

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Held on Friday 1st March 2024 at 10.00am at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood.

PRESENT: Cllr Philip Day (Chairman)
Cllr Glenys Turner (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Luke Dadford
Cllr Gareth DeBoos (*until 11:59am and from 12.28pm to meeting end*)
Cllr Mary DeBoos
Cllr Rae Frederick
Cllr Janet Georgiou
Cllr Peter Kelleher
Cllr James Swyer
Cllr Becci Windsor

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk
Nicola Vodden, Office Manager
Cllr John Haywood (*until 11:06am*)
Cllr Michael Thierry (*until 10:55am*)

ABSENT: Cllr Andy Briers
Cllr Ingrid De Bruyn

P/6259 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Five members of the public were present for agenda items.

P/6260 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Briers.

P/6261 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

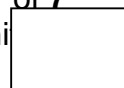
There were no declarations of interest at this stage.

P/6262 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2024, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

P/6263 FLOODING

Members received a presentation from Sarah Reghif, Technical Manager, Flood and Water Management Team (FWM) at Hampshire County Council on roles and responsibilities as Lead



Local Flood Authority. She highlighted that the team's role is to manage the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.

The Flood & Water Management Strategy sets out the role and details policies and trigger levels for action. 66 priority areas have been identified across Hampshire, one of which is Ringwood, and there will be an action plan developed for each area (see Avon Catchment Management Plan: <https://documents.hants.gov.uk/flood-water-management/14-HCC-CMP-Avon.pdf>). The FWM team is small and resources are focussed on areas of highest risk.

FWM is a statutory consultee for major planning applications, considers giving consent to works affecting ordinary watercourses and has an enforcement role if flooding is caused by lack of maintenance or unconsented works. She explained different types of flooding, who is responsible for maintenance of watercourses and provided criteria for flood investigations.

HCC website includes a flow chart to help determine to whom and how to report flooding (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/reportingflooding>) and also provides information and guidance on mitigation and reducing flood risk (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/floodprevention>).

The importance of reporting all flooding incidents was highlighted, with details such as photos, videos, dates and times, depths, length of time areas flooded etc. This would help build the evidence required to investigate issues.

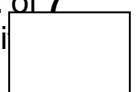
Sarah invited questions from Councillors and members of the public had an opportunity to recount their personal experiences. There were no current investigations of significant or major flooding in this area that she was aware of, which was surprising given the issues listed in *Annex A*. She explained there are many challenges the team face, one of which is getting the issues reported properly. Incidents may have been reported as a highways problem, rather than a flooding problem.

When reports have been made online the case is shown as 'in progress' with little other detail. The platform is shared with Hampshire Highways and the FWM team is working to make better information available. Any significant investigations are published on HCC website. Others are not automatically included, but these can be requested.

The team is reactive, but it is trying to be more proactive with the creation of action plans. Modelling work carried out by the Environment Agency looks at risks and options. There is extensive information available, however it is open to interpretation. FWM have to focus on areas where there are known issues. The FWM team would be happy to offer advice to the Council and to assist, for example, in identifying data that could be shared to start to build a picture of infrastructure and those responsible for maintenance.

It was reported that the ground water levels in the Hightown area have risen since 2020 when it was last measured in connection with proposed development of Strategic Site 14 (north of Hightown Road), and new springs have appeared. This has an impact on where water is flowing elsewhere.

Sarah invited residents to report their experiences to the team in order for them to be logged and progressed appropriately.



The Committee thanked Sarah for her presentation and for answering questions posed.

RESOLVED: 1) That the current flooding and drainage issues (*Annex A*) be noted: and
2) That the presentation from Sarah Reghif, Flood and Water Management at Hampshire County Council on roles and responsibilities as Lead Local Flood Authority be received.

ACTION Jo Hurd

Cllrs Thierry and Kelleher left the meeting at 10:55am.

Agenda item 10. was brought forward on account of the member of the public present.

P/6264

GREENING RINGWOOD

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report (*Annex C*) and received a progress report from Greening Ringwood's co-ordinator on progress of Phase 2 and the five new project areas. She said the website was in progress, the repair café was being established and help was needed to deliver postcards. Members were asked to contact her directly if they are able to assist.

RESOLVED: 1) That the co-ordinator's report on progress of Phase 2 be noted; and
2) That the addition of a link from the Council's website to the new Greening Ringwood website be approved.

ACTION Jo Hurd

At 11:06 am Cllr Haywood left the meeting and Cllr Kelleher re-joined.

P/6265

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: That the observations summarised in *Annex D* be submitted and decision made under delegated powers be noted.

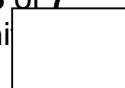
ACTION Nicola Vodden

Cllr Turner left the meeting at 11:50am.

P/6266

RINGWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (RNP)

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the Examiner's final report had been received. He concludes that, subject to some modifications, the draft Plan meets the relevant tests and legal requirements, and recommends that, once modified, the Plan should proceed to local Referendum. Of significance is that he has recommended the removal of the paragraph giving priority for First Homes to people with local connections and the complete removal of Policy R9 – Conserving Local Heritage Assets. However, it is hoped that the Council can work with NFDC to implement this outside of the RNP.



The next step is for NFDC, in liaison with NFNPA and RTC to approve the modifications and confirm arrangements for the Referendum. A meeting has been arranged for 6th March to discuss this. It is anticipated that, if agreed, the Referendum will take place in the summer of 2024.

Cllr Turner rejoined the meeting at 11:52am.

RESOLVED: That the update in relation to Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan (RNP) be noted.

| |
|-----------------------|
| ACTION Jo Hurd |
|-----------------------|

Agenda items 11 and 9 were brought forward on account of Cllr G DeBoos needing to leave the meeting.

**P/6267
REAL WORKING PARTY**

It was noted that the Working Party had not met since 2022 and there appeared to be no need for it now.

RESOLVED: That the REAL Working Party be disbanded.

| |
|-----------------------|
| ACTION Jo Hurd |
|-----------------------|

**P/6268
THRIVING MARKET PLACE**

Members referred to the notes of a meeting held on 19th February 2024 (*Annex E*) and considered the recommendation therein. It was proposed to use the UKSPF grant of £10,000 to fund the work outlined in the Project Brief and to appoint HCC to undertake this work. (*This item was mentioned again later in the meeting P/6270 refers*).

RESOLVED: 1) That the notes of the meeting held on 19th February 2024 (*Annex E*) be received;
2) That agreement of the Project Brief be noted; and
3) That HCC be appointed to undertake the work outlined in the Project Brief.

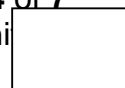
| |
|-----------------------|
| ACTION Jo Hurd |
|-----------------------|

Cllr G DeBoos left the meeting at 11:59am.

**P/6269
STRATEGIC SITES**

Land off Crow Lane / Crow Arch Lane (Beaumont Park)

There was no update available for the meeting. There are issues with delivery of the proposed footway from the north-east corner towards the Elm Tree. The HCC design team have highlighted a concern about drainage, as it appears the area has a higher risk of flooding than when they were originally asked to design the footway. Design of drainage will need to reduce this, but it may be difficult given the arrangements already in place and the close proximity of the



housing estate. (Post meeting note: - the March 2024 Strategic Sites update is now available on the NFDC website [here](#).)

Land north of Hightown Road (21/10042)

There was no update available for the meeting. The Deputy Town Clerk advised the Council should be asking for a review of the drainage strategy on this site bearing in mind the ground water levels and the comments from HCC regarding increased risk of flooding. It was agreed that the Deputy Town Clerk should approach the Flood and Water Management Team at Hampshire County Council and the NFDC Planning Officer, in relation to this. It was noted that NFDC had requested an extension of time for determination of the application (for assessment of the viability report and completion of the s106 agreement) until 31st December. The previous Planning Officer indicated the application should also be re-considered in light of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Land off Moortown Lane (21/11723 and 23/10707)

Amended responses to both applications had been agreed by Full Council on 28th February (C/7106 refers). NFDC had agreed to accept supplementary comments when further information became available, such as outstanding comments from statutory consultees.

2 Market Place

It was noted that the Conservation Officer's report had been received on 29th February. It is comprehensive and referenced a lot of work undertaken by Ringwood Society. The way has been left open for amendment and improvements to the plans.

Land at Snails Lane

There was no update available for the meeting.

- RESOLVED:** 1) That the update on Strategic Sites be noted;
2) That a review of the drainage strategy for Land north of Hightown Road (21/10042) be requested.

| |
|-----------------------|
| ACTION Jo Hurd |
|-----------------------|

P/6270

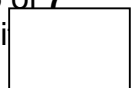
THRIVING MARKET PLACE

(continuation of the earlier discussion on this item, P/6268 refers)

As this is a significant project and the first time Members have seen the Project Brief, the Deputy Town Clerk provided some more detail. Attendees at the meeting on 19th February included officers and Members of all three councils to ensure there was agreement and everyone was on board with what was being proposed. The Project Brief and HCC report on traffic and pedestrian movements had been circulated with the agenda (*Annex E*).

A grant of £10,000 had been secured from NFDC from the UKSP fund to look at options for what can be achieved in the Market Place. This will involve consultation with all stakeholders including residents, traders, the market operator and the church. The aim is to develop a viable and deliverable scheme that can be implemented when funds become available.

The Traffic Regulation Orders currently in place will be reviewed, and it is expected that parking will be the most contentious issue.



RESOLVED: That the additional detail on this project provided by the Deputy Town Clerk be noted.

