

# Ringwood Town Council

Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1AT  
Tel: 01425 473883  
www.ringwood.gov.uk

## PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Dear Member

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

A meeting of the above Committee will be held on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024** at 10.00am in the Forest Suite, Ringwood Gateway and your attendance is requested.



Mr C Wilkins  
Town Clerk

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### AGENDA

#### 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There will be an opportunity for public participation for a period of up to 15 minutes at the start of the meeting

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

#### 4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

#### 5. FLOODING

- i) To receive a presentation from Sarah Reghif, Flood and Water Management at Hampshire County Council on roles and responsibilities as Lead Local Flood Authority
- ii) To note current flooding and drainage issues (*Report A*)

#### 6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To consider applications and to note application determined under delegated powers (*Report B*)

#### 7. RINGWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (RNP)

To receive a verbal update

#### 8. STRATEGIC SITES

To receive updates in relation to strategic sites:-

- i) Land off Crow Lane / Crow Arch Lane (Beaumont Park)
- ii) Land north of Hightown Road (21/10042)
- iii) Land off Moortown Lane (21/11723 and 23/10707)
- iv) 2 Market Place (23/11255)
- v) Snails Lane

**9. THRIVING MARKET PLACE**

To receive the notes of the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024, note that the project brief has been agreed and consider the recommendation therein (*Report C*)

**10. GREENING RINGWOOD**

To consider the Deputy Town Clerk's report and receive an update from co-ordinator on Phase 2 (*Report D*)

**11. REAL WORKING PARTY**

To consider disbanding the REAL Working Party

**12. HCC SERVICES CONSULTATION**

To consider responding to the consultation (*Report E*)

**13. PLANNING APPEAL**

To consider whether to comment further on the appeal in respect of 23/10759 Rycroft, Crow Lane, Crow, Ringwood. BH24 3DZ (APP/B1740/W/23/3329460) (*Report F*)  
[view grounds of appeal online here](#)

**14. PROJECTS** (current and proposed)

To consider the officers' report (*Report G*), receive any verbal updates and agree next steps where necessary

**15. NFDC/NFNPA PLANNING COMMITTEE**

To review, if any, applications that are due before NFDC/NFNPA Planning Committee

If you would like further information on any of the agenda items, please contact Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk, on (01425) 484721 or email [jo.hurd@ringwood.gov.uk](mailto:jo.hurd@ringwood.gov.uk).

Committee Members

Cllr Philip Day (Chairman)  
Cllr Glenys Turner (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr Andrew Briers  
Cllr Luke Dadford  
Cllr Ingrid De Bruyn  
Cllr Gareth Deboos  
Cllr Mary DeBoos  
Cllr Rae Frederick  
Cllr Janet Georgiou  
Cllr Peter Kelleher  
Cllr James Swyer  
Cllr Becci Windsor

Officers

Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk  
Nicola Vodden, Office Manager

<b>Permission (1)</b>	Recommend Permission, but would accept planning officer's decision
<b>Refusal (2)</b>	Recommend Refusal, but would accept planning officer's decision
<b>Permission (3)</b>	Recommend Permission
<b>Refusal (4)</b>	Recommend Refusal
<b>Officer Decision (5)</b>	Will accept planning officer's decision

## Ringwood Town Council

### Flooding and Drainage Issues (as at February 2024)

#### Avon Catchment Management Plan – adopted by HCC May 2023

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/flood-water-management/14-HCC-CMP-Avon.pdf>

Request update from HCC on progress of implementing policies and developing an action plan.

#### Avon Catchment Partnership

Possible project in partnership with various stakeholders (Forestry England, Wessex Rivers Trust, Freshwater Habitats Trust, Environment Agency, NFNPA, HCC, Bisterne Estate and other land owners) to improve **inflows** (mire and stream restoration to hold water back during times of high rainfall) and **outflows** (increasing capacity downstream by enhancing the stream and ditch system and introducing another flood relief drain – see Moortown Lane).

#### Poulner area

Flooding of properties.

Highway flooding (sometimes impassable) – Gorley Road / Northfield Road / Fairlie / Forestside Gardens / Highfield Drive – works orders have been issued to undertake pressure jet cleansing of surface water drainage and CCTV surveys to investigate likely causes.

Regular maintenance is required.

Need to identify the source(s) of the water which comes down Linford Road and contributes to the flooding in this area – can HCC assist with this exercise?

HCC have made it clear that the traditional drainage systems are insufficient to handle intense rainfall and that retrofitting the system would be neither feasible nor cost-effective. Property owners must recognise the risks and take proactive measures for protection. Advice is available here: [Reducing flood risk | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/reducing-flood-risk)

#### Bottom of Crow Hill

Action required to prevent the road being impassable in times of high rainfall (following site meeting with HCC Highways):

- Clearance of stream between Castleman Trailway and Crow Hill and creation of new ditch inside roadside hedge (Wright Trust to carry out).
- Raising of footbridge on PROW 41a – awaiting outcome of planning application for change of use of land adjacent to Crow Lane (23/10707) as the proposal includes for replacing this footbridge.
- Remove potential blockage from pipes in ownership of The Gatehouse 15 – property owner undertaking investigative work.
- Installation of verge markers east of Briar Thatch – completed by HCC.
- Clearance of weir kerb in the same location – Order raised by HCC.

### **Crow Lane**

Range of measures previously identified to alleviate flooding (road is often impassable during periods of high rainfall); there are numerous culvert and ditch restrictions in the section between The Elm Tree and Crow Crossroads.

New crossing proposed as part of planning application 23/10707 for change of use of land adjacent to Crow Lane to open space – see RTC comments on the application.

### **Hightown Hill / A31 westbound (Poulner Hill) / Nouale Lane**

Flooding of highways and properties (2 in Nouale Lane).

Surface water from Hightown Hill and Poulner Hill floods Nouale Lane and drains in to the Lynes Farm fields (SS14).

Issue with overflowing ditches adjacent to the A31 flooding the road (this has led to lane closures causing severe delays on this strategic route) and carrying mud and debris down the hill blocking drains.

### **Hightown Road – Eastfield Lane**

Extensive highway flooding (sometimes impassable) between The Elm Tree (Hightown Road) and the Scout Hall (88 Eastfield Lane). Causes of flooding to be identified and measures taken to prevent/mitigate. Links with issues outlined above (Hightown Hill etc.), measures proposed for Crow Lane, development of Strategic Site 14 (land north of Hightown Road 21/10042), and comments below from engineers designing Crow Lane footpath – see Beaumont Park).

### **Rod Lane**

Ditch requires regular clearance to allow it to function properly. HCC previously took responsibility for clearance, but this is now uncertain. Landowner has recently adjusted the guard rail to allow more water through in storm conditions.

### **Sandford**

HCC investigating road flooding – possible blocked pipe.

### **Development of Strategic Sites**

**Beaumont Park** – built out - £40,000 remaining of developers' contributions specifically to alleviate flooding in the area.

Undelivered footway on West side of Crow Lane linking north east of development (through pocket park) to join with existing footway from Hightown Road. Developers Contributions allocated by NFDC. Recent update from HCC Project Officer "It appears that the area is now at a higher risk of flooding than when this project originally came to us. Due to this they are working out designing drainage to reduce this, however, have stated this may be tricky due to the arrangements already in place and the close proximity to the new housing estate." Possible conflict with highway mitigation works at junction of Hightown Road with Crow Lane as part of development of **land north of Hightown Road (SS14)** (planning application number 21/10042).

### **SS13 – land off Moortown Lane**

Applicant has not yet provided information requested by HCC as LLFA and the drainage strategy has not been approved (planning application 21/11723).

## **SS14 – land north of Hightown Road**

Concern about inadequacy of drainage strategy (see comments above).

## **Moortown Lane Flood Relief Drain**

This drain is currently redundant but could be brought back in to use and would alleviate flooding. Is there a possibility of looking at this again in conjunction with the proposed development of land off Moortown Lane (planning application 21/11723)?

## **Project to map, mark and record drainage system**

To assist with identification of those responsible and regular maintenance. Would need assistance from HCC.

Number	Name	Address	Proposal	Deadline for comment	Recommendation <b>Permission (1)</b> Recommend Permission, but would accept planning officer's decision <b>Refusal (2)</b> Recommend Refusal, but would accept planning officer's decision (plus reasons) <b>Permission (3)</b> Recommend Permission <b>Refusal (4)</b> Recommend Refusal (plus reasons) <b>Officer Decision (5)</b> Will accept planning officer's decision
23/10926	Mr Ridsdale	Croquets, Linford Road, Hangersley, Ringwood. BH24 3JN	RE-CONSULTATION: Alterations to existing dwelling; erection of three dwellings; associated parking, landscaping and alterations to access <a href="#">view online here</a>	19.2	
23/11311	Mr & Mrs Pritchett	17, Ashley Close, Ringwood. BH24 1QX	Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 23/10979 to allow changes to design. <a href="#">view online here</a>	23.2	
23/11329	Dr Prendergast	Vyne House, 103 Southampton Road, Ringwood. BH24 1HR	Install 6 solar panels on the outbuilding at the back of the garden <a href="#">view online here</a>	1.3	
23/11333	Mr Caudle	39 & 41 Southampton Road, Ringwood. BH24 1HE	Change of use of no.41 to body consultancy clinic (new treatment rooms and first floor studio); shopfront alterations to no.41 including signage, cladding to front elevation and fenestration alterations to match existing on no.39; PV panels to front roof slopes of no. 39 & 41; new parking space and ev charging point at rear <a href="#">view online here</a>	22.3	
24/00078FULL	SCVS LLP	Forest Corner Farm, Hangersley Hill, Forest Corner, Hangersley, Ringwood. BH24 3JW	Single storey extension; roof alteration; alterations to existing doors and windows; alterations to ramped area to provide for plant storage with screen fencing; demolish existing shed <a href="#">view online here</a>	8.3	
24/00137Full	Mr & Mrs Jones	L'Hermitage, Hangersley Hill, Hangersley, Ringwood. BH24 3JP	Single-storey side extension; demolition of existing outbuilding <a href="#">view online here</a>	26.3	

24/00149FU LL	Ms Stewart	Gaddens Close Farm & 2 Close Cottage, Charles's Lane, Crow, Ringwood, BH24 3FB	Alterations and extensions to an existing dwellinghouse; erection of a new replacement dwelling with associated parking, access, and landscaping <a href="#">view online here</a>	13.3	
24/10050	C/O Agent - Halo Developments UK Ltd	Land north of 11-13 Meeting House Lane, Ringwood. BH24 1AY	Erection of 1no. new attached dwelling (Class C3) with associated landscaping and car parking <a href="#">view online here</a>	23.2	
24/10101	Dr Goulding	50 Seymour Road, Ringwood. BH24 1SH	Garden shed (Retrospective) <a href="#">view online here</a>	22.3	
24/10104	Miss Rowe - Animal Avenue Pet Supplies LTD	Avon Valley Archaeological Society, Ringwood Town and Country Experience, Salisbury Road, Ringwood. BH24 3PA	Variation of condition 5 of application 22/11342 to allow change in occupier/trader <a href="#">view online here</a>	15.3	
24/10113	Miss Jensen Mr Hall	99, Hightown Road, Ringwood. BH24 1NL	Two storey rear extension; loft conversion with addition of dormer windows to front elevation; fenestration alterations and roof lights, single-storey porch to front elevation and demolition of garage <a href="#">view online here</a>	15.3	
24/10145	Mr Selwood - Carman Contracting Ltd	Parvaneh Business Park, Embankment Way, Ringwood. BH24 1WL	Installation of new windows <a href="#">view online here</a>	22.3	

CONS/24/0068	Ms White	Quaker Court, Eynon Mews, Ringwood.	T1 Hornbeam – Reduce <a href="#">view online here</a>	7.3	
					<b><u>Applications considered under delegated powers:-</u></b>
24/00107CONS	Mr Willshire	Springdale, Linford Road, Shobley, Ringwood. BH24 3HT	Fell 3x Conifer trees (G1 on plan)	22.2	<u>P(1) Recommend permission, but would accept the Tree Officer's decision.</u>



## Ringwood Thriving Market Place Working Party Notes of meeting held on 19 February 2024 at Ringwood Gateway

Present: Graham Wright - HCC  
Valerie Ballorin - HCC  
Tim Guymer - NFDC  
Richard Payne - NFDC  
Jo Hurd - RTC  
Cllr Michael Thierry – HCC, NFDC & RTC  
Cllr Jeremy Heron - NFDC  
Cllr Gareth DeBoos - RTC  
Cllr Janet Georgiou - RTC

Apologies: Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine – NFDC  
Cllr John Haywood – RTC & NFDC

### 1. Background

HCC, NFDC and RTC are working in partnership on this scheme, which has come about in response to the closure of West Street and work carried out in preparation for the Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan (RNP). The RNP identifies Market Place as an opportunity area and outlines the concept for public realm improvements and creating a more attractive and pedestrian friendly environment with flexible use.

HCC and NFDC are keen to work with local communities where there is a clear plan that has general consensus and supports place making. Having carried out traffic, pedestrian and parking surveys in 2023 (**see attached analysis**), HCC is satisfied there is good evidence to support the aspirations.

### 2. Project Brief

The next step is to consider options and develop the design, with cost estimates, of a deliverable scheme as per the Project Brief (**attached**).

**The study area, as identified in the RNP, was AGREED.** It was noted that areas outside the red line would influence the design and it was expected that connectivity would be addressed in a later phase.

During discussion, it was noted that the following would be considered as part of the Brief (this list is not exclusive):

- Access requirements for businesses and residents;
- Future maintenance costs;
- Healthy Streets (a human-centred framework) will be applied – an audit will be undertaken using the 10 indicators: everyone feels welcome; easy to cross; shade and shelter; places to stop and rest; not too noisy; people choose to walk and cycle; people feel safe; things to see and do; people feel relaxed; and clean air;
- Requirements of established events, Charter market and the Church;
- Review of Traffic Orders, including parking, loading and Meeting House Lane.

**The Project Brief was AGREED.**

### 3. Funding and Procurement

The intention is to fund the Project Brief work with the £10,000 UKSPF grant secured by RTC from NFDC. This will give an understanding of what is possible and outline options. There is no commitment to funding anything beyond this point, however it is hoped it will result in a deliverable scheme which can be implemented when funds become available. Future funding could come from s106, CIL, government initiatives or other grants. The key is to have a project ready to go when opportunities for funding arise.

It was proposed that the work be carried out by HCC's Scheme Development team for the New Forest, in order to retain focus and keep the momentum going. Other advantages include knowledge of the local area; HCC processes; and key stakeholders, available skills and experience having carried out similar work in other areas, and the fact that most of the area is highway land. RTC financial regulations allow for the procurement of specialist services without the need to obtain comparative quotations and HCC is an approved supplier. **It was therefore RECOMMENDED that RTC appoint HCC to undertake the work outlined in the Project Brief.**

# Project Brief: Ringwood Thriving Market

February 2024

## **Project Definition**

Market Place is the heart of Ringwood town, the fabric of which is of medieval origins served, as it is, by lanes and thoroughfares which evolved as part of the functioning of an agricultural market town at this river crossing point.

