

The Parish Council would be grateful if the following issues could be taken to the Localities Meeting – and further if necessary.

Of primary concern is the crossing on the A4421 at the Caversfield Turn.

With the reduction in the bus services for Caversfield and Southwold, more people are using the bus stop and shelter at the Caversfield Turn outside Bicester Heritage to travel south using the X5 and the early morning S5 Express. However, this necessitates crossing the very busy, and wide, A4421 without a central refuge to get to the stop and also having to wade through the grass verge (often damp and muddy) on the Garden Quarter side to even get to the side of the road. This is obviously not a satisfactory state of affairs.

The bus stops are not directly opposite one another and so it is not possible to safely cross between them. An additional path would need to be cut in the verge opposite the (southbound) bus shelter (where there is already a dropped kerb to receive pedestrians) as there is also no other pavement on the southbound side by the shelter.

Below is an annotated map; although the siting of the bus stops is approximate.





Up-to-date aerial view of the road (Courtesy of *Bicester From Above*)



Northbound view looking towards the bus shelter



Close-up of the verge where the path would need to be sited (approximately)

Speed

There is also the issue of the speed of the vehicles using the A4421 in both directions.

There are two main points; firstly, for local vehicular access and secondly for pedestrians crossing the road.

The Parish Council requests that the speed limit is reduced from the current 50mph to the slower 40mph from the Stratton Audley Turn (or slightly further north to enable cars to turn towards Stratton Audley) to the roundabout.

Cars travelling from the roundabout northbound often accelerate sharply from the roundabout; with more local traffic turning both left into Skimmingdish Lane with the increase in occupation of the Garden Quarter, and turning right into Bicester Heritage, it is becoming more and more hazardous. It is also difficult for local traffic to be able to turn out onto the main road safely at Skimmingdish Lane, Thompson Drive and from Cherwood House nursing home, and on the opposite side of the road at Bicester Heritage.

The traffic also does not slow down coming south until the very last moment which is a hazard for local traffic.

Due to the speed of the traffic, pedestrians attempting to cross the road to get to the bus stop, simply take their lives in their hands to reach the stop.

It should be remembered that Caversfield is a village and the Parish Council believes should be treated in a similar way to Newton Purcell on the A4421 which has a 40mph limit.

Fringford Road Footpath

Finally, villagers who use the footpath into Bainton Copse have requested that the pavement from Springfield Road to outside Cuckoo Cottage on Fringford Road be extended as the verge is getting very slippery and dangerous when wet and muddy.

Below is a map of the area together with some photographs





Looking north from Springfield Road pavement towards Cuckoo Cottage drive



At the crossing point towards Bainton Copse (also please note the state of the edge of the road)

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