P/6271

HCC SERVICES CONSULTATION

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report (*Annex F*). There was concern particularly with HCC proposals to close Somerley tip and cuts to the 'Highways planned maintenance budget'. It was noted that HCC proposes to remove all grant funding and it was suggested that, in addition to responding to the main areas, the Council express its disappointment that there would not be opportunities for grant funding. There was support of the proposal in relation to street lighting.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Town Clerk prepare a response to the consultation to highlight the Council's concerns.

| |
|-----------------------|
| ACTION Jo Hurd |
|-----------------------|

Cllr G DeBoos rejoined the meeting at 12:28pm.

P/6272

PLANNING APPEAL

RESOLVED: That no further comments be submitted in respect of 23/10759 Rycroft, Crow Lane, Crow, Ringwood. BH24 3DZ (APP/B1740/W/23/3329460) (*Annex G*) [view here](#)

P/6273

PROJECTS (current and proposed)

Railway corner – The planning application has been with NFDC for some time and additional information on trees has been provided. It is hoped this will be determined soon.

Railway bridge on Crow Arch Lane – Sections of the bridge between the industrial estate and Beaumont Park have been demolished. This had been reported to NFDC Enforcement, who advised that National Highways were responsible for the work. Further information has been requested.

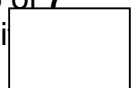
RESOLVED: That the update in relation to projects (*Annex H*) be noted.

P/6274

NFDC/NFNPA PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Council had not been notified of any applications to be considered by NFDC or NFNPA Planning Committees.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 12:35pm.



RECEIVED
27th March 2024

APPROVED
5th April 2024

TOWN MAYOR

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Note: The text in the Action Boxes above does not form part of these minutes.

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.

Universal
Services

B

Role of the Lead Local Flood Authority

March 2024

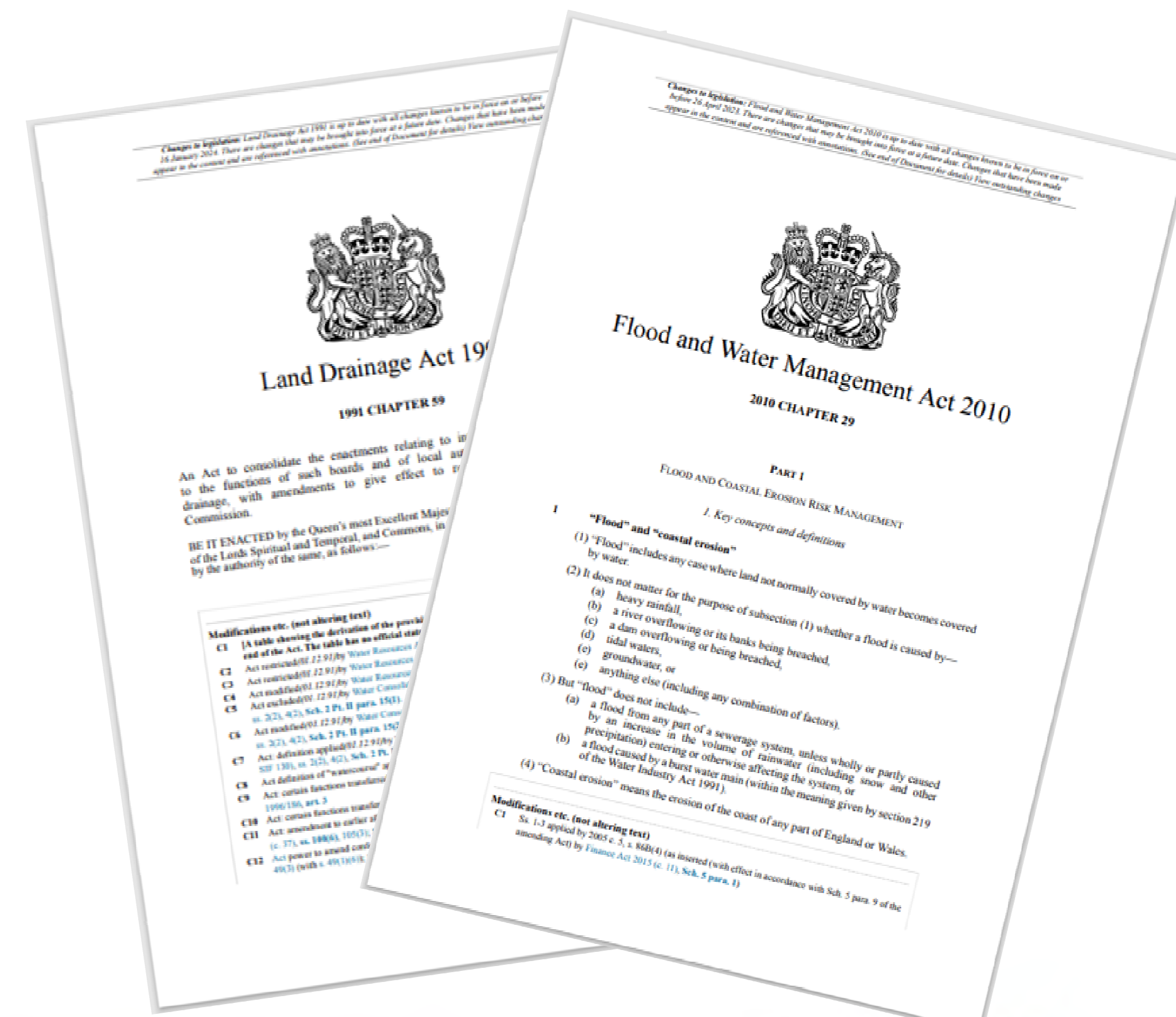
Sarah Reghif

Lead Local Flood Authority

Responsible for:

Managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses

- Local Flood and Water Management Strategy
- Surface Water Statutory Consultee for major planning applications
- Ordinary Watercourse Consenting and Enforcement
- Significant Flood Investigations

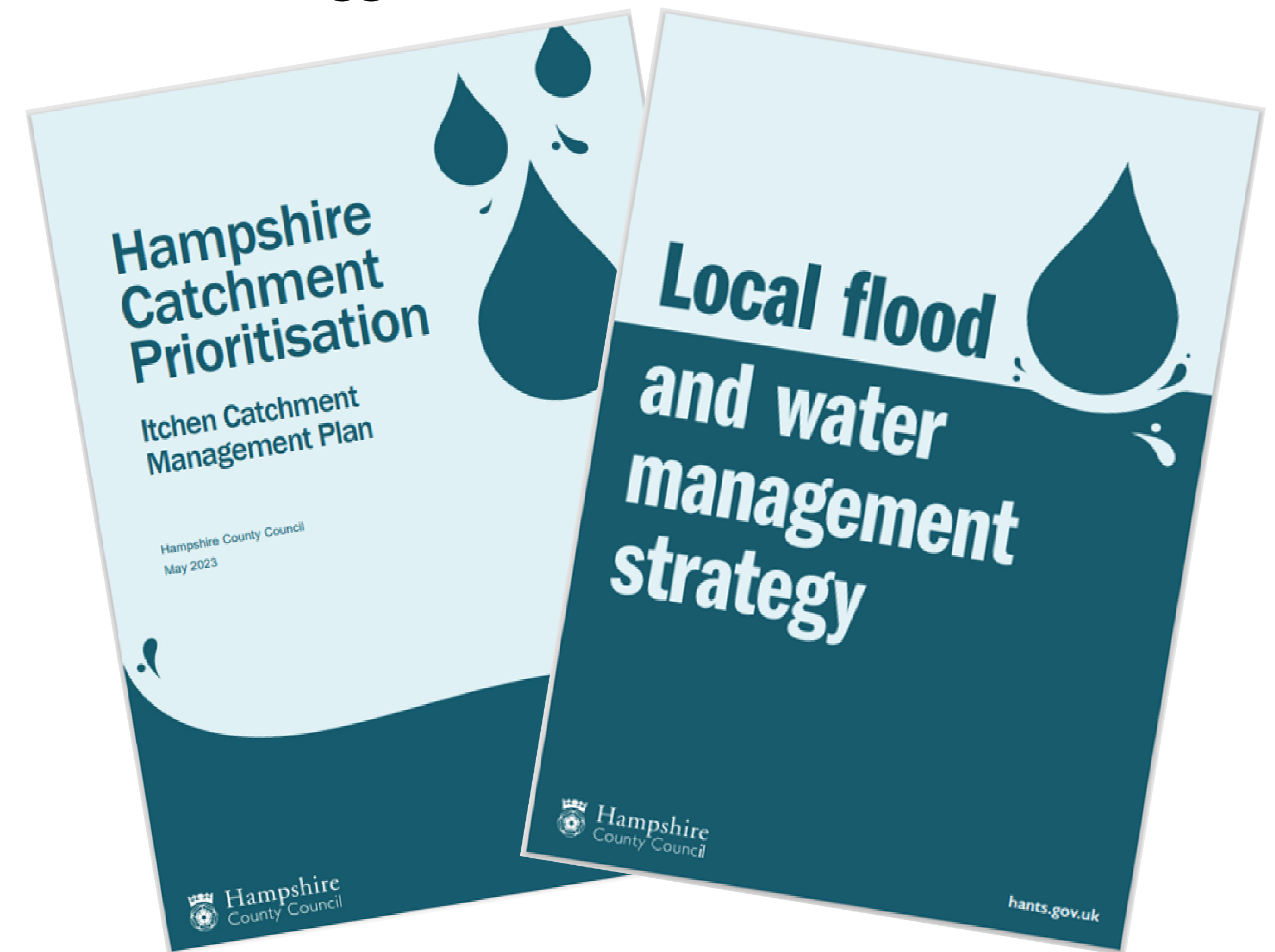


Flood & Water Management Strategy

B

Sets out how we will undertake our role as LLFA with policies and trigger levels for action.