Despite this historical setting, Market Place is currently dominated by parking and narrow pavements and the recent closure of West Street for through traffic presents the opportunity for the historic Market Place to be transformed into a lively destination and events area.

The purpose of this project is to prepare a RIBA Stage 3 developed design for public realm enhancements to Market Place as a shared area for community and meeting place. The design needs to consider the appropriate materials and infrastructure required for vehicle/pedestrian/cycle access to the area and connectivity with the rest of the town centre; public car parks; Ringwood Gateway Square; and The Furlong Shopping Centre.

The RIBA Stage 3 design will guide and inform future development and investment in the area in line with the vision of the emerging Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan to:

- Reinforce the network of spaces and their character
- Improve walking routes and the pedestrian environment
- Provide opportunities for temporary events including performances and static installations as well as accommodate the regular market stalls
- Aid legibility through consistent wayfinding, particularly from The Furlong car park and retail centre

Hampshire County Council (HCC), New Forest District Council (NFDC) and Ringwood Town Council (RTC) are working in partnership to deliver the above vision for Market Place and are seeking a phased approach to implementation which can be taken forward for funding bids.

## **Background**

Ringwood is a market town and civil parish of approximately 14,000 residents and one of the key towns in the New Forest district. The town occupies a strategic position on the western edge of the New Forest National Park with the renowned Avon Valley long-distance walking path passing through it. Vital ancient trading links once provided by the River Avon and the Victorian railway have been replaced by excellent road systems with the town at the crossroads of the A31 and A338 offering fast journeys to and from Southampton, Poole, Salisbury and Bournemouth.

The Wednesday street market has been held in Market Place since a charter was awarded in 1226 and held by the family of Lord Morant for hundreds of years. Animals and agricultural goods were still bought and sold into the 1980s, but now a wide variety of merchandise can be found, complimented at the weekends by farmers

**Project Brief:  
Ringwood Thriving Market**

and speciality markets held in The Furlong Shopping Centre and Gateway Square.

In March 2021, the A31 on-slip road at the end of West Street was closed as part of National Highways' (NH) works to the A31 corridor and traffic management measures were introduced by NH and HCC in consultation with both NFDC and RTC within Ringwood Town Centre. In December 2021, a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) was issued following a request from RTC for the reversal of the one-way operations along Meeting House Lane (between The Furlong and High Street/Market Place) to southbound working. The TTRO was funded as part of the package of works funded by the National Highways burdens payments linked to the A31 upgrade and effectively ended on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023. However, following a request from Ringwood Town Council (RTC), a new Experimental TRO (ETRO) was issued on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to retain the arrangements for southbound travel for the time being and for a period of 18 months.

In 2022, Ringwood Town Council consulted on the Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan (RNP), which showed that residents and businesses would like to see the town's Market Place used for more events and entertainment. Alongside this, HCC undertook a number of surveys to provide an updated baseline of traffic and parking conditions in Market Place since the closure of the A31 on-slip. Following this, proposals were put forward which would see the area become more pedestrian and cycle friendly and to allow for restaurants and bars to 'spill out' into the space. HCC, as the highway authority, and NFDC, as the planning authority, are supportive of the proposals, which are in line with the stated vision of HCC's LTP4 of a "*carbon neutral, resilient and inclusive transport system designed around people, which: supports health, wellbeing and quality of life for all; supports a connected economy and creates successful and prosperous places; and respects and seeks to enhance Hampshire's unique environment*" and the policies of the New Forest Development Plan, including ENV3 of the Local Plan Part 1 (adopted July 2020) which seeks to create high quality places that enhance local character and distinctiveness

The desire from the three authorities is to reinvigorate Market Place as a market and meeting place, providing for a café style feel, to complement the facilities already provided in The Furlong and the High Street. RTC is also seeking improvements in accessibility and safety for walking and cycling, including for people with health conditions or impairments and a key aim will be to consider improvements of connectivity between The Furlong and Market Place. In this regard, options for future enhancements of Meeting House Lane (including potential closure to vehicular traffic) and a review of public car parking pricing strategy are to be investigated.

## Study Area and Overview

The study area is defined by the red line on Figure 1, which is based on a copy of the current preferred concept design option. The area is primarily comprised of existing public space and highways.



Figure 1 – Study Area

There are a number of lanes that access Market Place from The Furlong – an area of land crossed by the ancient drovers' route running diagonally across today's car park, funnelling into the Market Place through Meeting House Lane. Another favoured pedestrian route is via Star Lane at the back of The Furlong Shopping Centre and joining the Market Place beside The Star Inn pub. There is also a car park entry with a quaint arch feature beside The Original White Hart pub. There are opportunities to enhance these lanes to encourage pedestrian flow from The Furlong to Market Place and restore the ancient furlong drove route.

Market Place square, which includes the Market place sundial and Jubilee Lamp, is currently underutilised on a day-to-day basis and could be utilised more for town events.

There are proposals for a multi-million-pound redevelopment and restoration of 2 Market Place (once the town hall and regal cinema). A planning application (NFDC planning reference 23/11255) has recently been submitted for redevelopment of this

**Project Brief:  
Ringwood Thriving Market**

building for mixed commercial and residential use with limited on-site parking, which will need to be taken into consideration as part of this project.

## Previous and Parallel Studies

There has already been extensive work carried out in support of the proposals put forward in the RNP and the development of a detailed masterplan should draw on these documents. Proposals should set out ambitious but deliverable options for improving the public realm, as well as suggested phases of improvements to enable funding to be sought in stages in the future.

The following studies are available and should be reviewed and taken forward to RIBA Stage 3:

- Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan – Policy R3 – Opportunity Area A (page 21): [Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan Submission Document \(ringwoodnp.org.uk\)](https://www.ringwoodnp.org.uk)
- RNP Appendix A – Ringwood Strategic Masterplan – pages 9-13: [Ringwood-Strategic-Masterplan Second-Draft-Report-Rev-June-23.pdf \(ringwoodnp.org.uk\)](https://www.ringwoodnp.org.uk)
- RNP Supporting Evidence – Town Centre Working Group Stakeholders Research Summary: [Microsoft Word - Stakeholders Research Summary for 10 Feb 2022 01 31.docx \(ringwoodnp.org.uk\)](https://www.ringwoodnp.org.uk)
- RNP Supporting Evidence – Shopkeepers Survey 2021: [Microsoft Word - SHOPKEEPERS-SURVEY-REPORT-FINAL-VERSION-Jan-22.docx \(ringwoodnp.org.uk\)](https://www.ringwoodnp.org.uk)
- RNP Supporting Evidence – Shoppers Survey 2021: [Microsoft Word - Shopper s Survey Report TCWG NP.docx \(ringwoodnp.org.uk\)](https://www.ringwoodnp.org.uk)
- RNP Supporting Evidence – Shared Space Concept for Ringwood Market Place (Feb 2022) – see attached.
- Ringwood Market Place Project Draft Options – Presentation to HCC/RTC and NFDC on 28 November 2022
- Ringwood Thriving Market Place – Traffic Surveys Analysis 2023

The former documents have defined the principles and aims of the proposals, while the latter provides the transport evidence base in support of the proposals. Also of relevance is the work undertaken by SPUD (an arts and education charity) which worked with young people to prepare a young people’s vision for Ringwood: [Ringwood Town Centre Futures | SPUD](https://www.ringwoodnp.org.uk).

A number of other strategies and studies are either available or being progressed alongside the proposed concept design. The design should be cognisant of these and consider these carefully in the development of the RIBA Stage 3 proposals:

- Local Transport Plan LTP4 (HCC)
- Emerging New Forest Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (HCC)
- [Local Plan 2016-2036 Part One: Planning strategy](https://www.nfdc.gov.uk) (NFDC)

**Project Brief:  
Ringwood Thriving Market**

- Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan Submission Document
- [Ringwood Town Access Plan Supplementary Planning Document](#)
- [Ringwood Local Distinctiveness Supplementary Planning Document](#)

## Project Scope and Brief

The scope of this project comprises preparation of a RIBA Stage 3 developed design with QS cost estimates for the enhancement of the public realm within the red line identified on Figure 1. The preparation of the design will enable the scheme to be detailed design (RIBA Stage 4) in readiness for funding opportunities as they arise.

The outcome of this stage of work will be the establishment of a scheme jointly endorsed by RTC, NFDC and HCC, as key project partner and determine the preferred route for delivery.

The overall aim of the project is to create a distinctive sense of place and focal point on this key historic route within the town centre, and the initial scope of the commission is limited to RIBA Work Plan Stage 3-4 to progress the concept design previously produced for the RNP to a technical and viable solution based on the principles of the Healthy Street approach, broken down into three key areas to consider:

1. The highway layout and appropriate vehicular, pedestrian and cycle access
2. Open space and public realm identifying opportunities to broaden use and activity
3. Complement the planned building and infrastructure development in and adjoining the project area

The scope of the commission will specifically include the following tasks and deliverables:

- Review existing known site information, including on-street and off-street parking provision and charging regimes, constraints including existing underground utilities, previous work and existing complementary projects, including the RNP's Opportunity Area B (Furlong Drove, Meeting House Lane, Rear of 56 High Street and Service Yard, Northumberland Court) to confirm the preferred option and develop further the concept layout shown on Figure 1.
- Commission topographical survey to ascertain the feasibility of creating a level surface /shared space throughout the project area to provide a space for informal socialising, gathering, street entertainment and activities
- Obtain utilities information and plans
- Prepare scaled plans of the proposals and identify statutory processes required prior to implementation (e.g. planning applications, Traffic Regulation Orders, Parking Orders, etc.)
- Prepare outline specification and preliminary cost information for the project
- Stakeholder engagement on the layout; including allowance for 2 meetings with the Market Place Working Group, presentation(s) to officers and elected councillors of the County, District and Town Councils.



- Engagement with property owners and occupiers in the red line area and adjacent High Street, including the operator of the Charter market.

To develop the above, considerations should be given to:

- Healthy Street approach for the design of the highway
- the following priorities including highways, infrastructure requirements to support small scale events and retail/street café type uses of the space, public realm improvements to surfacing, seating, encourage active travel in the area, street furniture, signage, public art and lighting.
- Operational requirements of the space for emergencies, maintenance, deliveries, taxis, disabled access, requirement for an appropriate level of on-street parking
- Appropriate level of access required by property owners and businesses for servicing which is not to the detriment of maximising the use of the space for public realm activities; opportunities for further pedestrianisation of the area; infrastructure for cyclists in line with the New Forest LCWIP / LTN 1/20 and opportunities for existing businesses to expand a 'café culture' environment in the area.
- Materials palette for the public highway area and opportunity for 'features' in the space to facilitate regular activity, spark intrigue, interest and excitement in the space to complement the activities of the existing buildings around the space; including artwork and opportunity for a covered area for small flexible events.
- Opportunities for additional greenery to the area, alongside retention of the existing, mature trees already well established in the area.
- Opportunities for the reduction in street 'clutter' in particular the tree guard and grids as well as alternatives to the utilities infrastructure currently 'above ground', and existing bollards/signs etc.
- How the scheme could be phased as funding becomes available

The following documents specific to the study area will be provided separately and will need to be considered as part of the exercise:

- Red Line Boundary
- Land Ownership Plan
- Highways Plan

End.

# Ringwood Thriving Market Place

Traffic Survey Analysis 2023

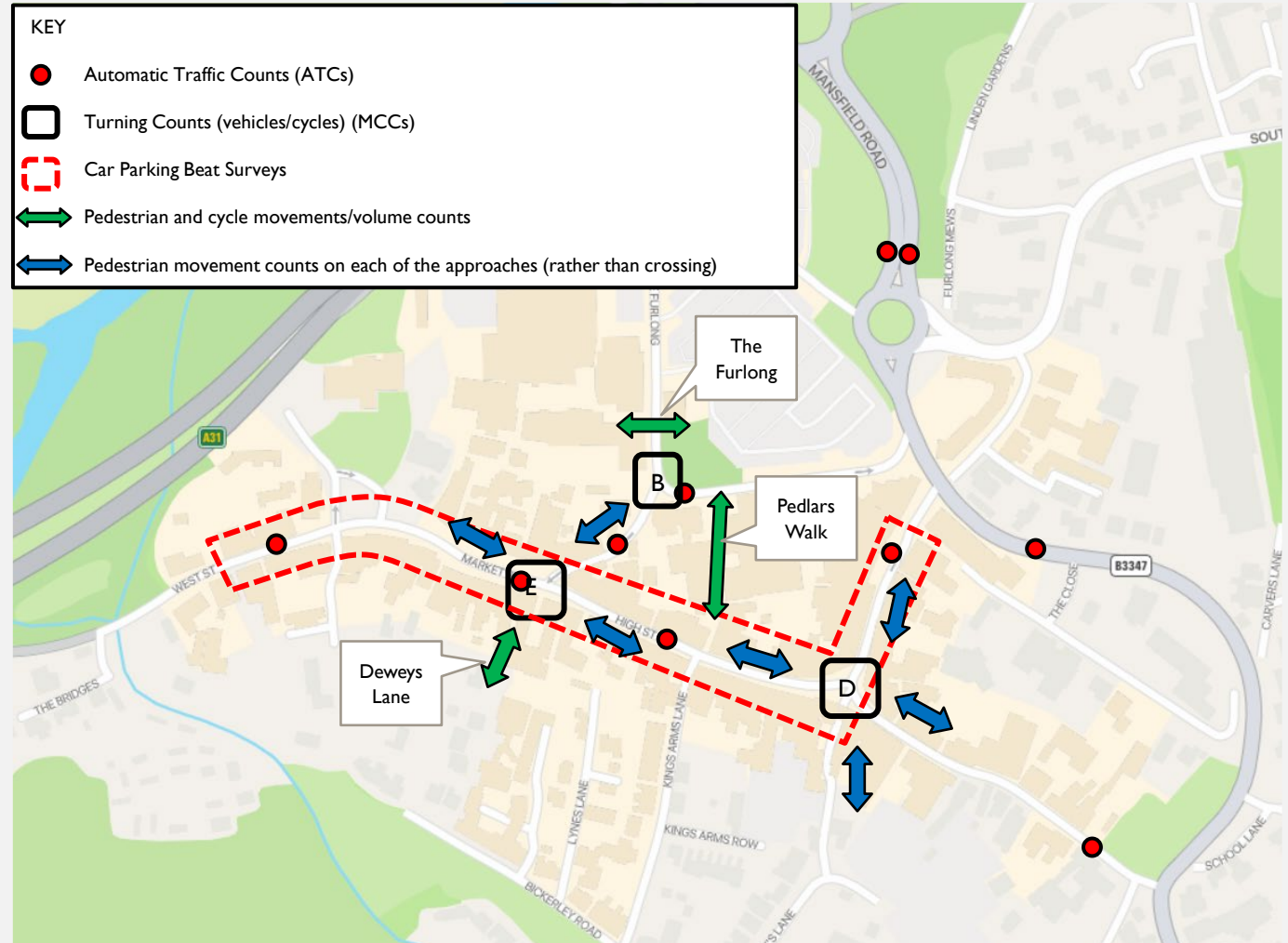


- Ringwood Town Council is currently reviewing proposals to enhance accessibility to and within Market Place and Hampshire County Council, as highway authority, commissioned a number of traffic and parking surveys in May 2023 to provide an evidence base of current transport movements and parking usage in the area.
- The traffic surveys were commissioned against the following background:
  - Traffic patterns were recently affected by traffic management measures introduced by National Highways and Hampshire County Council as part of the A31 works. The works were completed on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023, although West Street itself was closed on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
  - As part of the traffic management works, a Temporary Traffic Regulation order (TTRO) was also issued on 27 December 2021 for the reversal of the one-way operations along Meeting House Lane (between The Furlong and High Street/Market Place) to southbound working. The TTRO effectively ended on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023, although it should be noted that following a request from RTC, a new experimental TTRO will be applied for to retain the arrangements for southbound travel for the time being and for a period of 18 months.
  - On Wednesdays each week, on-street parking on Market Place is temporarily suspended for Market Day
- The Automatic Traffic Count surveys commenced on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 for 7-days, with the other surveys (manual counts and parking beat surveys) undertaken on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Other than the four public parking spaces on the northern section of Market Place which were used as storage for construction equipment, there were no exceptional conditions/events of note during the survey period. A further pedestrian count across The Furlong (between the Council offices and the shopping centre) was also undertaken on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

