.

Parishioner H: The term 'feeling safer' is subjective and traffic flow should work and be understood by children who need to be able to cross safely and also feel 100% safe.

Connétable: There has been a two year consultation period and, based on the results of that, we have a solution which will slow traffic, especially during busy school times.

Parishioner I: This meeting is at an inconvenient time for residents of Le Grand Clos and Maison Cabot, many of which can not attend.

Connétable: There is never a time of day that is convenient for all Parishioners but the majority of residents in Le Grand Clos and Maison Cabot support the proposal as they regularly see traffic travelling along Rue ès Picots at high speed.

Parishioner G: Can the Eastern Gateway be moved to where the 30mph commences now:

Mr T Dodd: The Gateways reinforce the message that motorists are entering a built up area with a reduction in speed limits.

Parishioner J: This is an excellent plan and the crossing should be put in. If it does not work it can be changed. The only suggestion is that Le Rue de la Petite Falaise should also be 20mph. Thanked all involved for their hard work.

Connétable: The traffic and its speed in Rue de la Petite Falaise will be monitored to see if a reduction in the limit is justified.

Parishioner K: Questioned how the plan and speed limits have been drawn up when the results of the public consultation in June/July are not yet known.

Mr T Dodd: Due to the nature of the Scheme, speed limits in the area need to be reduced. The wider speed limit consultation was carried out across all Northern Parishes and the results are still being looked at and have not yet been published.

Parishioner L: Suggested that the existing pavement outside Le Grand Clos be extended East.
Connétable: This could not work as it is a requirement that the Parish maintain the access lane alongside Maison Gallichan in order that the farmer can access his field.

Parishioner M: If the only change is to lower the speed limit will that make the road safer?
Mr C Dodd: Evidence suggests that lowering a speed limit causes a driver to lower their speed by approximately 2 mph or, with adequate enforcement, 5-6 mph. However, further reductions require physical measures such as the proposed table crossing.

Parishioner N: Is it possible to put in a temporary fix and try it?
Mr T Dodd: We are confident that the Scheme will work and a temporary fix with cones will not give a true picture of how the Scheme will work. There are resources dedicated to this project and a temporary fix could delay other projects.

Parishioner O: The traffic will be backed up too much but agree that safety needs need to be actioned.
Minister: We have all listened to the concerns expressed in July and have reduced the Scheme significantly. We will install the Scheme and review it after 6 months. If everyone agrees that it is not working it can be removed.

Conclusion

Parishioner P thanked the Minister and Connétable for calling the meeting and for listening to Parishioners' concerns.

The Connétable thanked the Minister and Officers of the Department, together with all parishioners present, for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 7:56pm.



Mr Philip Le Sueur

Connétable of Trinity

Date: 25/10/2023