- Suite of Catchment Plans published
- Priority Areas identified
- Action Plans to be developed for each Priority Area
- Focusing resources on areas of highest risk



Planning Role

Statutory Consultee for major applications with respect to surface water drainage

Major Applications:

Residential

- 10 or more dwellings; or
- Site area of 0.5 hectares or more

Non-Residential

- floor space to be created is 1,000 square metres or more; or
- Site area of 1 hectare or more

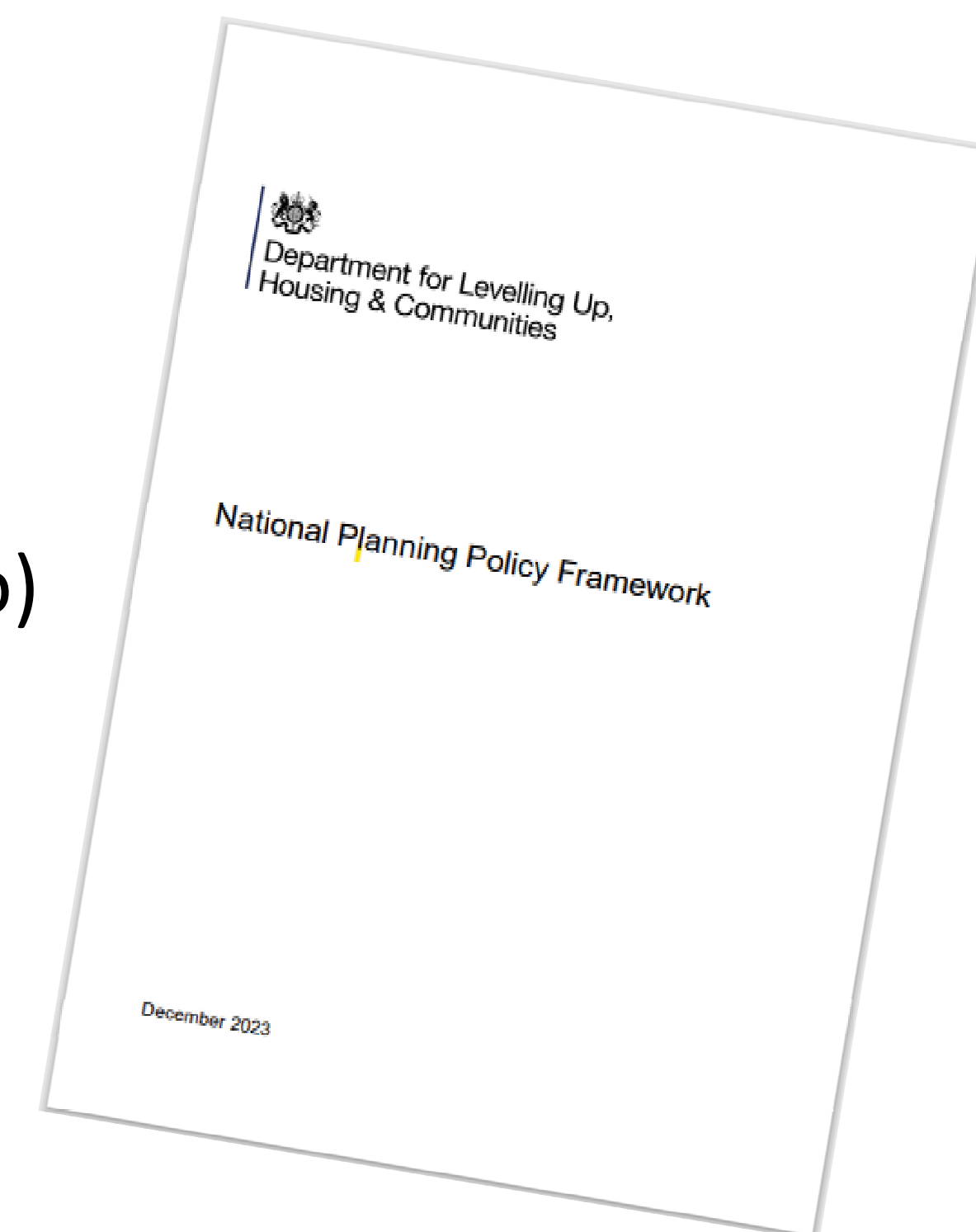
Minerals & Waste applications

Does not include Groundwater, Fluvial, Tidal, Sewerage flooding issues

The Local Planning Authority (District/ Borough) are the decision-making body

Planning Role

- Can only comment on information provided by the LPA
- Our comments are based on National Planning Policy Framework, best practice guidance and Local Policy requirements
- Planning applications must demonstrate how any additional impermeable surface area will be managed up to 1:100 + climate change
- Are not required to resolve / improve existing flood issues (but encouraged to)
- Developments must be demonstrated to be safe and not increase flood risk elsewhere



Ordinary Watercourses

Consenting

- All works affecting capacity of an ordinary watercourse requires consent
- Presumption against culverting
- Maintenance work is exempt
- 2 months determination period



[Making changes to a watercourse | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/making-changes-to-a-watercourse)

Enforcement

Enforcement – Maintenance and Unconsented Works

- If lack of maintenance is causing flooding or considered to be a significant risk, enforcement letters can be sent.
- Lengthy and time-consuming legal process
- Action prioritised on risk basis
- Evidence, particularly to demonstrate unconsented works, required.

Riparian responsibilities not well understood



Unconsented culverting and ditch diversion

[Making changes to a watercourse | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/making-changes-to-a-watercourse)

Maintenance Responsibility

Riparian Landowner

- Responsible for ensuring suitable maintenance of drainage infrastructure including ditches, pipes and chambers
- All features within curtilage and shared ownership of boundary features (unless documentation states otherwise)
- Ditches adjacent to roads are generally responsibility of the adjacent landowner NOT the Highway Authority

If in doubt, contact FWM@hants.gov.uk



Who is responsible for maintaining watercourses?



Report flooding and maintenance incidents to Hampshire County Council at:
hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding

- 1 Roadside ditch- Landowner
- 2 Road gully ditch- Highway Authority
- 3 Boundary ditch- Landowner
- 4 Pipe under driveway- Landowner
- 5 Pipe running from one side of the road to the other- Highway Authority
- 6 Pipe under field access - Landowner
- 7 Watercourse at boundary - Landowner
- 8 Watercourse within land - Landowner

Reporting

- LLFA respond to reports of surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourse flooding
- Flooding from Main Rivers should be reported to the Environment Agency
- Flooding from adopted Sewers should be reported to the relevant Sewerage company (Southern, Thames or Wessex Water)
- Essential that reports are logged correctly via our web form [Report flooding | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/report-flooding)
- Allows for assessment, monitoring and recording
- Future funding reliant on reports
- Concerns regarding insurance from residents – FloodRE
- More information and guidance available on our website: [Reducing flood risk | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/reducing-flood-risk)



Flood Types

Tidal flooding

Is caused by the sea and tidal rivers



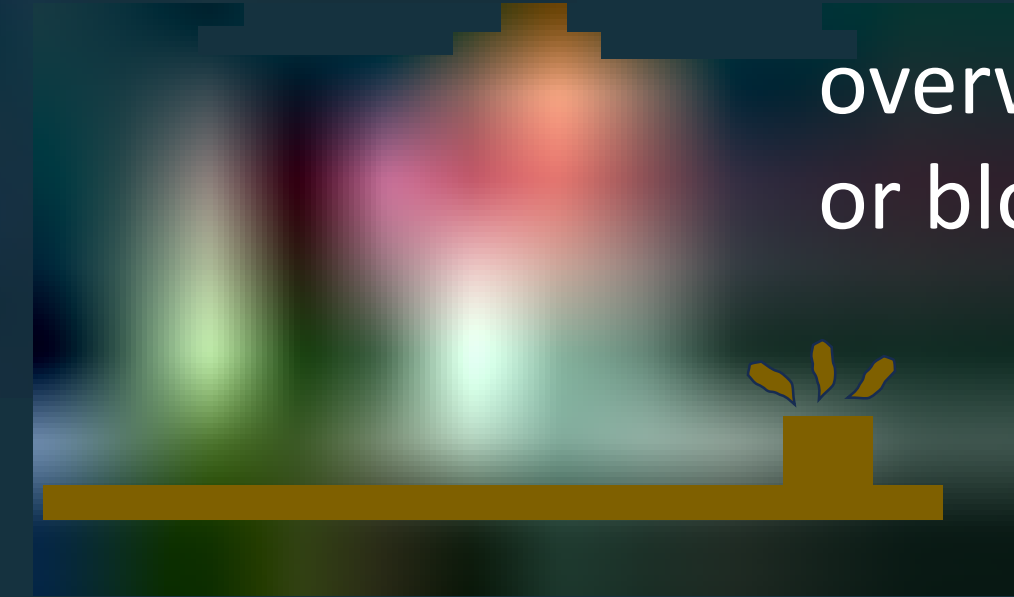
Groundwater flooding

Occurs as a result of water rising up from the underlying rocks or from water flowing from abnormal springs



Sewer Flooding

Sewer is overwhelmed or blocked



B

If you are in danger, call 999

Surface Water Flooding

Happens when the earth is saturated with water from rainfall which cannot run off



River Flooding

Occurs when rivers overflow or burst their banks



Flood Investigations

- Flood investigation response dependant on impact
- If maintenance failings identified, relevant asset owner notified
- Not all flooding can be prevented
- No powers to require improvement – only maintenance
- Duty on homeowners to protect themselves
- Property level resilience measures may be required



Flood Investigations Criteria

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Significant flooding | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood that affects 20 or more properties internally in one flood event within the same location • Flooding that affects significant lengths of public highway and lasts for a period of three hours or more | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal Flood investigation under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 undertaken |
| Major | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal flooding of one (domestic or commercial) property which has occurred on more than one occasion. • Internal flooding of five or more properties as a result of a single flood event • A major transport route has been disrupted for more than 10 hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding is logged • Desktop review • Site visit • Report completed |
| Moderate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding that affects up to five properties internally in one flood event • Flooding that affects highways access to 1 or more properties and lasts for more than 3 hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding is logged • Desktop review undertaken |
| Minor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding that affects gardens and open areas with no internal residential property flooding • Ponding on small sections of highways | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding is logged • No investigation |

Section 19 Flood Investigations

19 Local authorities: investigations

(1) On becoming aware of a flood in its area, a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers it necessary or appropriate, investigate—

- (a) which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions, and
- (b) whether each of those risk management authorities has exercised, or is proposing to exercise, those functions in response to the flood.