# Scope of the Surveys



- The scope of the surveys is summarised below and location identified on the attached plan

Site	Road	Survey
B	Meeting House Lane/ The Furlong	Turning Count inc. peds/cycles
D	High St/ Southampton Rd/ Christchurch Rd	Turning Count
E	High St/ Market Place/ The Furlong/Deweys Lane	Turning Count
PBS	West St, Market Place and High Street	Parking Beat Survey
PCC	Pedlars Walk, Deweys Lane and The Furlong	Pedestrian/ Cycle Count
ATC	See plan	Automatic Traffic Counts



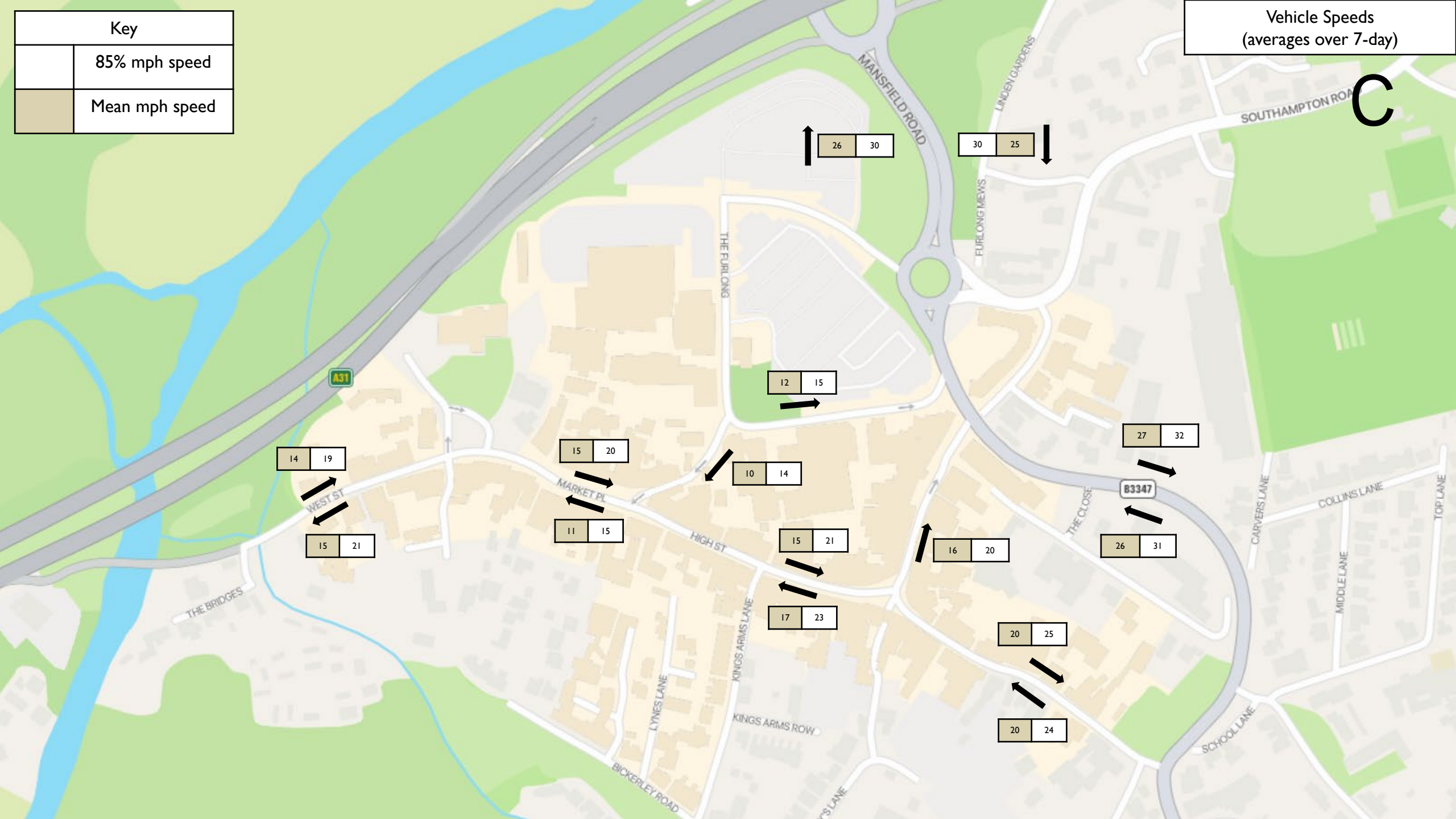
- The following slides provide a summary of the ATCs installed at nine key locations within the town centre. The ATCs were undertaken over 7 days and recorded classified traffic volumes and vehicle speeds on each of the links surveyed.
- With the exclusion of the B3347 Mansfield Road/Christchurch Road, which acts as the main distributor road bounding the town centre area, the recorded speeds show that all traffic circulating within the town centre roads do so well below the mandatory 30mph limit. There is no evidence of issues relating to vehicle speeds and the town centre generally appears to already function as a 20mph zone. This would support proposals to re-prioritise road user hierarchy in line with HCC's LTP4.
- Similarly, the ATCs demonstrate that the primary function of Meeting House Lane, The Furlong, Market Place, High Street, Southampton Road and Christchurch Rd is that of local access when compared with that of the B3347 Mansfield Road, which carries significantly higher levels of hourly flows (around 10 times higher) on average throughout the week in line with its greater strategic corridor designation.
- Nevertheless, taking the greatest recorded hourly flows along High Street and Market Place and comparing this against the typical maximum lane capacity of an urban single carriageway road of 1,140 vehicles per hour per busiest direction, means that these corridors carry just under 10% of their maximum capacity at present. This is evidence that the current road space allocation for motorised vehicles is at odd with the demand.



Key	
	85% mph speed
	Mean mph speed

Vehicle Speeds  
(averages over 7-day)

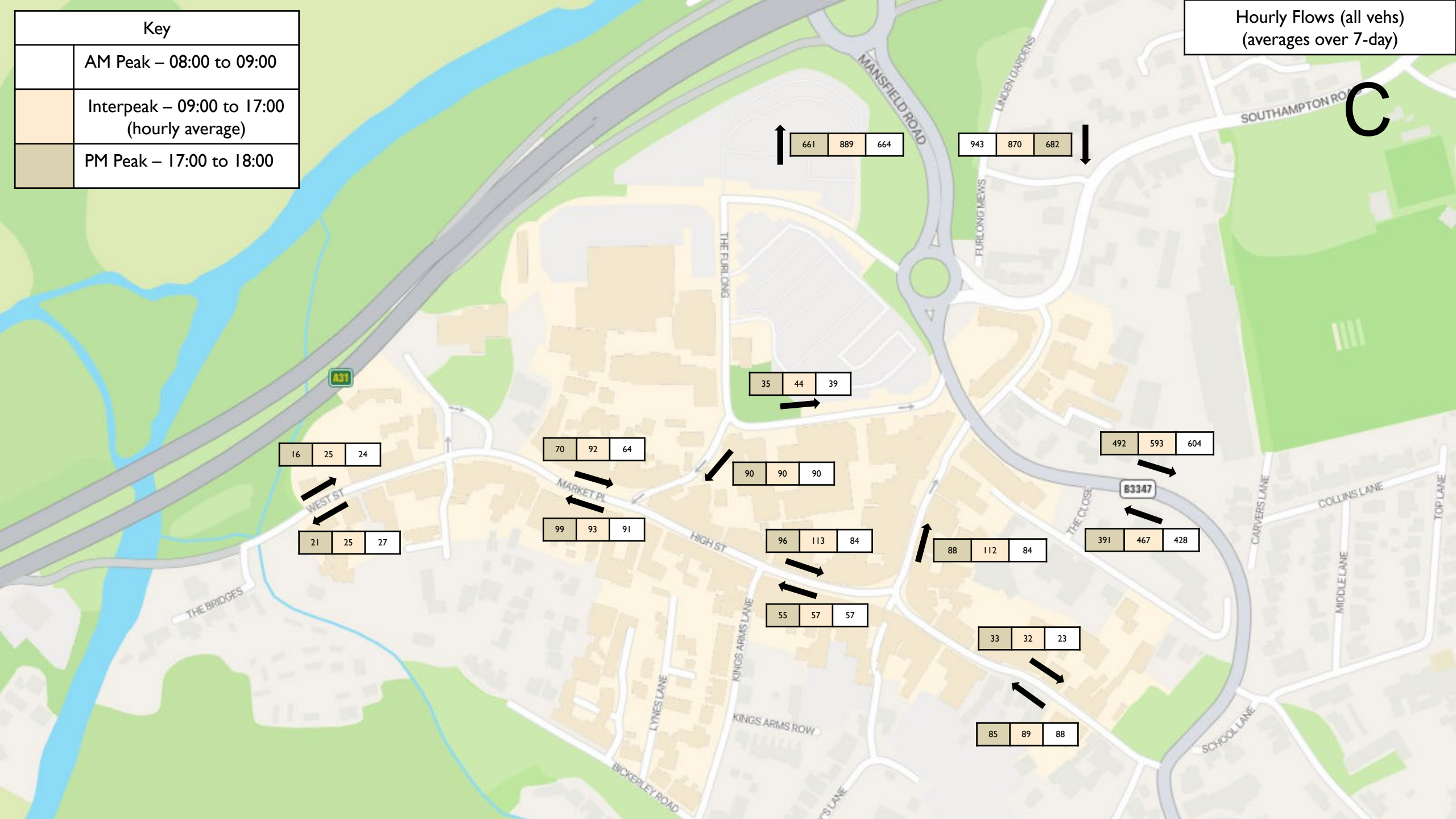
C



Hourly Flows (all vehs)  
(averages over 7-day)

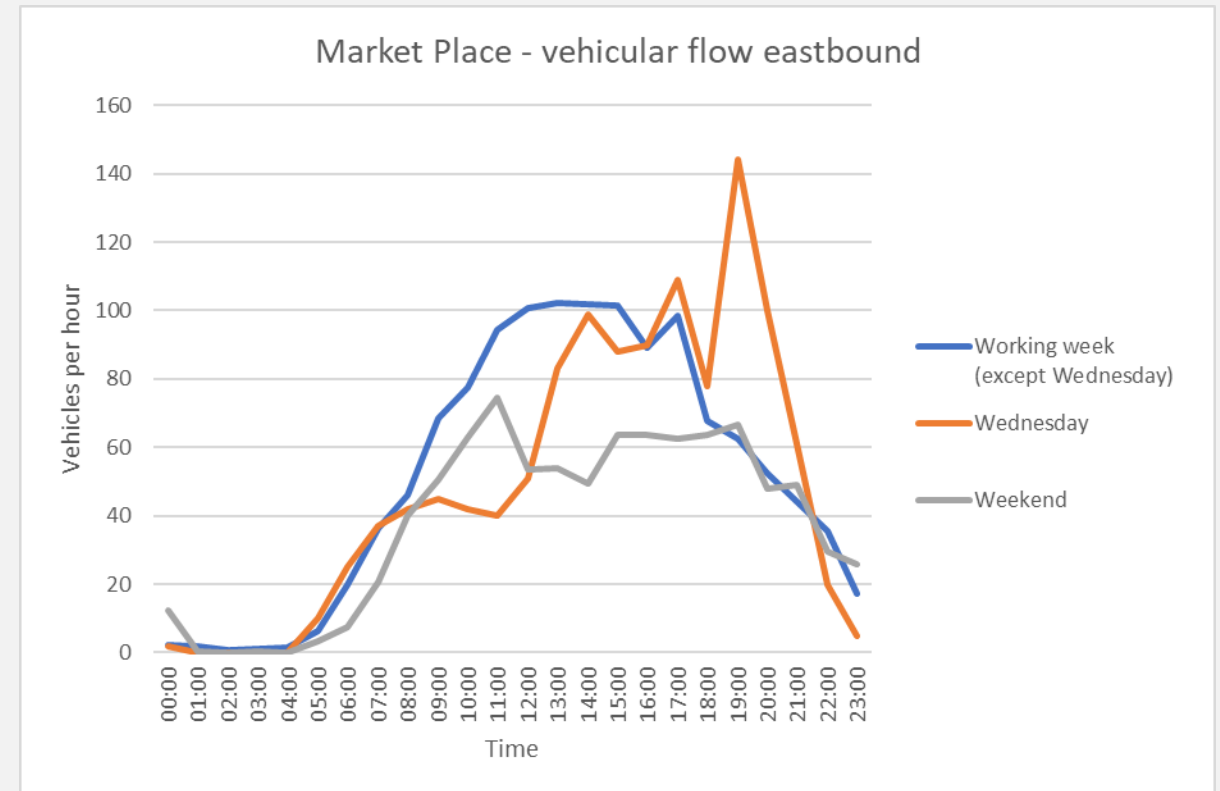
C

Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00



# ATC Results – Market Place

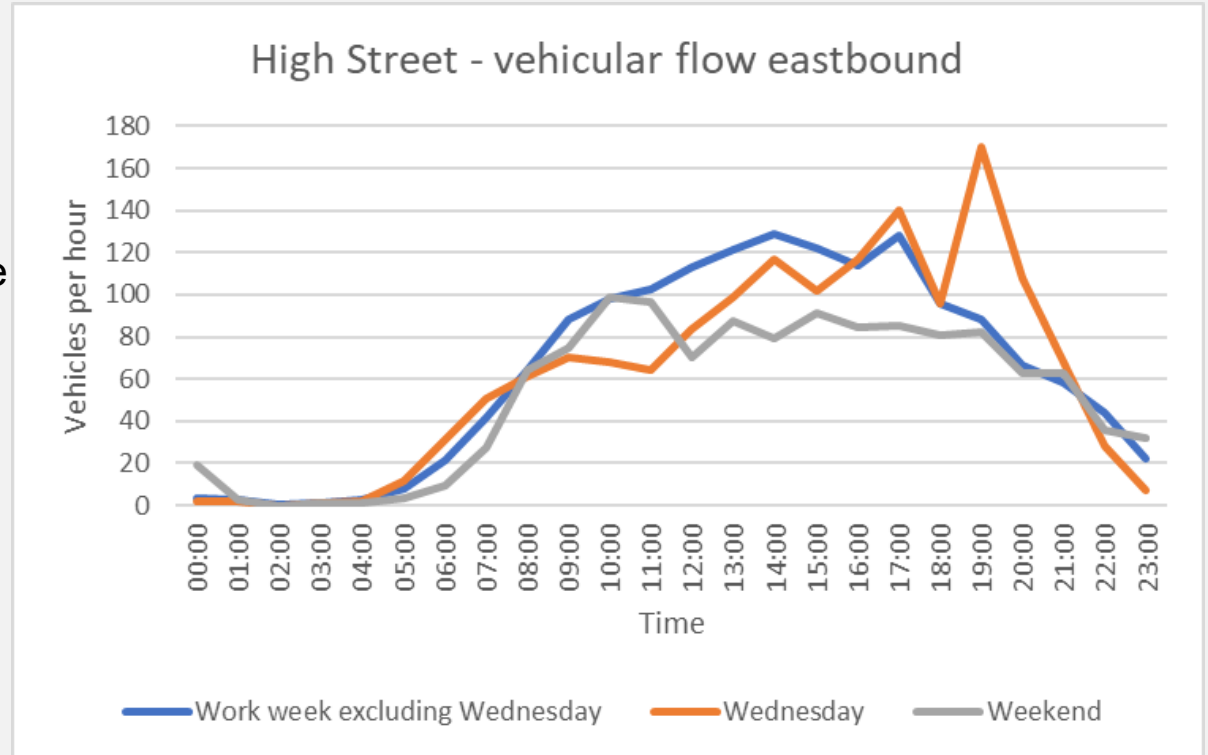
- On Market Place itself, the graph to the right confirms that the profile of traffic movement along the corridor is akin to a retail area, with hourly flows during the day generally greater than during the traditional commuter peak hours (0700-0800 and 1700-1800). This reflects the nature of the corridor as part of the retail core centre of Ringwood.
- On Wednesdays, when access to Market Place is restricted for vehicular traffic, the patterns and traffic volumes unsurprisingly reflect the travel needs of local residents and businesses, with volumes less than half observed during the rest of the working week.
- At weekends, traffic volumes along Market Place are lower than during working days but follow a more traditional AM and PM peak profile.





# ATC Results – High Street

- A similar exercise has been undertaken for High Street, which remains open to all traffic on Wednesdays. This shows similar patterns of traffic as observed along Market Place.
- Furthermore, levels of traffic are also broadly similar to those observed on Market Place, suggesting that there is limited demand for access to High Street over and above that for Market Place or that High Street itself is being used as a primary exit route from the town centre areas.



# ATC Results – Historical Comparison

- The current traffic volumes along High Street and Market Place have been compared to those experienced prior to the closure of the A31 on-slip from West Street on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 to provide some context as to the impact of the closure on traffic levels within the town. Flows prior to the closure have been extracted from the Local Validation Model Report (LMVR) published in July 2016 by the then Highways England (now National Highways).

Location	2015/ 2016 AM Peak (all vehs)	2023 AM Peak (all vehs)	Comments
West St on-slip	119	N/A	Westbound only
West St/ The Bridges	174	37	2-way flows
Market Place SB Market Place NB	42 -	70 99	Southbound only in 2015
The Furlong (MHL section)	239	90	Southbound for both 2015 and 2023 and no right turn onto Market Place in 2015
High Street	261	151	2-way flows

- Notwithstanding the potential growth in traffic between 2015 and 2023, the closure of access to the A31 has clearly had a dramatic impact on reducing the volumes of traffic through the High Street and Market Place.

# Turning Movement Counts Results

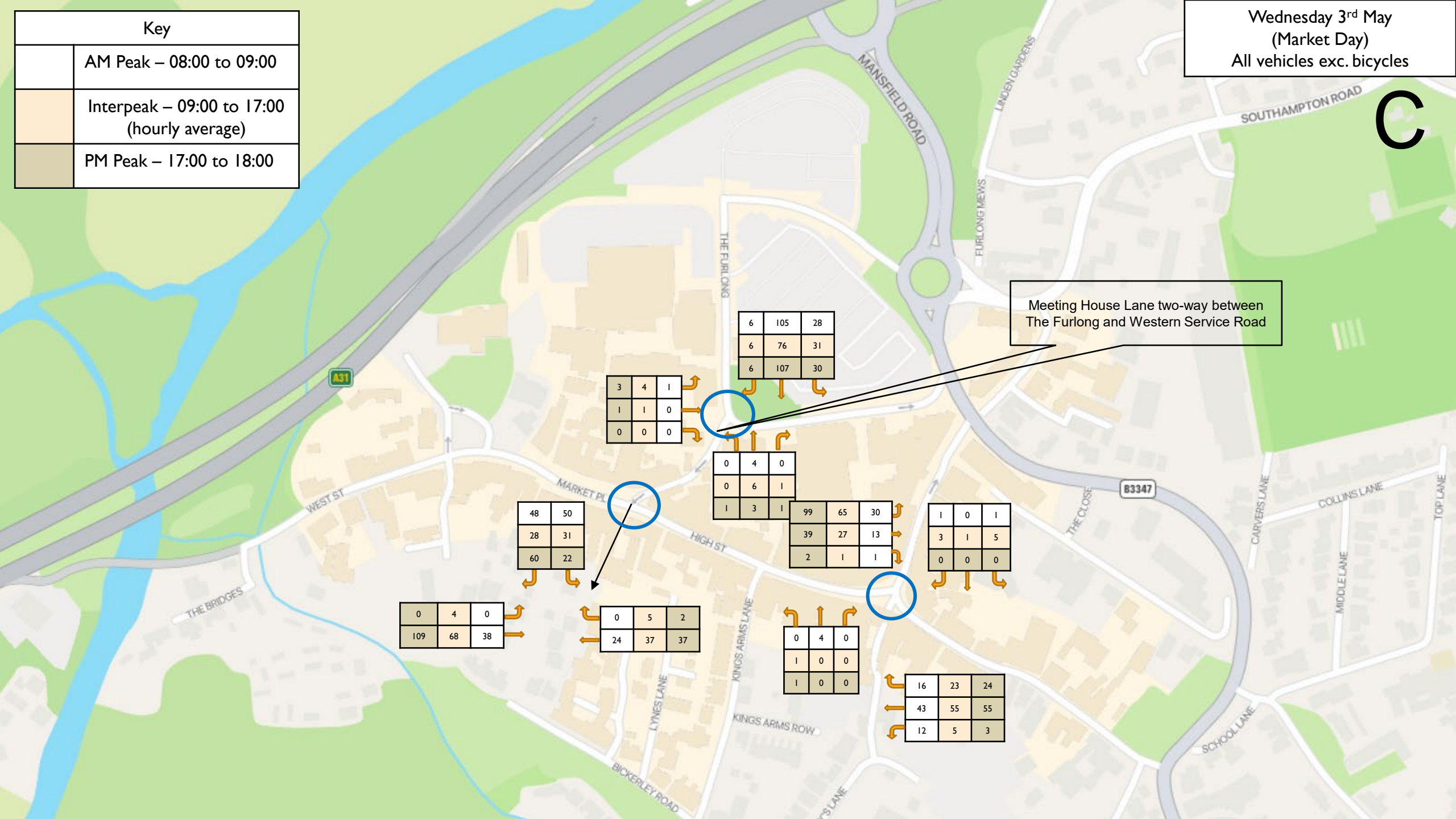
- The following slides provide a summary of the Manual Classified Counts undertaken at the following junctions on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023:
  - The Furlong / Meeting House Lane / Car Wash
  - Southampton Rd / Christchurch Rd / High Street
  - The Furlong / High Street / The Market Place / Deweys Lane
  - Pedlars Walk
- The MCCs were undertaken on two days for the 12-hour period 7am to 7pm and recorded classified traffic turning movements as well as pedestrian and cycling movements.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
 (Market Day)  
 All vehicles exc. bicycles

C

Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00

Meeting House Lane two-way between  
 The Furlong and Western Service Road

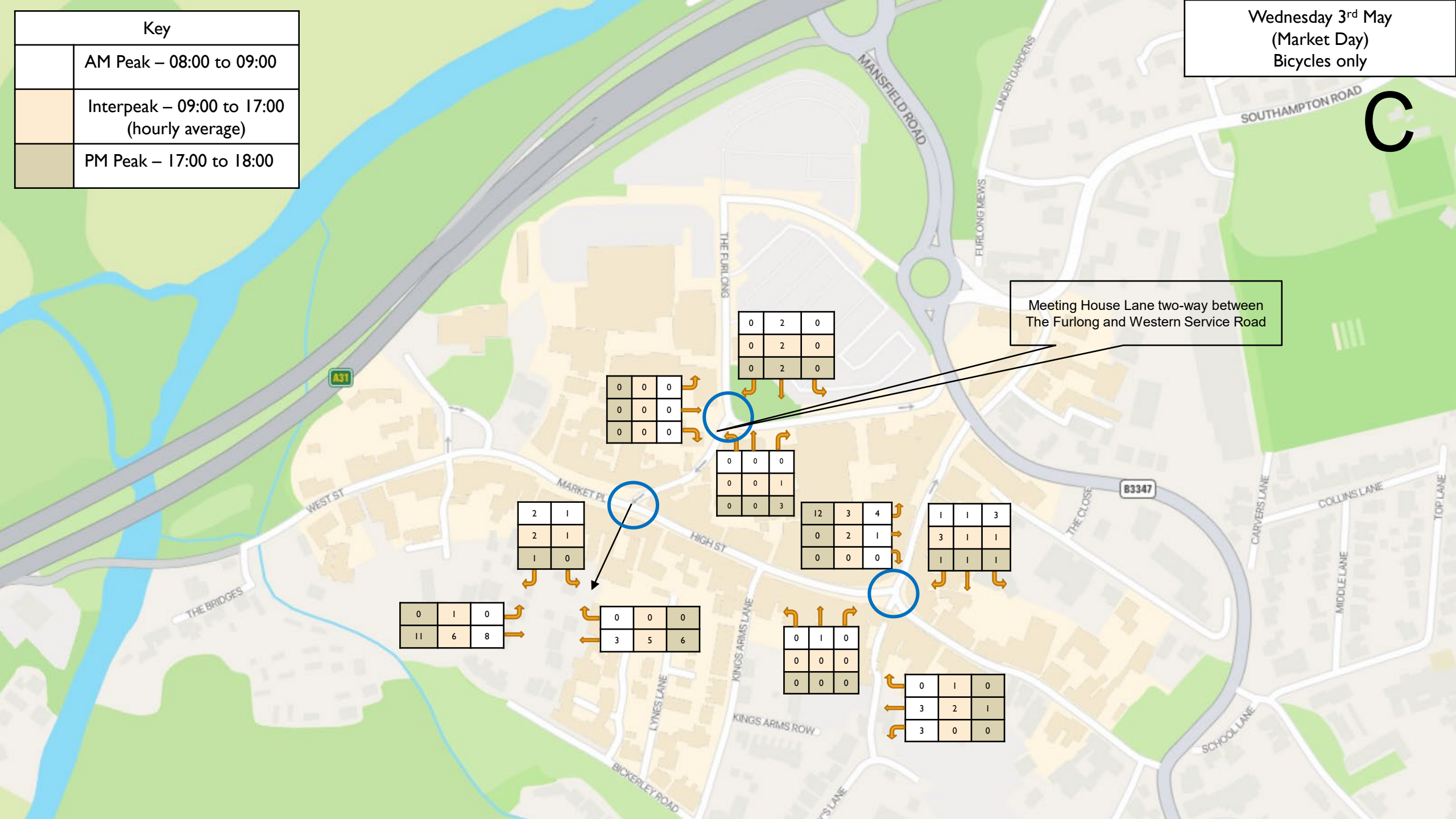




Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
 (Market Day)  
 Bicycles only