(2) Where an authority carries out an investigation under subsection (1) it must—

- (a) publish the results of its investigation, and
- (b) notify any relevant risk management authorities.

Questions?



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC

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) 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



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.

- Are exploring the possibility of providing more information and talks about Reusable Hygiene products
- Met up with Fordingbridge Greener Living group to look at their Ridan Community Composter and find out how to run a Compost club
- In conjunction with Four Acre Farm, aiming to set up our own Compost club with around 40 Ringwood households to feed Four Acre Farm's new Ridan Composter
- 48 Beavers from First Poulner Scout Group made Beeswax wraps to highlight the need to stop using single use plastics, and used single use yoghurt pots when making their bird feeders.

Cycle of the Seed

- Had 2 meetings with their expert organisation Garden Organic
- Have joined in with Ringwood Library's Green and Thrifty event by attending the Green and Grow session and giving information about the two demonstration beds outside Ringwood Library, and how these beds will be used to showcase elements of fruit, veg and pollinator planting which can be replicated in small Ringwood gardens
- 96 Cubs and Beavers from First Poulner Scouts planted beans as a start to engaging their interest in growing vegetables!
- Have organised a 'Sow-along' at Four Acre Farm on Sunday 25 February 10 – 12 – giving information on what./ how to sow seeds ready to plant out later in the year

Health impacts of Climate Change

- Had a meeting with their expert Health Professional
- In conjunction with The Tuesdays choir, ran the first ever Flash Mob in the middle of The Furlong Centre in Ringwood on Saturday 17 February with 35 singers – highlighting the need to Show the Love (The Climate Coalition campaign <https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/show-the-love/> for our planet, and raise awareness of the need to be prepared for Climate changes in the future, and to increase resilience to these changes. A link to the official Greening Ringwood Flashmob YouTube video is here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWCvLljWoN4> Please feel free to share it widely.
- Organised a Greening Ringwood Stall in The Furlong, highlighting all the 5 new projects in conjunction with the Flash Mob above where willow sculptures and climate flags were paraded by local residents to highlight our 'Wonderful World' and give 'Respect' to the planet.

Future plans

- 8,000 Greening Ringwood postcards, privately paid for, have now been received - these will need to be delivered to all 6,000 households in Ringwood from Mid March to Mid April – for which we will need help please!



- Our Phase 2 Launch Event will be in front of Ringwood Gateway building on Saturday April 20 from 10 – 2 pm – where all 5 projects will showcase what Ringwood householders can get involved in with lots of hands-on activities, as well as First Poulner Scouts providing refreshments and a range of musical accompaniment from talented local musicians.
- Lots more events and activities planned throughout the year, through to April 2025

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

C

- 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

Annex A to Planning, Town Environment Committee Minutes 1st March 2024
Ringwood Town Council - Planning Observations - NFDC

| Number | Site Address | Proposal | Observation | Comments |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23/10926 | Croquets, Linford Road, Hangersley, Ringwood BH24 3JN | RE-CONSULTATION: Alterations to existing dwelling; erection of three dwellings; associated parking, landscaping and alterations to access | Refusal (4) | The Committee felt the amended proposals did not satisfy previous objections and they still apply. The proposals would be overdevelopment of the site with too many dwellings cramped into the space available and it is out of keeping with the character of the area given the site is on the edge of the National Park and Western Escarpment Area. There is concern in relation to the access road, vehicle congestion, parking and the effect on Linford Road. The Committee was conscious of the number of issues raised by consultees and members of the public and highlighted the fact that one of the accesses to the site was a public right of way. Should the application go before NFDC Planning Committee, a more comprehensive response will be submitted. |
| 23/11311 | 17, Ashley Close, Ringwood. BH24 1QX | Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 23/10979 to allow changes to design. | Permission (1) | |
| 23/11329 | Vyne House, 103 Southampton Road, Ringwood. BH24 1HR | Install 6 solar panels on the outbuilding at the back of the garden | Permission (1) | |

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal
5 - Will accept officer's decision

| Number | Site Address | Proposal | Observation | Comments |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23/11333 | 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 | Permission (1) | |
| 24/10050 | 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 | Refusal (2) | The Committee was concerned that the proposal is out of keeping with the existing buildings and would impact on the street scene, particularly with the parking to the front. It's not appropriate to build a residential property in this setting, to protect the primary shopping area, as detailed in Policy 2 the emerging Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan. The impact on the tree identified by the Tree Officer has not been addressed. It was noted that the Conservation Officer's comment was not available at the time the application was considered. |
| 24/10101 | 50 Seymour Road, Ringwood. BH24 1SH | Garden shed (Retrospective) | Officer Decision (5) | |

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal
5 - Will accept officer's decision

| Number | Site Address | Proposal | Observation | Comments |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 24/10104 | 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 | Permission (1) | |
| 24/10113 | 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 | Permission (1) | |
| 24/10145 | Parvaneh Business Park, Embankment Way, Ringwood. BH24 1WL | Installation of new windows | Permission (1) | |
| CONS/24/0068 | Quaker Court, Eynon Mews, Ringwood. | T1 Hornbeam - Reduce | Permission (1) | |

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal
5 - Will accept officer's decision

Annex A to Planning, Town Environment Committee Minutes 1st March 2024
 Ringwood Town Council - Planning Observations - NFNPA

| Number | Site Address | Proposal | Observation | Comments |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24/00078FULL | Forest Corner Farm, Hangersley Hill, Forest Corner, Hangersley, Ringwood. BH243JW | 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 | Permission (1) | |
| 24/00137Full | L'Hermitage, Hangersley Hill, Hangersley, Ringwood. BH24 3JP | Single-storey side extension; demolition of existing outbuilding | Permission (1) | The Committee requested that a condition be imposed that the extension should not be used as a separate dwelling. |
| 24/00149FULL | 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 | Officer Decision (5) | |

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal
 5 - Will accept officer's decision

Applications decided under delegated powers : to be noted on 1st March 2024

| Number | Site Address | Proposal | Decision |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24/00107 CONS | Springdale, Linford Road, Shobley, Ringwood. BH24 3HT | Fell 3x Conifer trees (G1 on plan) | 12.2.24 P(1) Recommend permission, but would accept the Tree Officer's decision. |

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 Brief:
Ringwood Thriving Market**

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

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 27th June 2023. However, following a request from Ringwood Town Council (RTC), a new Experimental TRO (ETRO) was issued on 25th 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

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 \(NFDC\)](https://www.nfdc.gov.uk)