C

Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00



Meeting House Lane two-way between  
 The Furlong and Western Service Road

0	2	0
0	2	0
0	2	0

0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	3

12	3	4
0	2	1
0	0	0

1	1	3
3	1	1
1	1	1

2	1
2	1
1	0

0	1	0
11	6	8

0	0	0
3	5	6

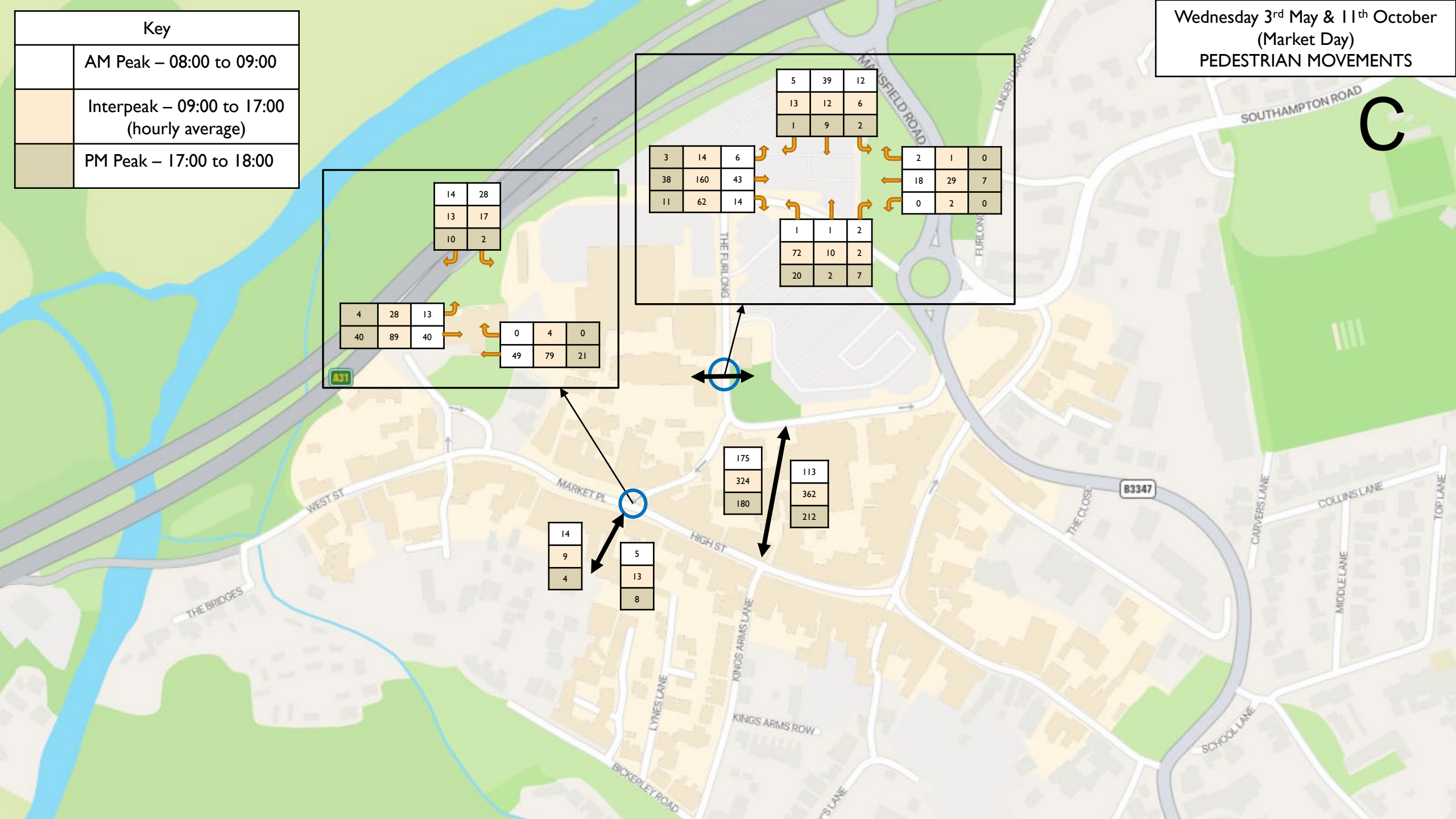
0	1	0
0	0	0
0	0	0

0	1	0
3	2	1
3	0	0

Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May & 11<sup>th</sup> October  
(Market Day)  
PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS

C



14	28
13	17
10	2

4	28	13
40	89	40

0	4	0
49	79	21

5	39	12
13	12	6
1	9	2

3	14	6
38	160	43
11	62	14

2	1	0
18	29	7
0	2	0

1	1	2
72	10	2
20	2	7

14
9
4

5
13
8

175
324
180

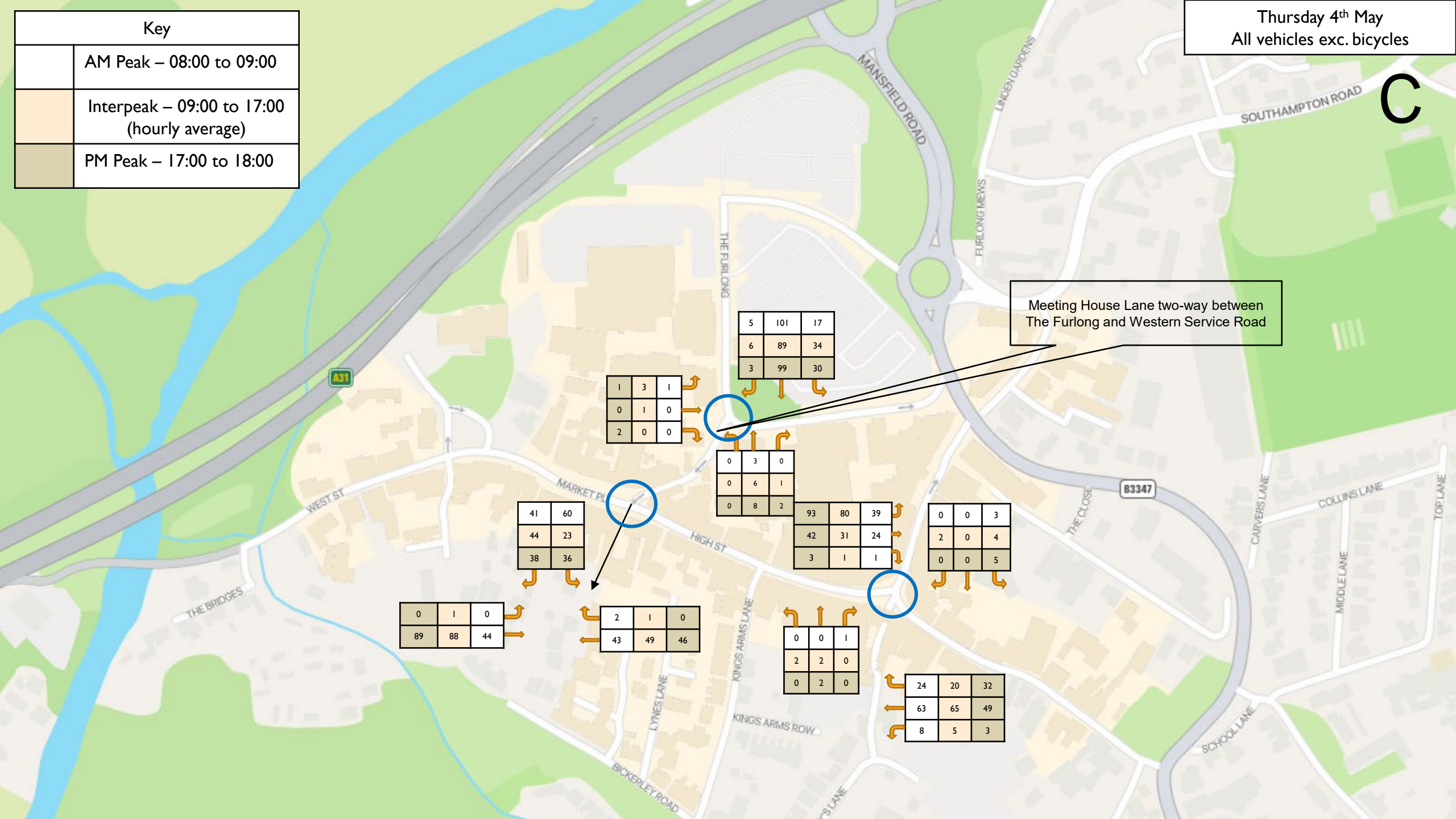
113
362
212



Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
All vehicles exc. bicycles

C

Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00



Meeting House Lane two-way between  
The Furlong and Western Service Road

5	101	17
6	89	34
3	99	30

1	3	1
0	1	0
2	0	0

0	3	0
0	6	1
0	8	2

93	80	39
42	31	24
3	1	1

0	0	3
2	0	4
0	0	5

41	60
44	23
38	36

0	1	0
89	88	44

2	1	0
43	49	46

0	0	1
2	2	0
0	2	0

24	20	32
63	65	49
8	5	3

A31

B3347

THE BRIDGES

WEST ST

MARKET PL

HIGH ST

LYNES LANE

BICKERLEY ROAD

THE FURLONG

MANSFIELD ROAD

FURLONG MEWS

LINDEN GARDENS

SOUTHAMPTON ROAD

THE CLOSE

CARVERS LANE

COLLINS LANE

MIDDLE LANE

TOP LANE

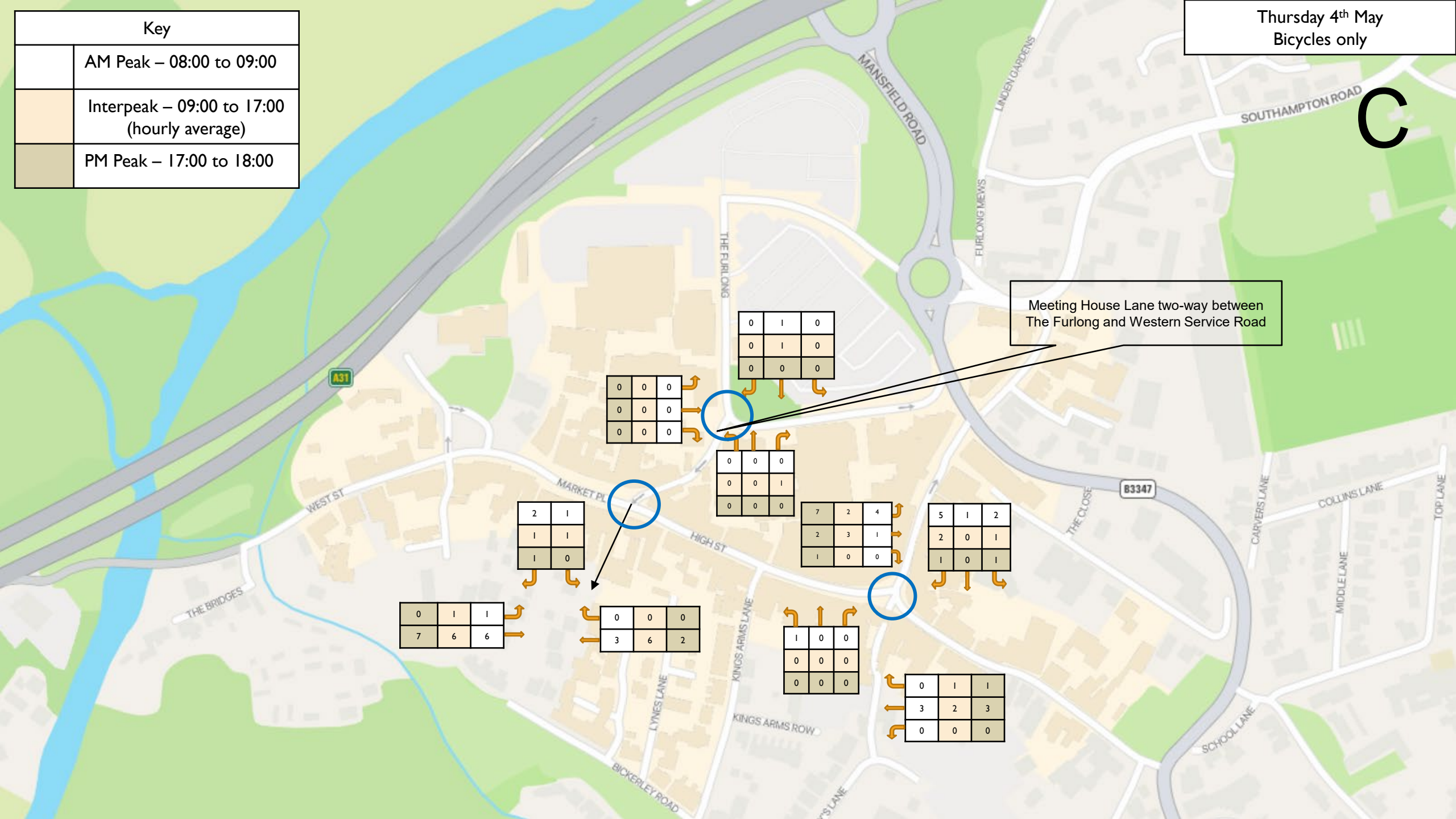
SCHOOL LANE

KINGS ARMS ROW

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
Bicycles only

C

Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00



Meeting House Lane two-way between  
The Furlong and Western Service Road

0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0

0	1	0
0	1	0
0	0	0

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	0

2	1
1	1
1	0

7	2	4
2	3	1
1	0	0

5	1	2
2	0	1
1	0	1

0	1	1
7	6	6

0	0	0
3	6	2

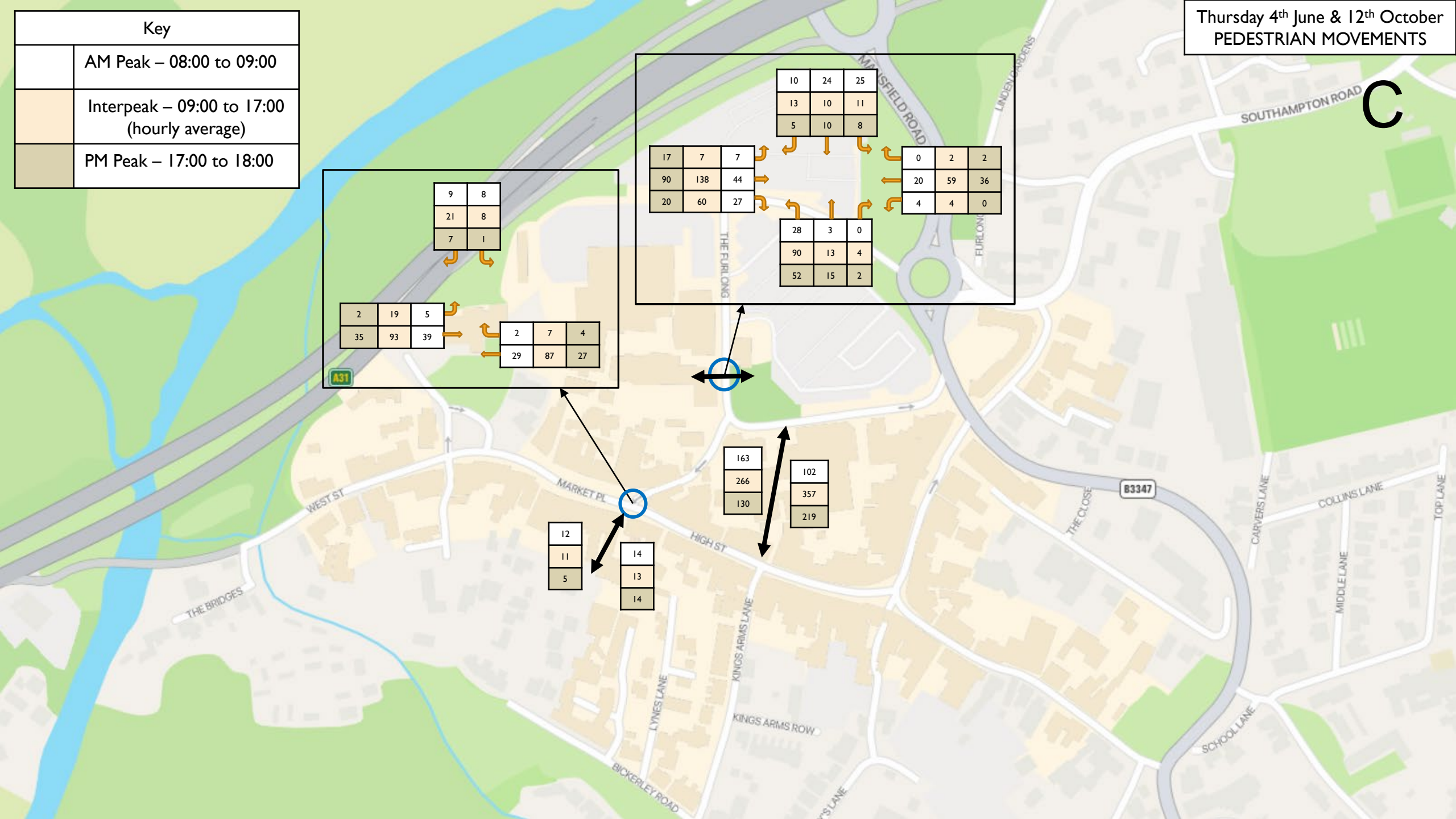
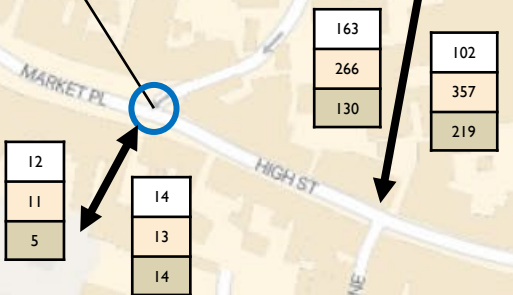
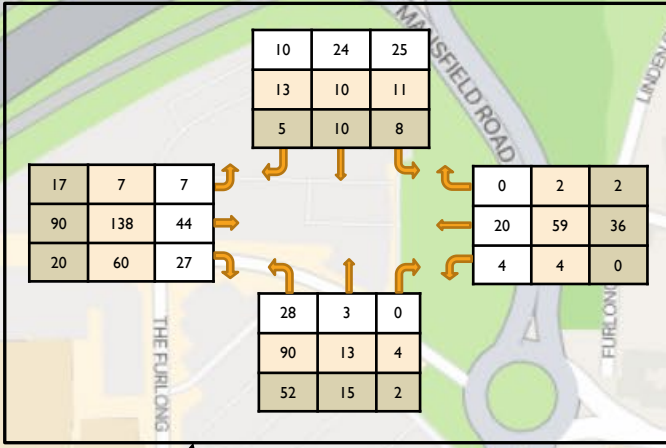
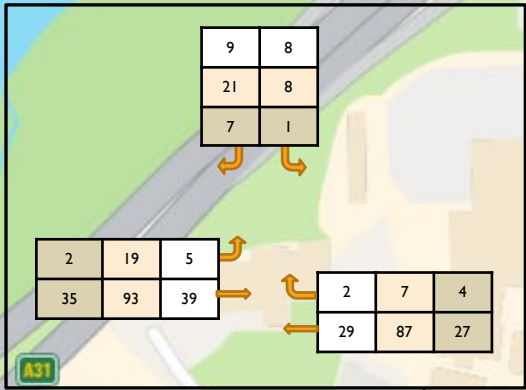
1	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0