- 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

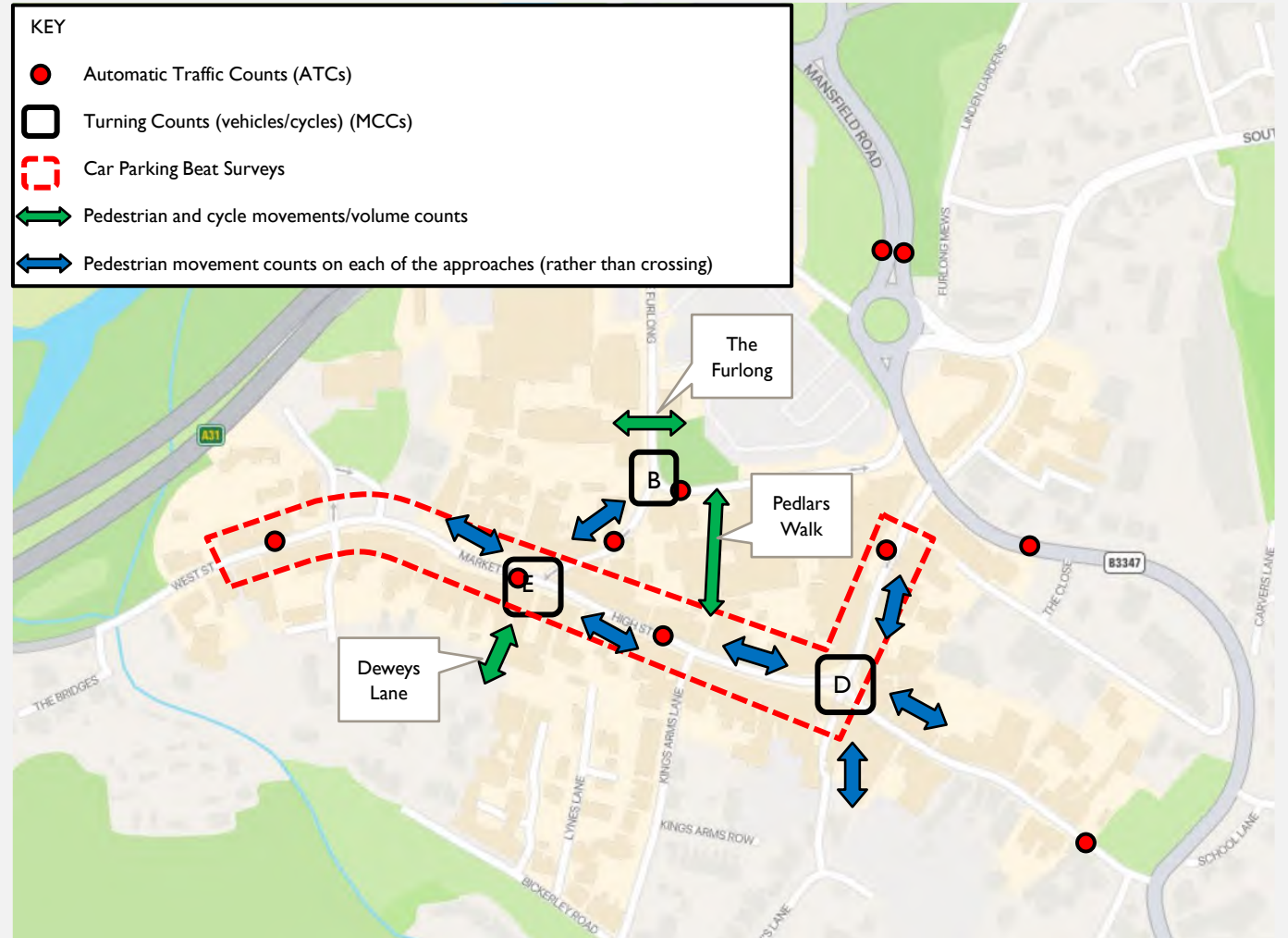


- Ringwood Town Council is currently reviewing proposals to enhance accessibility to and within Market Place and Hampshire County Council, as highway authority, commissioned a number of traffic and parking surveys in May 2023 to provide an evidence base of current transport movements and parking usage 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 23rd April 2023, although West Street itself was closed on 1st 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 27th 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 1st May 2023 for 7-days, with the other surveys (manual counts and parking beat surveys) undertaken on Wednesday 3rd May and Thursday 4th 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 11th and 12th October 2023.



Scope of the Surveys

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

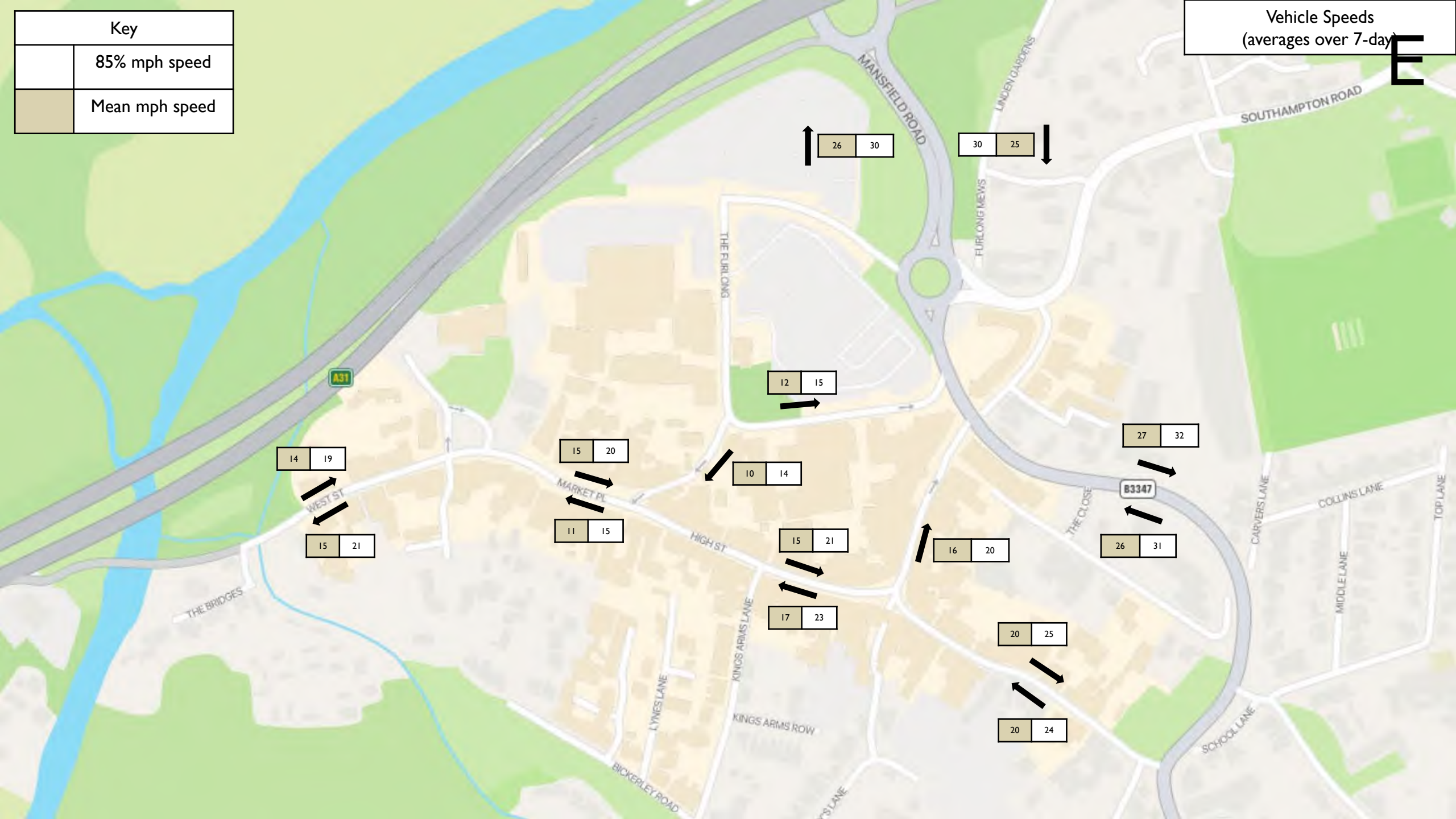
| Site | Road | Survey |
|------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| B | Meeting House Lane/ The Furlong | Turning Count inc. peds/cycles |
| D | High St/ Southampton Rd/ Christchurch Rd | Turning Count |
| E | High St/ Market Place/ The Furlong/Deweys 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 |

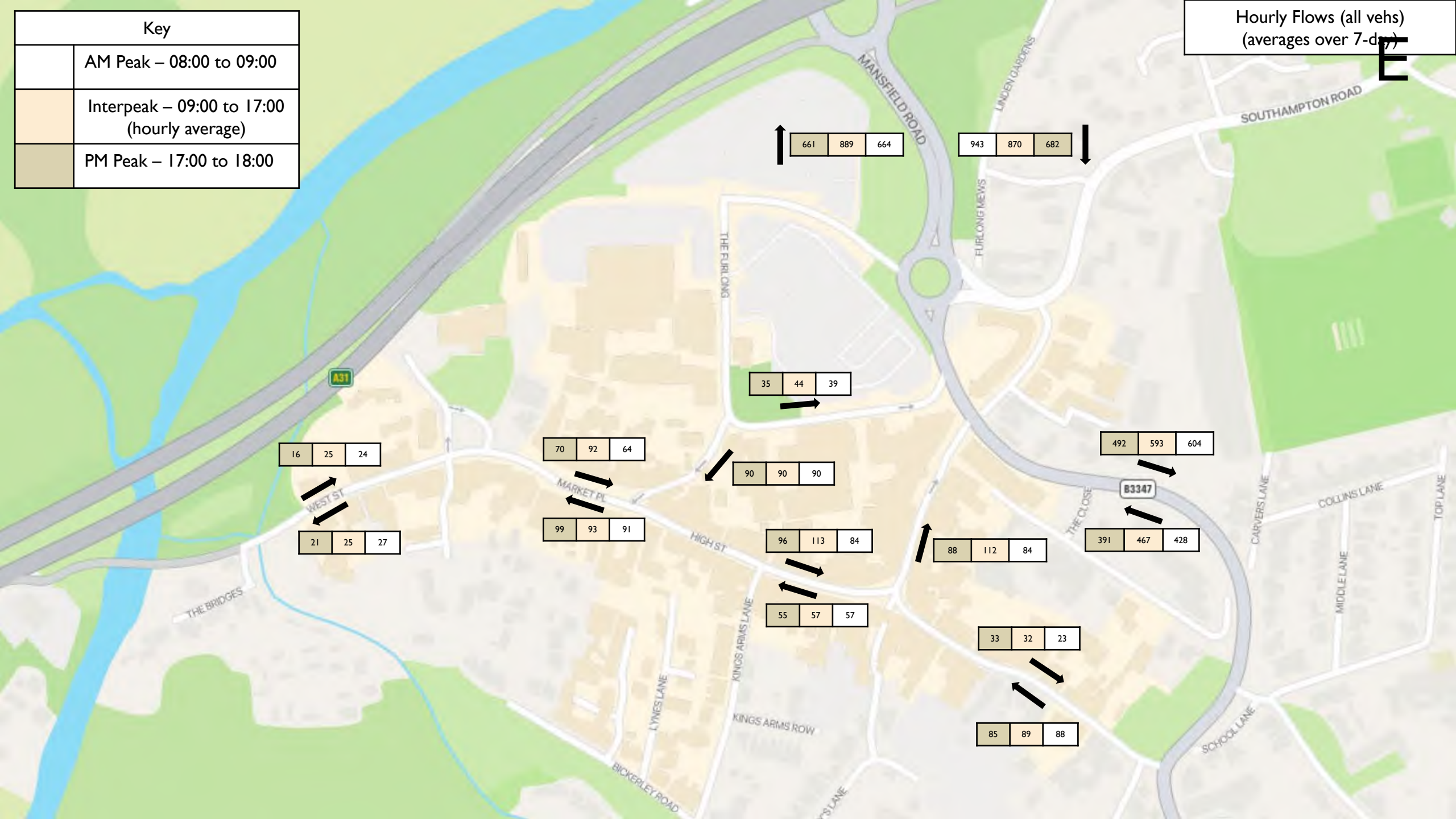
Vehicle Speeds
(averages over 7-day)



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

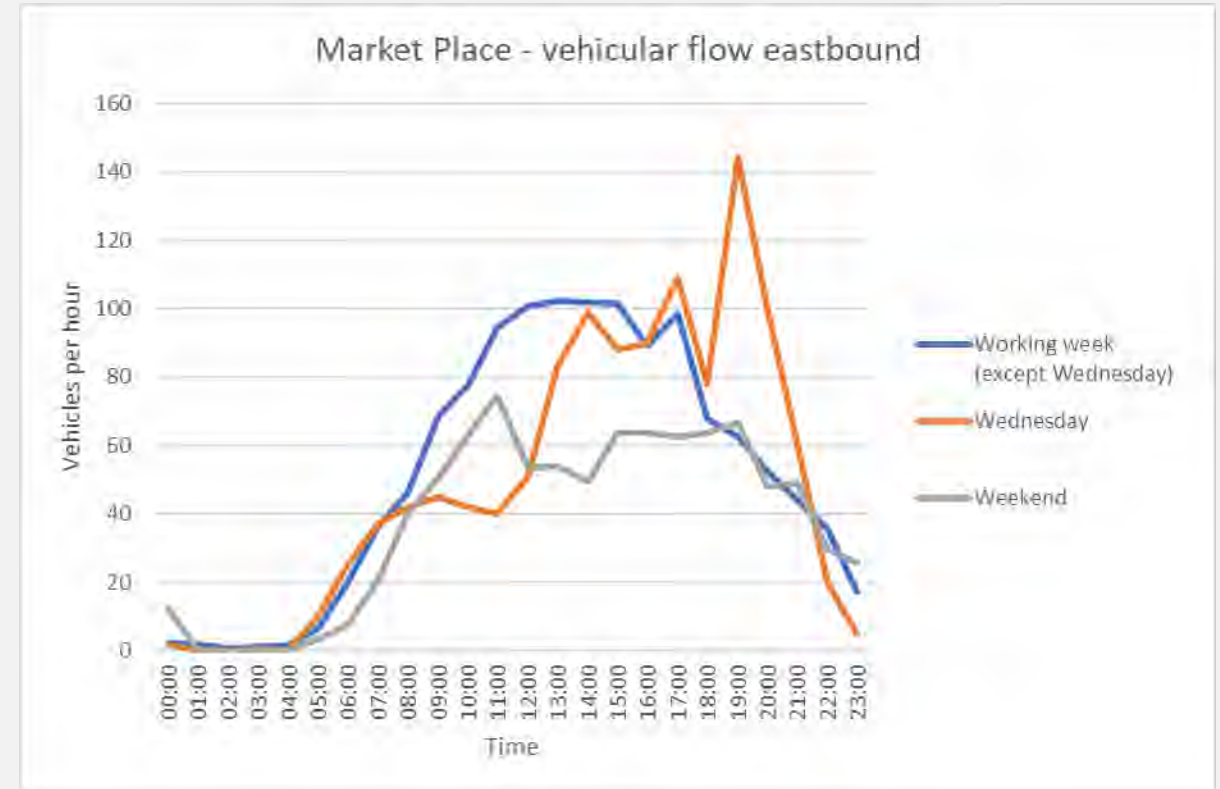
E

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



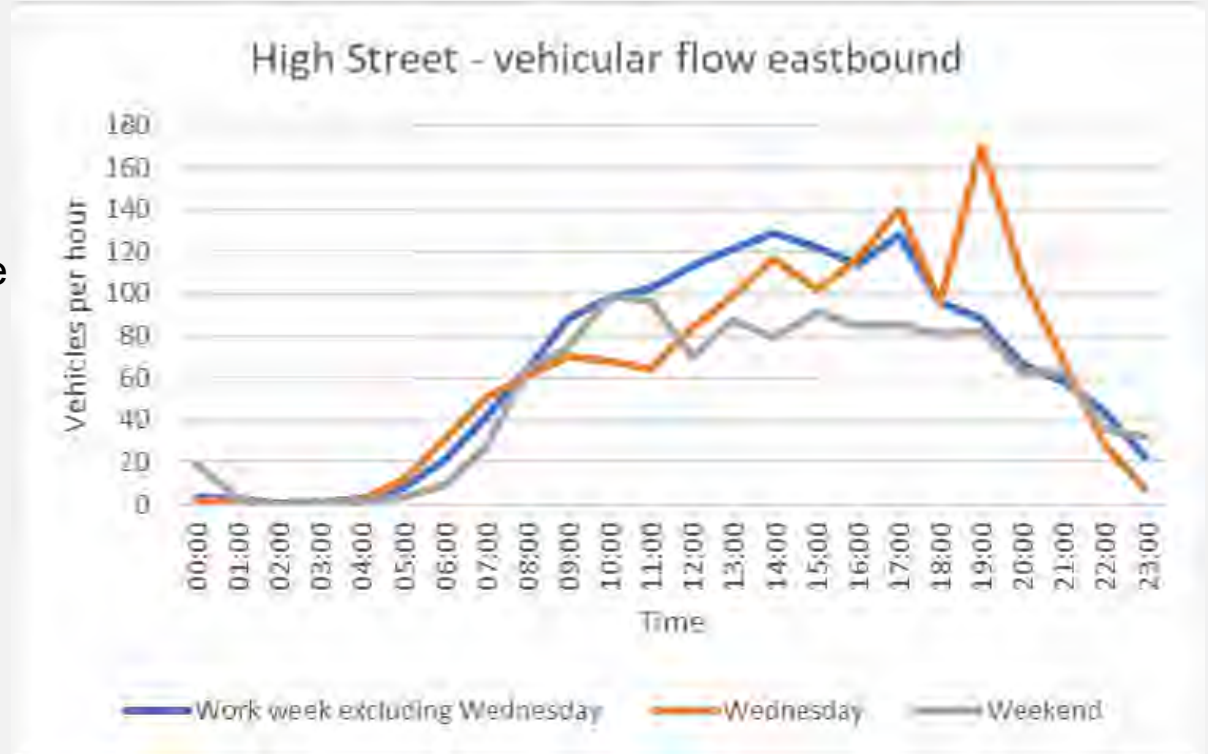
ATC Results – Market Place

- 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 1st 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

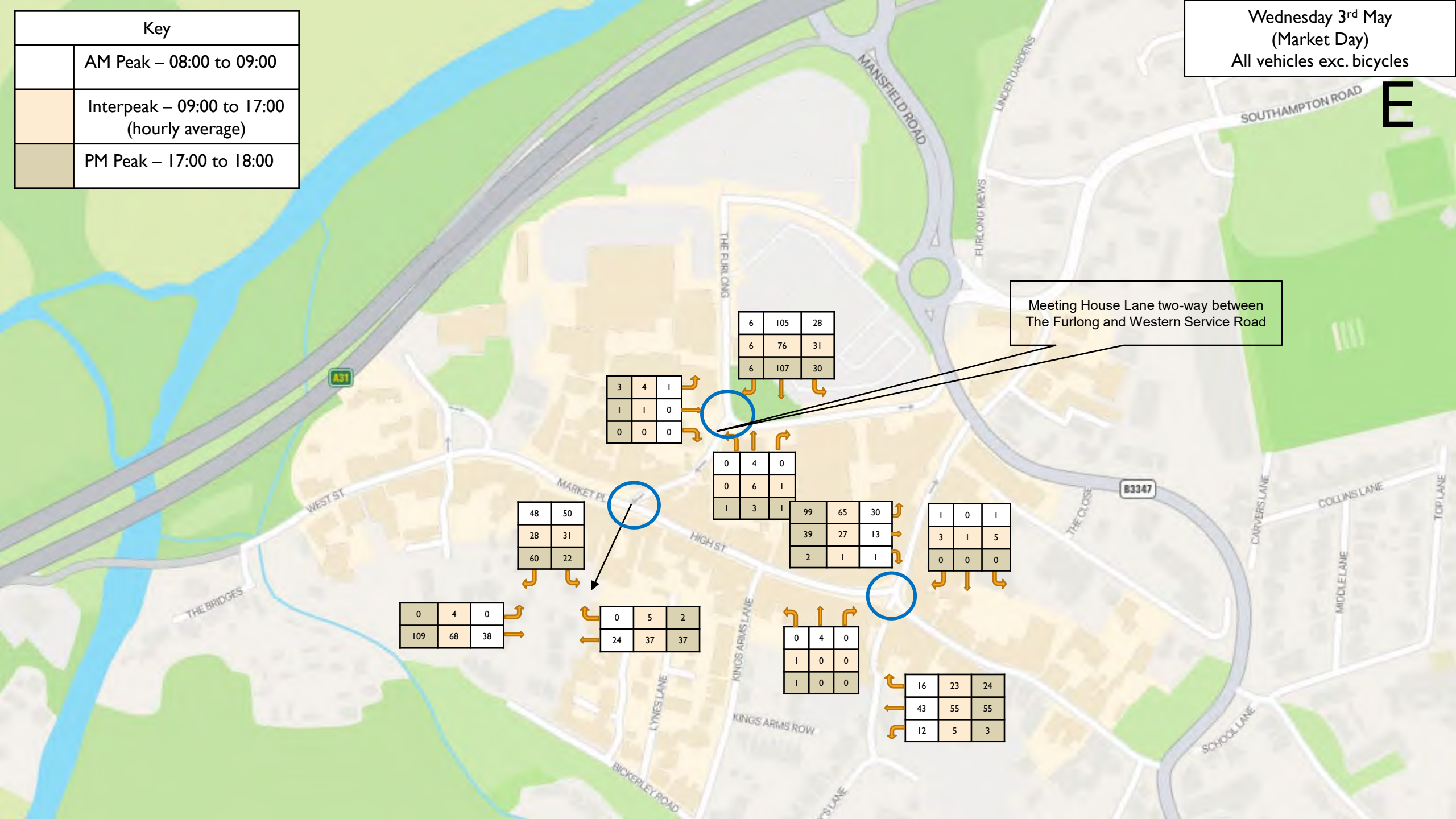
- The following slides provide a summary of the Manual Classified Counts undertaken at the following junctions on Wednesday 3rd May 2023 and Thursday 4th May 2023:
 - The Furlong / Meeting House Lane / Car Wash
 - Southampton Rd / Christchurch Rd / High Street
 - The Furlong / High Street / The Market 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 3rd May
 (Market Day)
 All vehicles exc. bicycles