0	1	1
3	2	3
0	0	0



C

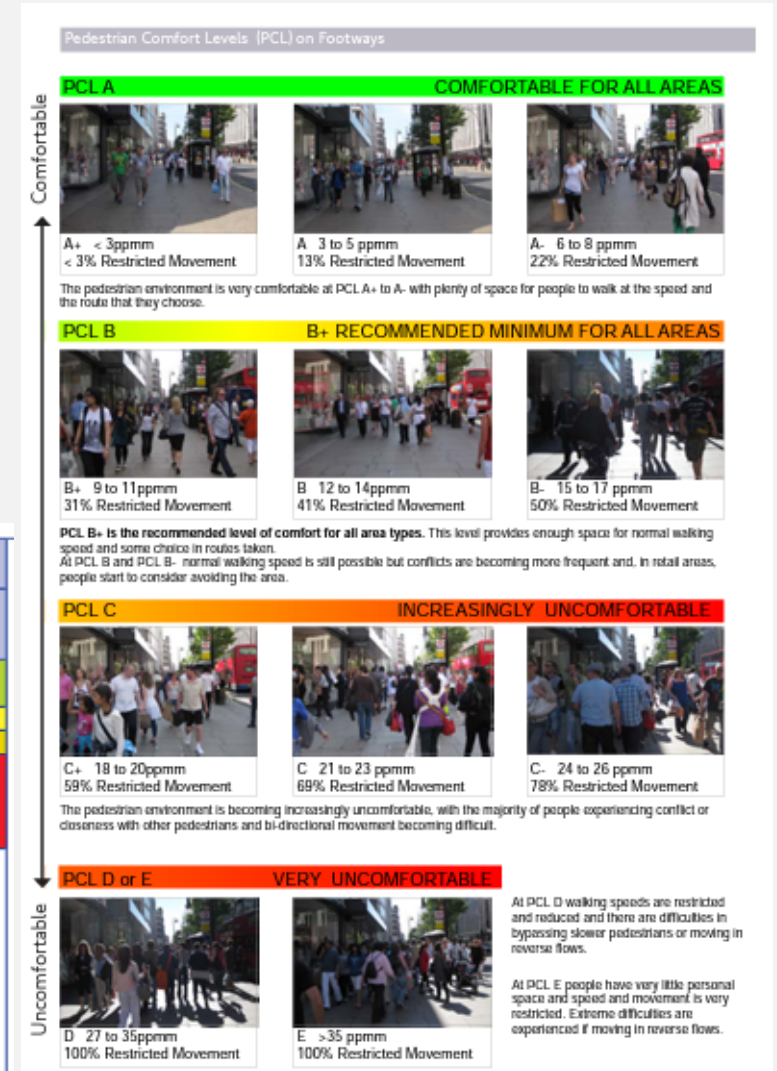
Key	
	AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00
	Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average)
	PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00



# Pedestrian Comfort Levels

- A high level assessment of the comfort level for pedestrians at present along Market Place and Meeting House Lane would need to be carried out to identify the level of improvements to the existing footways (in terms of width, obstructions from street furniture, etc.).
- However, the pedestrian surveys show that Meeting House Lane under-performs at present in terms of getting people to their destinations compared with other routes and would require either or both;
  - Improvement in the quality of the route
  - Improvement in the destinations on offer as attractor for pedestrians

HIGH STREET	
	Ave of Max
A	COMFORTABLE
B+	ACCEPTABLE
B-	AT RISK
C+	UNACCEPTABLE/ UNCOMFORTABLE
C-	
D	
E	
Peak and Average of Maximum Activity levels have similar guidance as people visiting retail areas stated they were particularly sensitive to crowding.	



Source: Transport for London and Mayor of London, *Pedestrian Comfort Guidance for London* (updated 2019),

- The following slides provide a summary of the Parking Beat Surveys (PBS) undertaken on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for Market Place, High Street and Southampton Road for the 12-hour period of 7am to 7pm.
- The PBS recorded duration of stay and turnover across the survey area. It did not record parking stress (to assess the demands on parking capacity in specific areas) nor an indication of onward destination of users once parked.
- Restrictions are currently in place as follows:
  - West Street – Up to Bickerley Millstream, double yellow on its northern side; single yellow line on its southern side with on-street parking for up to 4 vehicles restricted to one hour only Mon-Sat between 8am and 7pm. Unrestricted parking beyond stream.
  - Market Place – No parking on Wednesdays 6am to 6pm; Parking limited to one hour Monday to Saturday between 8am – 7pm (no return within 2 hours)
  - High Street - Double yellow lines along its length with the exception of a ‘Disabled’ parking bays for up to two vehicles and of a ‘Loading Only’ bay for up to two standard vans (Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm only)
  - Southampton Road - Double yellow lines along its length with the exception of a ‘Disabled’ parking bay for up to one vehicle



Parking restrictions on roads surveyed

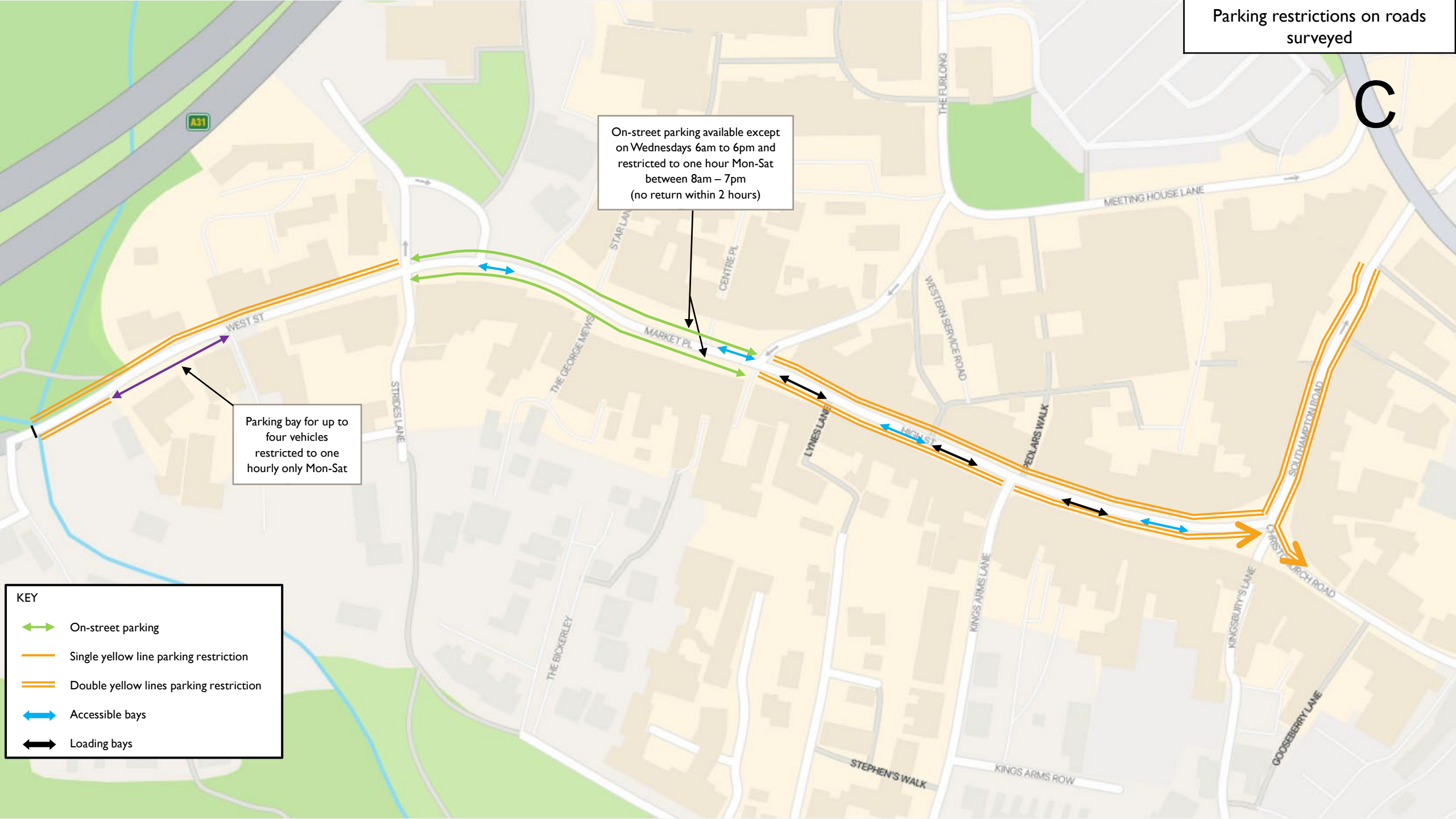
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On-street parking available except on Wednesdays 6am to 6pm and restricted to one hour Mon-Sat between 8am – 7pm (no return within 2 hours)

Parking bay for up to four vehicles restricted to one hourly only Mon-Sat

**KEY**

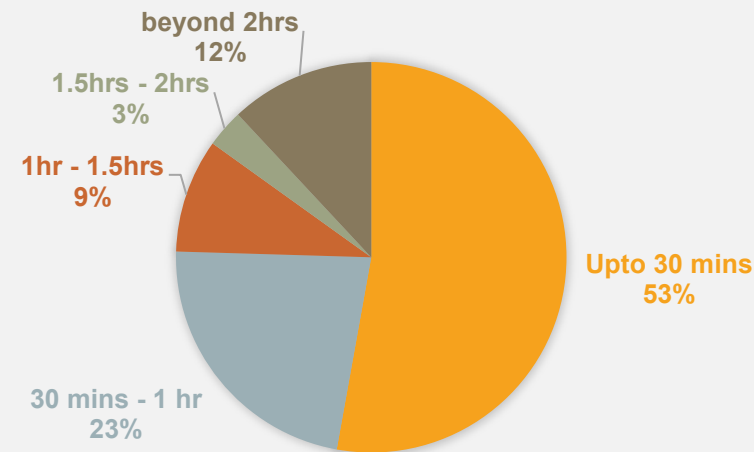
- ↔ On-street parking
- Single yellow line parking restriction
- == Double yellow lines parking restriction
- ↔ Accessible bays
- ↔ Loading bays



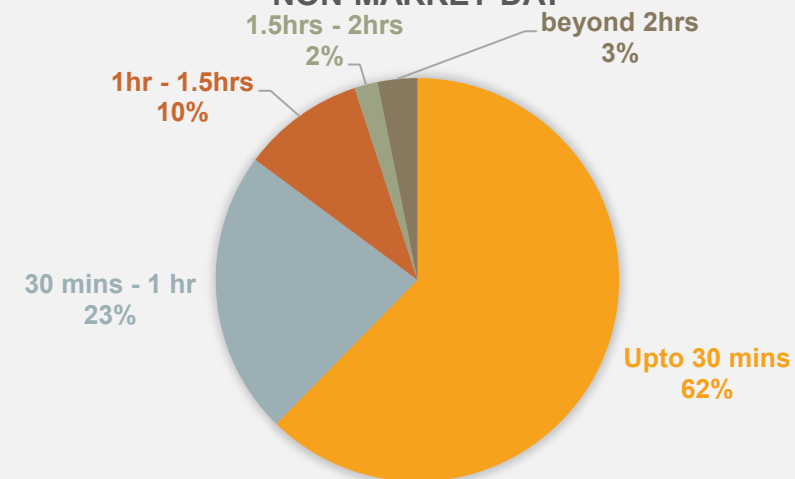
# Parking Beat Results

- The surveys highlighted the following:
  - The temporary suspension of parking on Market Place on Wednesdays reduces demand for parking in the area by 43% (289 cars parked on Wednesday compared with 507 cars parked on Thursday)
  - Given the current restrictions in the area, unsurprisingly the majority of users only park for up to 30 minutes (62% to 53%). Only c.23% of users park for up to one hour. However up to 15% were observed parking beyond 2.0 hours, suggesting some regular over-stay practices.
  - Market Day however has no overall impact on the duration of stay in the area, but more users appear to over-stay than on non-market days.

PARKING DURATION ON MARKET PLACE  
MARKET DAY



PARKING DURATION ON MARKET PLACE  
NON-MARKET DAY



# Parking Beat Results Cont.../

C

- Parking bays on both sides of Market Place appear to be used equally
- The disabled bay on Southampton Road appears to be used for the majority of the day, up to twice per half-hour. One oddity was observed at 3.30pm, where the bay was used up to 5 times, suggesting perhaps that some use it as a pick-up location rather than for disabled parking
- It has not been possible to differentiate between usage of disabled bays and loading bays on High Street but again the facilities appear to be used regularly throughout the day.
- On Wednesdays, the parking bays on Market Place are used an average of 8 to 10 times between the hours of 8am and 7pm, with a noticeable peak of use from 4pm when this increases to 12 and 18 times, possibly suggesting the end of the market day when the street re-opens to all traffic.
- On other days, the parking bays on Market Place are used an average of 11 to 16 times between the hours of 8am and 7pm, with no noticeable peaks during this period.

- Based on the above data and observations, the following conclusions can be drawn from the results:
  - There does not appear to be any significant breaches of the current restrictions for the on-street parking usage on Market Place. Based on the fact that recorded usage of the spaces is broadly similar to the difference in traffic flows between market day (when parking is temporarily suspended) and a typical weekday, demand for parking in the area can reasonably be mainly attributed to the retail and F&B units served by High Street/Market Place rather than to any of the other local residential and/or employment uses. It is also not unreasonable to presume that demand for parking on Market Place is as a direct consequence of the fact that short-term parking is free and therefore likely to be more convenient than using The Furlong car park.
  - The main pedestrian desire lines reflect the attractiveness of the off-road walking amenities along either The Furlong Shopping Centre or Pedlars Walk. Comparatively few pedestrians and cyclists have been observed travelling down Meeting House Lane (around 22 two-way movements per hour on average) for access to the High Street and Market Place and improving either or both the quality of the route and the destinations as attractors for pedestrians would reverse this trend.
  - There is no definitive conclusion to be drawn from the data in respect of the impact of retaining Meeting House Lane one-way in the southbound direction as there is no comparative data for when the corridor was operating northbound. The data recorded suggests that traffic currently using the corridor is equally split between traffic to Market Place or to High Street out of town. From the traffic using Market Place from Meeting House Lane, only a limited proportion appears to continue westward to West Street. This could suggest that traffic travelling southbound on Meeting House Lane therefore do so either to access the parking on Market Place or to exit the town via High Street.

- Vehicular speeds on the town centre roads are however reflective of a low traffic environment / 20mph zone and would support enhanced amenities for Active Travel, such as re-allocation of road space from motorized to non-motorised users, without requiring excessive control management measures.

- Based on the survey data collected , it is concluded that, from a transport perspective, the conditions within the town centre roads and along Market Place specifically (low vehicle speeds and low traffic volumes), would not prejudice the implementation of the proposals for enhanced public realm along Market Place.



## PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

1 March 2024

### GREENING RINGWOOD

1. Introduction and reason for report

- 1.1 To receive an update on progress of Phase 2 of Greening Ringwood and consider requests for assistance and publicity.

2. Background information and current status

2.1 At the meeting of this Committee in June 2023, it was agreed to support Phase 2 of the Greening Ringwood Campaign (*P/6160 refers*). The Council completed the application to participate in the scheme and funded the initial set-up cost.

2.2 It was further agreed, at the meeting of this Committee in November 2023 (*P/6222 refers*), to continue to advertise Greening Ringwood events and initiatives on the Council's website and social media.

2.3 A Phase 2 launch event will be held in Gateway Square on 20 April 2024, showcasing the five projects and how householders can get involved. As with the last event for Phase 1, the Town Council will take responsibility for this booking.

2.4 Attached is an update from the coordinator outlining what has been achieved since July 2023 and asking for the Council's support with the following:

- Distribution of postcards to all households – it is hoped that councillors will at least commit to delivering in the road they live in.
- Advertising of forthcoming events and initiatives (this has been previously agreed – see 2.2 above).
- Including a link to the new Greening Ringwood website ([www.greening-ringwood.org.uk](http://www.greening-ringwood.org.uk)) from the Town Council website. This would be in line with previous decisions.

3. Issues for decision

- 3.1 To note the coordinator's report on progress of Phase 2 since signing up to participate;**
- 3.2 To approve the addition of a link from the Council's website to the new Greening Ringwood website (in line with previous decisions);**
- 3.3 It is for individual councillors to consider whether they can help with delivery of postcards.**

For further information, contact:

Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk

Direct Dial: 01425 484721

Email: [jo.hurd@ringwood.gov.uk](mailto:jo.hurd@ringwood.gov.uk)



## **Greening Ringwood – Update report to Ringwood Town Council Planning, Town and Environment Committee – 1 March 2024**

Here's an activity report on what our 5 new projects have been doing

### **Space for Nature**

- 2 meetings with their partner organisation – Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust,
- Invited Ringwood Householdors to participate in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch
- Invited Ringwood Householdors to engage with the Poulner Toad Patrol
- Invited Ringwood residents to engage with the Freshwater Habitats Trust and The PondNet Spawn Survey maps to report sightings of Common Frog and Common Toad.
- 96 Beavers and Cubs from First Poulner Scout Group made their own bird feeders and plant pots from recycled bottles, Tetra paks and toilet rolls and planted wildflower seeds to spark their interest in growing more pollinator friendly plants
- Have contacted Hampshire Swifts with the aim of getting more Swift boxes put up in Ringwood
- A Mapping Walk will take place on Sunday 28 April led by Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust exploring the possibility of increasing wildlife corridors around the streets and roads in Ringwood, focussing on private gardens

### **Energy Efficient Warmer Homes**

- 2 meetings with Terena Plowright, the Greening Campaign Chair, and had some training on how to use the Flir thermal image cameras
- In January and February have done more than 95 home thermal image visits to Ringwood households, with information about the images
- Are organising a Home Energy Event on Monday 11 March, 7.30 pm at Greyfriars with a range of experts, including The Environment Centre <https://environmentcentre.com/> and The Sustainability Centre <https://www.sustainability-centre.org/> - information will be shared about what householdors can do to increase their insulation, draught proofing etc and will give grant information for retrofitting.
- Had a meeting with the Flir Camera organisation and Terena Plowright, with filming of a household in Ringwood, which will be used for their publicity – we're hoping a new Flir Thermal Imaging camera might be donated as a thank you! We are hoping to more than double the amount of houses benefitting from these thermal images next Winter

### **Waste Prevention**

- Had a meeting with Terena Plowright
- Approached both Ringwood Mens Shed and Greyfriars Community Centre about starting up a Ringwood Repair Cafe
- In conjunction with Ringwood Mens Shed, have applied for a Hampshire County Council Waste Prevention Grant to cover running costs of a once a month Repair Café at Greyfriars for one year.
- Following a plea on social media, eight Ringwood residents have expressed interests in helping to run a Ringwood Repair Café and a meeting will be held on 26 February, to progress this – skills range from sewing, textiles, small electrical goods, carpentry, hearing aid refurbishes etc
- Have joined the Repair Café organisation with access with a huge amount of information on how to set up, insurance, risk assessments, manuals, tools needed etc
- As a HCC Waste Prevention Champion, Lindsay hosted a Love Food Hate Waste display in Ringwood Library as part of their Green and Thrifty Fortnight
- Have joined up with New Forest Nappy Library to try and encourage more Ringwood parents to use Reusable Nappies.



We are very grateful for the initial support of Ringwood Town Council and hope they will continue to help us with:-

- Delivering these Greening Ringwood postcards to every household in Ringwood! Could we ask that each Councillor could at least deliver postcards in their own street/road? When we delivered Phase 1 postcards, we had a huge amount of support and at least 75 people delivered in 2022
- Link Greening Ringwood website with Ringwood Town Council website and continue to publicise our events?

More details of all our projects and events can now be viewed on our new website <https://greening-ringwood.org.uk/>, kindly created by Councillor John Haywood, and on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/701060120978171>

Lindsay Andrews

Greening Ringwood Coordinator

01425 652813 /07731 872 564

## PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

1 March 2024

### Hampshire County Council Future Services Consultation

#### 1. Introduction and reason for report

- 1.1 Hampshire County Council is seeking views on the future of some local services in a public consultation on options to help it meet a £132 million budget shortfall by April 2025.
- 1.2 The consultation closing date is 31 March 2024.

#### 2. Background information and options

2.1 At the last meeting of this Committee, it was agreed that Members should forward their comments to the Chairman (in addition to completing the survey in a personal capacity) and a draft response would be prepared (*P/6255 refers*).

2.2 At the time of writing, the Chairman has received no comments from Members.

2.3 Full details of the consultation are available to view here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/future-services-consultation>. Proposals include cuts to various HCC services, and Members may wish to comment on the following:

**Household Waste Recycling Centres** – there are several proposals to reduce costs, such as reducing opening days/hours, restricting the type of waste accepted and introducing charges for discretionary services. There is also a proposal to close some sites, one of which could be the Somerley HWRC.

**Street Lighting** – it is proposed to extend the time streetlights are switched off at night and to reduce brightness at certain times.

**Passenger Transport** – it is proposed to withdraw funding from 2 local services: Bus service 125 Christchurch to Ringwood and Taxishare service 35 Burley to and from Lyndhurst, Burley and Ringwood.

**Highways planned maintenance budget** – it is proposed to reduce this budget by 7.5 million each year.

#### 3. Issues for decision and any recommendations

##### **Issue for decision:**

- 3.1 **Whether to submit a response to HCC on any or all of the proposals listed above or as detailed in the full consultation document.**

For further information, contact:

Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk  
Direct Dial: 01425 484721  
Email: [jo.hurd@ringwood.gov.uk](mailto:jo.hurd@ringwood.gov.uk)

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] [planning.appeals@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.appeals@nfdc.gov.uk)  
**Sent:** [REDACTED] 759

**Please be cautious**

This email was sent outside of your organisation

An appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the application detailed below. The appeal will be considered by means of Written Representations.

Application No: 23/10759

Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/B1740/W/23/3329460

Site: RYCROFT, CROW LANE, CROW, RINGWOOD BH24 3DZ

Description: Close the existing vehicular access; create a new vehicular access; sever plot and construct 2no detached bungalows with parking

Reason(s) for refusal: The proposal represents a cramped form of development harmful to the established character and appearance of the area designated as green tranquil space in the Ringwood Local Distinctiveness SPD. This impact would be compounded by the extent of the proposed access drive, its associated hard surfacing and parking and turning facilities. As such it would be an inappropriate form of overdevelopment, unsympathetic to the character and appearance of the area. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy ENV3 of the Local Plan Part 1 for the New Forest outside of the National Park and the Ringwood Local Distinctiveness SPD.

The provision of the proposed access drive adjacent to the rear garden boundary of 37, Crow Lane together with the associated parking and turning areas for units 1 and 2 would have an inappropriate impact on the residential amenities currently enjoyed by 37, Crow Lane. This is coupled with the limited level of amenity provided for unit 2 by reason of the very small and uncharacteristic size of the proposed rear garden space. As such, the proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy ENV3 of the Local Plan Part 1 for the New Forest outside of the National Park and the Ringwood Local Distinctiveness SPD.

The application site lies within Flood Zones 2 and 3, which is land defined by the Planning Practice Guidance for the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) for Flood Risk and Coastal Change as having a high and medium probability of flooding. The application is not supported with a detailed site specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and as such the flood risks posed by the development cannot be properly assessed. It has not been demonstrated through a FRA that the proposal is safe for future occupiers without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and therefore the proposed development could lead to unacceptable flooding impacts contrary to Paragraph 167 and 168 of the NPPF.

It has not been demonstrated through the provision of details of vehicular visibility splays and pedestrian inter visibility splays that the proposed new access would not result in harmful impacts to highway and pedestrian safety. As such, the proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy ENV3 of the Local Plan Part 1.

Ecological information to confirm the presence or otherwise of protected species on the site has not been submitted and therefore the Local Planning Authority cannot be satisfied that the proposals would not result in potential adverse impacts on protected species such as common species of reptile. In the absence of this ecological information, appropriate mitigation measure cannot be secured to ensure that protected species would not be harmed as a result of the development. As such, the proposal is therefore contrary to Policy DM2 of the Local Plan Part 2 for the New Forest outside of the National Park.

The recreational and air quality impacts of the proposed development on the New Forest Special Area of Conservation, the New Forest Special Protection Area and the New Forest Ramsar site would not be adequately mitigated and the proposed development would therefore be likely to unacceptably increase recreational pressures and air quality impacts on these sensitive European nature conservation sites, contrary to Policy ENV1 of the Local Plan 2016-2036 Part One: Planning Strategy and the Council's Supplementary Planning Document 'Mitigation for Recreational Impacts on New Forest European Sites'.

To view the grounds of appeal please refer to the "Appeal Form" document attached to the case on our website:

<http://planning.newforest.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal= NEWFO DCAPR =219731>

The Planning Inspectorate have an online appeals service which you can use to comment on this appeal at <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>, these must be made by 20/03/2024.

If you prefer to write in, please write quoting the appeal reference to the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN to arrive no later than 20/03/2024.

Representations received after the deadline will not be accepted. The Planning Inspectorate will send copies of your letter to the Council and to the appellant.

When made, the decision will be published online at <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

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#### RTC's observation August 2023

23/10759 Rycroft, Crow Lane, Crow, Ringwood. BH24 3DZ

Close the existing vehicular access; create a new vehicular access; sever plot and construct 2no detached bungalows with parking

Refusal (4) The Committee had concerns that the shared access driveway to the site was opposite a road junction due to highway safety. It noted and supported the Environment Agency in respect of a flood risk assessment and Ecologists comments in relation to advance clearance of the site and lack of enhancement proposals in this respect. The proposals are contrary to the Local Distinctiveness Supplementary Planning Document as this area's character is described as properties with large back gardens and distinctive trees.