E

| 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



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 6 | 105 | 28 |
| 6 | 76 | 31 |
| 6 | 107 | 30 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 0 | 6 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 1 |

| | | |
|----|----|----|
| 99 | 65 | 30 |
| 39 | 27 | 13 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | |
|----|----|
| 48 | 50 |
| 28 | 31 |
| 60 | 22 |

| | | |
|-----|----|----|
| 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 109 | 68 | 38 |

| | | |
|----|----|----|
| 0 | 5 | 2 |
| 24 | 37 | 37 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 |

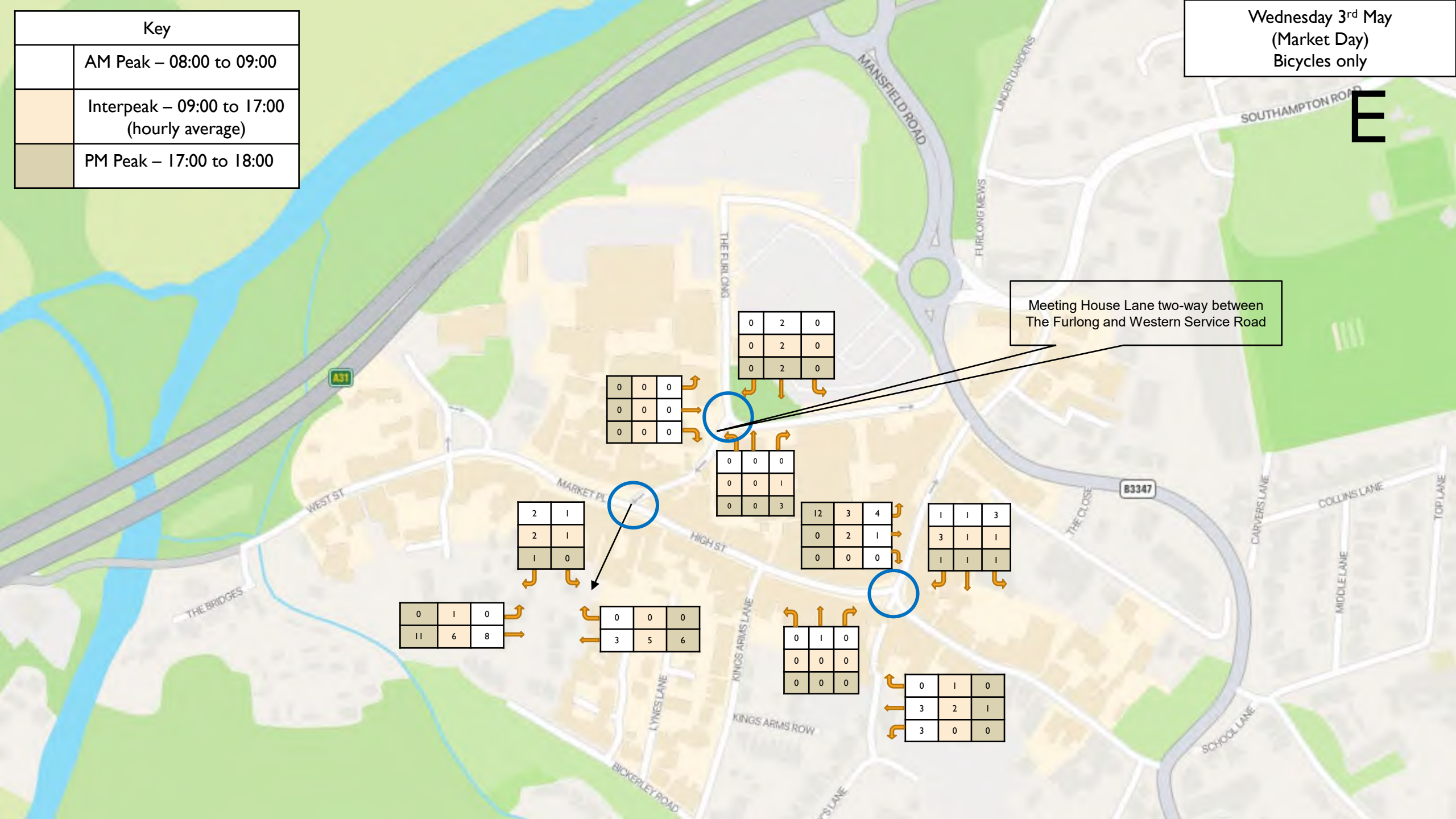
| | | |
|----|----|----|
| 16 | 23 | 24 |
| 43 | 55 | 55 |
| 12 | 5 | 3 |

Wednesday 3rd May
 (Market Day)
 Bicycles only

E

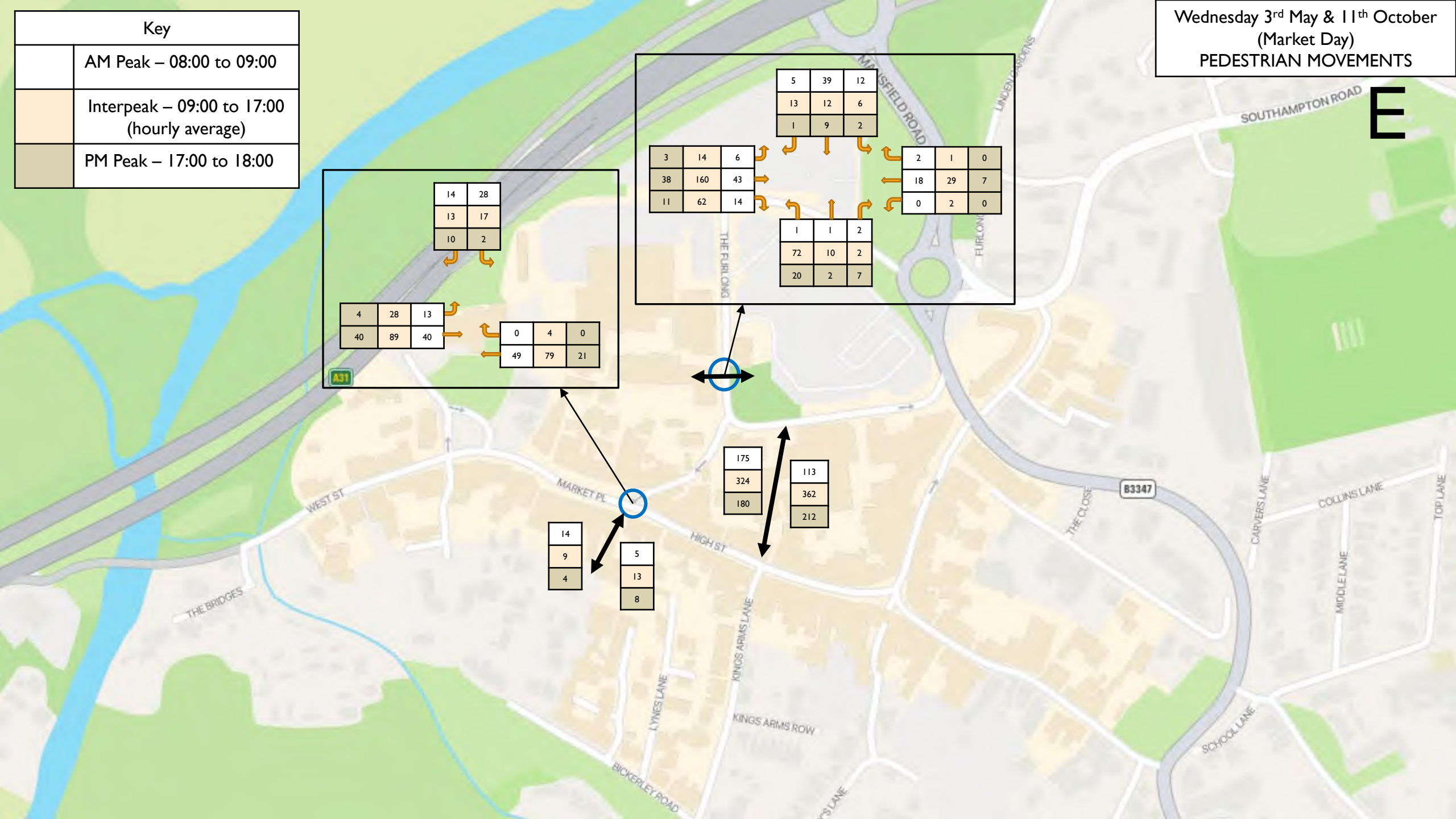
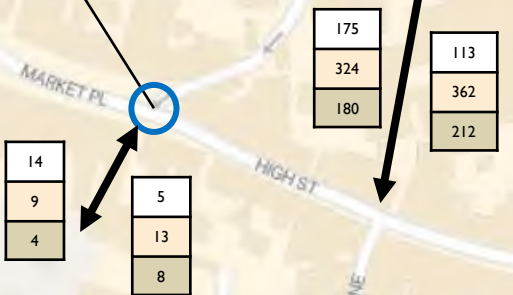
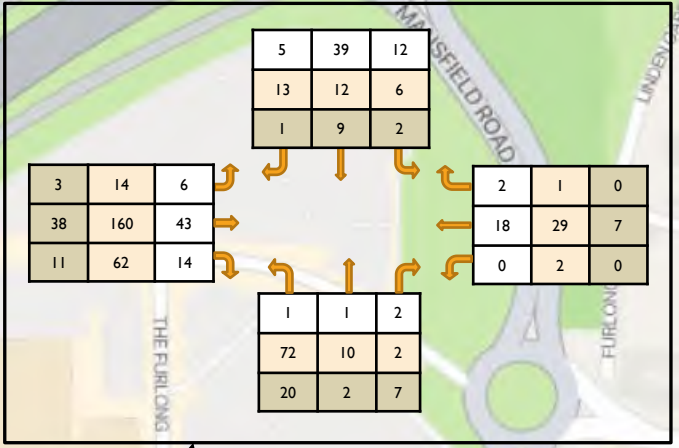
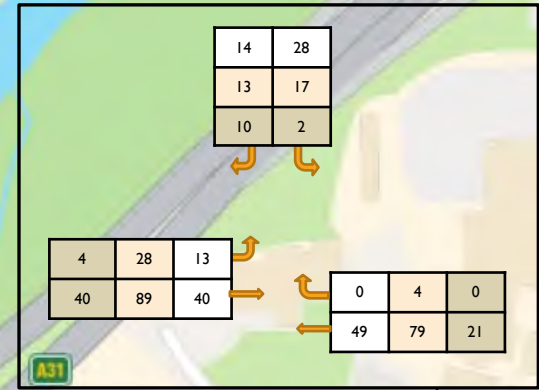
| Key | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------|
| | AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00 |
| | Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average) |
| | PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00 |