## Current Projects Update



No.	Name	Status	Recent developments	Description and notes	Lead Officer/Member	Financing
<b>Full Council</b>						
FC1	Long Lane Football Facilities Development	In progress (scheduled for completion in 2024)	The artificial turf pitch has been completed and is now in use. The PWLB loan has been drawn down. A Construction Contract for the pavilion and other works has been entered into. Work on these started on 5th June 2023. Weather and other dependencies permitting, completion is now expected in mid-March 2024.	A joint venture with Ringwood Town Football Club and AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust to improve the football facilities for shared use by them and the community.	Town Clerk	The current expectation is that the Council's contribution to the project will, in effect, be limited to a modest loss of income from the site (but over a long term).
<b>Planning Town &amp; Environment Committee</b>						
PTE1	Neighbourhood Plan	In progress	Examination commenced - responses to Examiner's questions agreed by Steering Group and submitted 11/01/2024. Examiner's Fact Checking Report received and commented on - final report awaited.	To prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the civil parish of Ringwood but limited in scope to a few specified themes.	Deputy Town Clerk	Spent £24,957.42 (£18,000 funded from Locality grants, £3,650 additional budget agreed for SPUD youth engagement work (F/6061)). £3,492.58 remaining of original RTC budget.
PTE2	Human Sundial	Complete, with exception of interpretation board	Work to refurbish human sundial and install surrounding benches now complete. Time capsule cover stone replaced on 21/07/2023. Interpretation board with details of sundial, Jubilee Lamp etc. to be designed and costed.	Replacement of damaged sundial and surrounding paviers; installation of removable benches to protect it for the future.	Deputy Town Clerk	£10,659.15 spent funded from CIL and contribution from Carnival. Additional £580 for repair of cover funded from CIL (C/6957).
PTE3	Crow Stream Maintenance	Annual recurrent	Spraying of stream banks undertaken 05/05/2023, annual flail carried out in August and stream clearance by volunteers on 28/09/2023. NFDC released additional £10,000 from developers' contributions to allow this work to continue for another 10 years.	Annual maintenance of Crow Ditch and Stream in order to keep it flowing and alleviate flooding	Deputy Town Clerk	Budget of £1,000 funded by transfer from earmarked reserve
PTE6	Shared Space Concept - Thriving Market Place	In progress	£10,000 released by NFDC from UKSPF to undertake options appraisal/feasibility study. HCC survey work completed November 2023. Project Brief agreed by HCC, NFDC & RTC at meeting on 19/02/2024.	Concept for town centre shared space identified through work on the Neighbourhood Plan. Working in partnership with NFDC and HCC.	Deputy Town Clerk	HCC funded survey work. £10,000 grant from UKSPF (via NFDC).
	Greening Ringwood	In progress	Public meeting held on 05/07/2023 and project leads in place for 5 new projects. Official launch of Phase 20/04/2024 in Gateway Square. Update from coordinator to be presented to PT&E on 01/03/2024.	Greening Campaign Phase 2 to run from Sept 2023 to July 2024, focussing on making space for nature; energy efficient greener homes; climate impacts on health and wellbeing; waste prevention; and cycle of the seed.		£50 signing up fee funded from General Reserve.
	Bus Shelters	In progress	HCC framework contractor has completed survey of shelters free of charge. This has yet to be reviewed. Results and availability of funding will be discussed with HCC.	Review of Council owned bus shelters.		No agreed budget
Projects being delivered by others which are monitored by the Deputy Clerk and reported to this committee:						
	Crow Lane Footpath	In progress	Developers' contributions paid to HCC to implement. Additional funds required to progress and approved by NFDC Cabinet on 02/11/2022 - report indicates delivery in 2024/25. HCC working on design.	New footpath to link Beaumont Park with Hightown Road, alongside west of Crow Lane	Hampshire CC	Developers contributions
	Railway Corner	In progress	Project supported by RTC. Planning application awaiting determination (23/11081).	Project to improve and promote historical significance of triangle of land at junction of Hightown Road and Castleman Way.	Ringwood Society	No financial implications.
	Memorial Bench for Michael Lingam-Willgoss	In progress	Consent to install bench has been granted by HCC. Legal fees covered by County Cllr Thierry. Date for installation yet to be agreed.	Provision of memorial bench in Market Place in memory of Michael Lingam-Willgoss.	Ringwood Carnival / Ringwood Rotary	No financial implications.

## Policy &amp; Finance Committee



PF5	Poulner Lakes Lease	On hold	Awaiting track maintenance solution - see Recreation Leisure & Open Spaces Committee item RLOS21.	Negotiating a lease from Ringwood & District Anglers' Association of the part of the site not owned by the Council	Town Clerk	Some provision for legal advice or assistance may be needed eventually.
PF11	92 Southampton Road	In progress (commenced March 2023)	One of the tenants has left. A new letting agent has been instructed and has served notice to quit. Urgent repairs have been completed.	Reviewing the letting of this council-owned house	Town Clerk	Rent receipts and other financial implications of any changes are unclear at present but will be considered as part of the review.
PF12	Base budget review	Commenced Feb. 2024	Final call for volunteers issued.	A review by members and officers of the council's base (revenue) budget, probably focused on a few types of expenditure or areas of activity, to identify possible options for change and/or savings.	Finance Manager	No anticipated costs other than staff time.

### Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee

RLOS4	Grounds department sheds replacement	In progress (Commenced design work in April 2021.)	Officers have been working with a planning consultant on project design and two rounds of pre-application planning advice have been completed. A planning application has been prepared in draft and discussions with neighbours begun.	A feasibility study into replacing the grounds maintenance team's temporary, dispersed & sub-standard workshop, garaging and storage facilities. Combined with a possible new car park for use by hirers of and visitors to the club-house.	Town Clerk	Revised capital budget of £4,000 (originally £10,000 until virement to RLOS19)
RLOS5	Cemetery development	In progress (Commenced design work in April 2021. Aiming to complete by December 2024.)	Design and funding arrangements for a memorial wall have been agreed in principle. An architect has been instructed to prepare the invitation to tender for the construction contract.	Planning best use of remaining space, columbarium, etc.	Town Clerk	Capital cost estimated at £37,500 will be met from a combination of earmarked reserves.
RLOS10	Waste bin replacement programme	In progress (Commenced April 2020)	The replacements scheduled in years 1 and 2 have been completed. An order for the final round of replacements has been placed.	Three-year programme to replace worn-out litter and dog-waste bins	Grounds Manager	Budget of £2,000 a year.
RLOS14	Poulner Lakes waste licence	In progress	Surrender requirements and process have been investigated and discussed with Environment Agency and New Forest District Council. Consultants, ACS Testing, have been engaged to provide technical advice and support. A fuller picture of the surrender requirements and process is expected to emerge early in 2024.	Arranging to surrender our redundant waste licence to avoid annual renewal fees	Town Clerk	
RLOS19	Carvers Strategic Development	In progress (Commenced Feb. 2021)	The Masterplan prepared by landscape designer New Enclosure was approved by the Carvers Working Party on 5th July. Responses to the public consultation on this have been evaluated and an updated plan prepared. This will be considered by the Working Party shortly.	Devising a strategic vision and plan for the future of Carvers Recreation Ground pulling together proposals for additional play equipment and other features	Carvers Manager	Revised budget of £6,000 (virement from RLOS4).
RLOS21	Poulner Lakes track maintenance	In progress (under discussion since Jan. 2021)	Costs estimates for re-surfacing schemes obtained from two suppliers. NFDC officers have been consulted about related mitigation schemes and possible support - decision expected in March 2024.	Devising a sustainable regime for maintaining the access tracks at Poulner Lakes to a more acceptable standard.	Town Clerk	Yet to be settled
RLOS23	North Poulner Play Area skate ramp request	In progress (commenced Mar. 2023)	A 'half-pipe' has been identified as a likely cheaper and easier option. The likely costs and wider implications of installing this are being investigated.	A local resident requested provision of a 'quarter-pipe ramp' at this site and has been fund-raising for it	Deputy Town Clerk	Yet to be quantified and agreed
RLOS24	Poulner Lakes Circular Path	In progress	Works to reduce and landscape the drainage retention pond completed. It's performance will be monitored through the winter.	HCC has funded the creation of a circular path for pedestrians and cyclists to improve accessibility and so encourage greater use	Deputy Town Clerk	Staff time only

### Staffing Committee

None



Proposed/Emerging Projects Update



No.	Name	Description	Lead	Recent developments	Progress / Status Stage reached	Estimated cost	Funding sources
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**Full Council**  
None

**Planning Town & Environment Committee**

	Roundabout under A31	Planting and other environmental enhancements		Area being used by National Highways for storage of materials during works to widen the A31.	Floated as possible future project		
	Lynes Lane re-paving Rear of Southampton Road	Ringwood Society proposal Proposal by Ringwood Society to improve appearance from The Furlong Car Park and approaches			Floated as possible future project Floated as possible future project		
	Dewey's Lane wall	Repair of historic wall		Re-build/repair options and costs are being investigated	Shelved as a TC project		
	Signage Review	Review of signs requiring attention - e.g. Castleman Trailway, Pocket Park, Gateway Square	Cllr Day		Floated as possible future project		
	Crow ditch	Investigate works required to improve capacity and flow of ditch alongside Crow Lane, between Hightown Road and Moortown Lane					Developers contributions

**Policy & Finance Committee**

	Paperless office	Increasing efficiency of office space use	Cllr. Heron	Discussions with Town Clerk and Finance Manager			
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**Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee**

	None	(Current projects expected to absorb available resources for several years)					
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**Staffing Committee**

	None						
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## Closed Projects Report

No.	Name	Description	Outcome	Notes
<b>Full Council</b>				
FC2	Strategic Plan	Exploring ideas for medium term planning. Aim to have complete for start of budget-planning in Autumn 2022.	Completed in October 2022	
<b>Planning, Town &amp; Environment Committee</b>				
	Pedestrian Crossings - Christchurch Road	Informal pedestrian crossings to the north and south of roundabout at junction of Christchurch Road with Wellworthy Way (Lidl)	Completed by HCC	
	Cycleway signage and improvements	New signage and minor improvements to cycleway between Forest Gate Business Park and Hightown Road	Completed by HCC	
	Carvers footpath/cycle-way improvement	Creation of shared use path across Carvers between Southampton Road and Mansfield Road	Completed by HCC	
	Replacement Tree - Market Place	New Field Maple tree to replace tree stump in Market Place.	Completed in January 2022 by HCC	
PTe4	Climate Emergency	Funds used to support Greening Campaign, community litter-pick and Flood Action Plan leaflets.	Completed March 2023	
	A31 widening scheme	Widening of A31 westbound carriageway between Ringwood and Verwood off slip to improve traffic flow; associated town centre improvements utilising HE Designated Funds	Scheme completed by National Highways and road re-opened in November 2022.	
	SWW Water Main Diversion (associated with A31 widening scheme)	Diversion of water main that runs along the A31 westbound carriageway. Diversion route included land in RTC's ownership at The Bickerley.	Scheme completed by SWW in 2022.	
	Surfacing of Castleman Trailway	Dedication and surfacing of bridleway between old railway bridge eastwards to join existing surfacing.	Surfacing works completed by HCC early April 2022.	
	Bus Shelter Agreement	Request by ClearChannel in Nov. 2020 for RTC to licence the bus shelters in Meeting House Lane and the advertising on them. Despite various communications, we have had no contact for over a year and therefore regard the original request to be defunct.	Request not followed up by ClearChannel, therefore defunct and removed from project list October 2023.	
PTe5	<b>Policy &amp; Finance Committee</b>			
PF1	New Council website	Arranging a new website that is more responsive, directly editable by Council staff and compliant with accessibility regulations.	Completed	
PF2	Greenways planning permission	Consideration of applying to renew planning permission for bungalow in garden previously obtained	Decided not to renew	
PF3	Detached youth outreach work	To provide youth workers for trial of detached outreach work	Transferred to Recreation Leisure & Open Spaces Committee (see RLOS20)	
PF4	Review of governance documents	A major overhaul of standing orders, financial regulations, committee terms of reference, delegated powers, etc. Routine periodic reviews will follow completion of this work.	Completed in July 2022	All governance documents will now receive routine annual reviews.
PF6	Health & Safety Management Support Re-procurement	Re-procuring specialist advice and support for discharge of health and safety duties	Completed in February 2023	
PF7	Financial Procedures Manual	Preparation of a new manual for budget managers and other staff detailing financial roles, responsibilities and procedures	Completed in September 2022	Will be updated by Finance Manager as necessary
PF8	Bickerley Legal Title	An application to remove land from the Council's title was made	Completed in October 2023	Application successfully resisted
PF9	Greenways office leases	The tenant of the first floor suite gave notice and left. The building was re-let as a whole to the tenant of the ground floor suite.	Completed in November 2022	
PF10	Councillors' Email Accounts	Providing councillors with official email accounts (and devices, if required) to facilitate compliance with data protection laws.	Completed in August 2023	
<b>Recreation, Leisure &amp; Open Spaces Committee</b>				
RLOS1	War Memorial Repair	Repair by conservation specialists with Listed Building Consent with a re-dedication ceremony after.	Completed in 2021-22	
RLOS2	Bickerley Tracks Repair	Enhanced repair of tracks to address erosion and potholes (resurfacing is ruled out by town green status) and measures to control parking.	Fresh gravel laid in 2021-22.	No structural change is feasible at present.
RLOS3	Public open spaces security	Review of public open spaces managed by the Council and implementation of measures to protect the highest priority sites from unauthorised encampments and incursions by vehicles	Completed in 2021-22	
RLOS6	Community Allotment	Special arrangement needed for community growing area at Southampton Road	Ongoing processes adapted	Agreed to adopt as informal joint venture with the tenants' association
RLOS7	Bowling Club lease	Renewal of lease that expired in April 2023.	Completed in July 2023	New lease granted for 14 years.
RLOS8	Ringwood Youth Club	Dissolution of redundant Charitable Incorporated Organisation	Completed in July 2023	Charity removed from Register of Charities
RLOS9	Aerator Repair	Major overhaul to extend life of this much-used attachment	Completed in 2021-22	
RLOS11	Ash Grove fence repair	Replacing the worn-out fence around the play area	Completed in 2021-22	
RLOS12	Van replacement	Replacing the grounds department diesel van with an electric vehicle	Suspended in 2023	Van will be replaced in accordance with Vehicle & Machinery replacement plan
RLOS13	Bickerley compensation claim	Statutory compensation claim for access and damage caused by drainage works	Completed March 2022	Settlement achieved with professional advice
RLOS15	Acorn bench at Friday's Cross	Arranging the re-painting of this bespoke art-work	Completed in 2021-22	Labour kindly supplied by Men's Shed
RLOS16	Town Safe	Possible re-paint of this important survival, part of a listed structure	Suspended indefinitely in September 2022	Complexity and cost judged disproportionate to benefit
RLOS17	Crow Arch Lane Allotments Site	The transfer to this Council (pursuant to a s.106 agreement) of a site for new allotments off Crow Arch Lane	Completed in November 2023	
RLOS18	Cemetery Records Upgrade	Creation of interactive digital cemetery map and scanning of cemetery registers as first stage in digitizing all cemetery records to facilitate remote working, greater efficiency and improved public accessibility.	Completed in 2021	Cost £5,467. Further upgrades are needed to digitize the records fully
RLOS20	Detached youth outreach work	Trialling the provision of detached outreach work by specialist youth workers.	Completed in May 2022	
RLOS22	Bickerley parking problem	Unauthorised parking on the tracks crossing the Bickerley is causing damage and obstruction	Closed off in September 2023	Additional signage has been installed. An estimate of £5,510 to move the "dragon's teeth" was judged disproportionate to the problem.
<b>Staffing Committee</b>				
S1	HR support contract renewal	Renewal of contract for the supply to the Council of specialist human resources law and management support	Completed in 2021-22	
S2	Finance Staffing Review	Reassessing staffing requirements and capacity for finance functions and re-negotiating staff terms	Completed in 2021-22	