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



Wednesday 3rd May & 11th October
 (Market Day)
 PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS

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

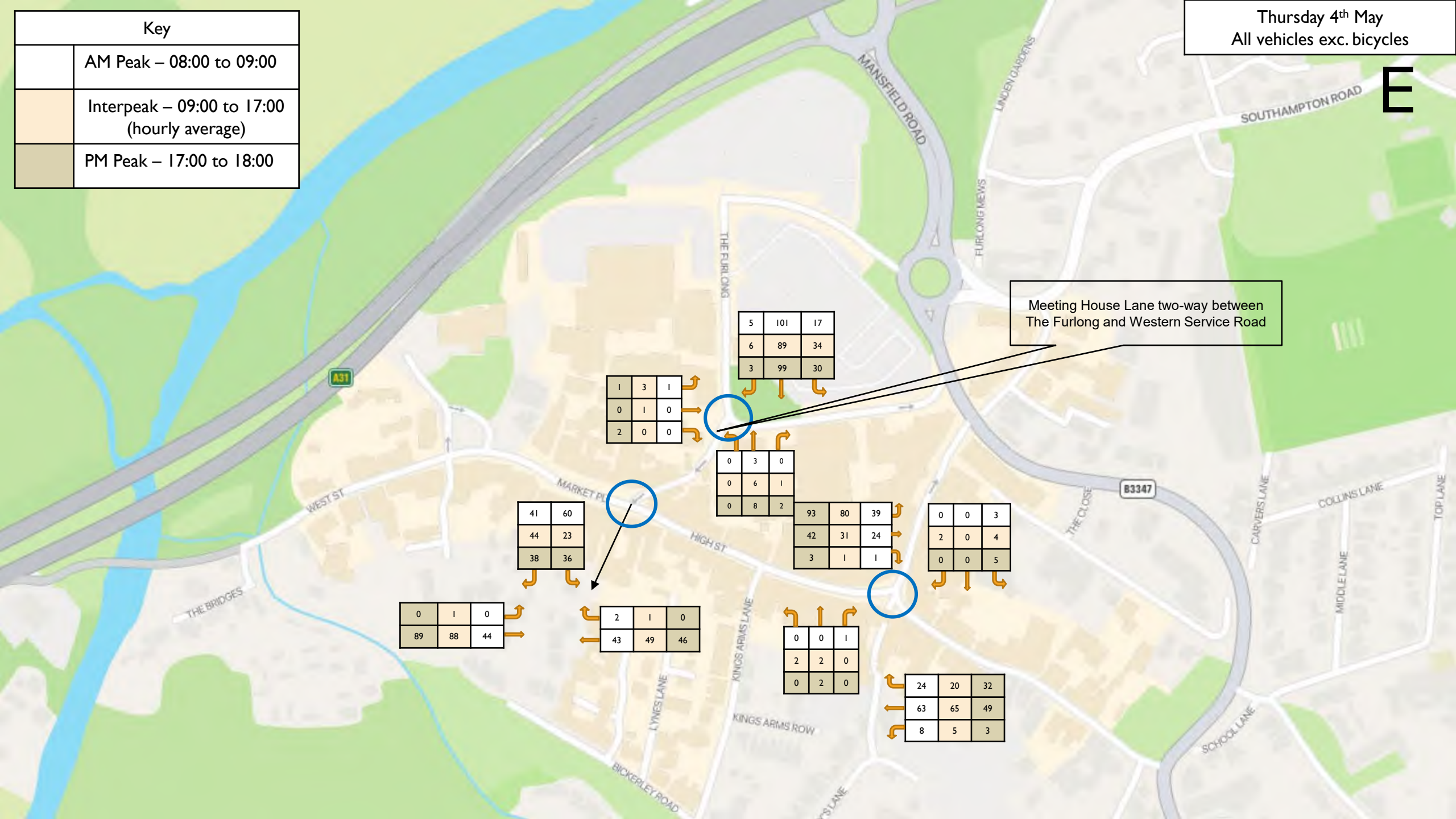


Thursday 4th May
All vehicles exc. bicycles

E

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

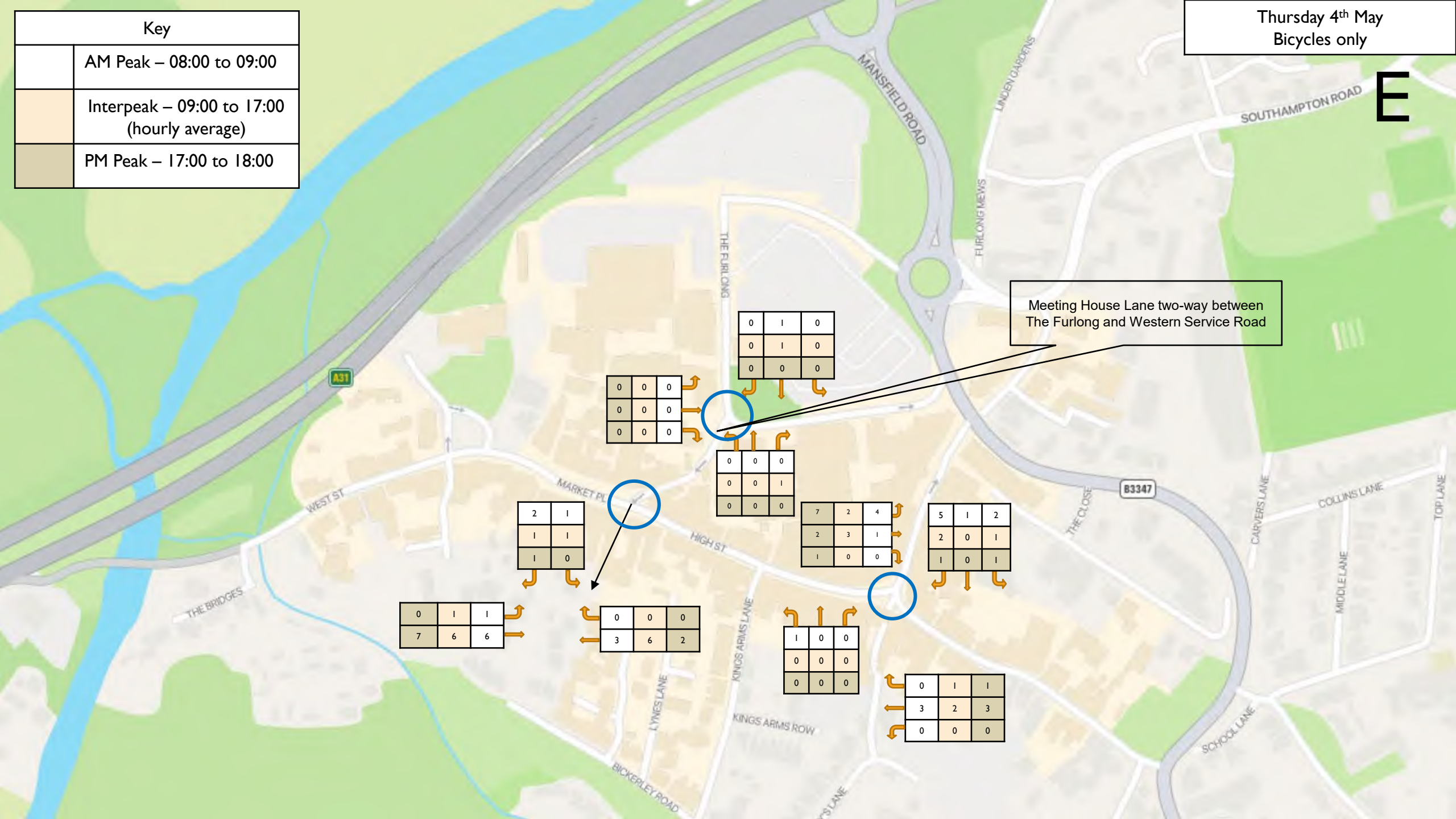
Meeting House Lane two-way between
The Furlong and Western Service Road



Thursday 4th May
Bicycles only

E

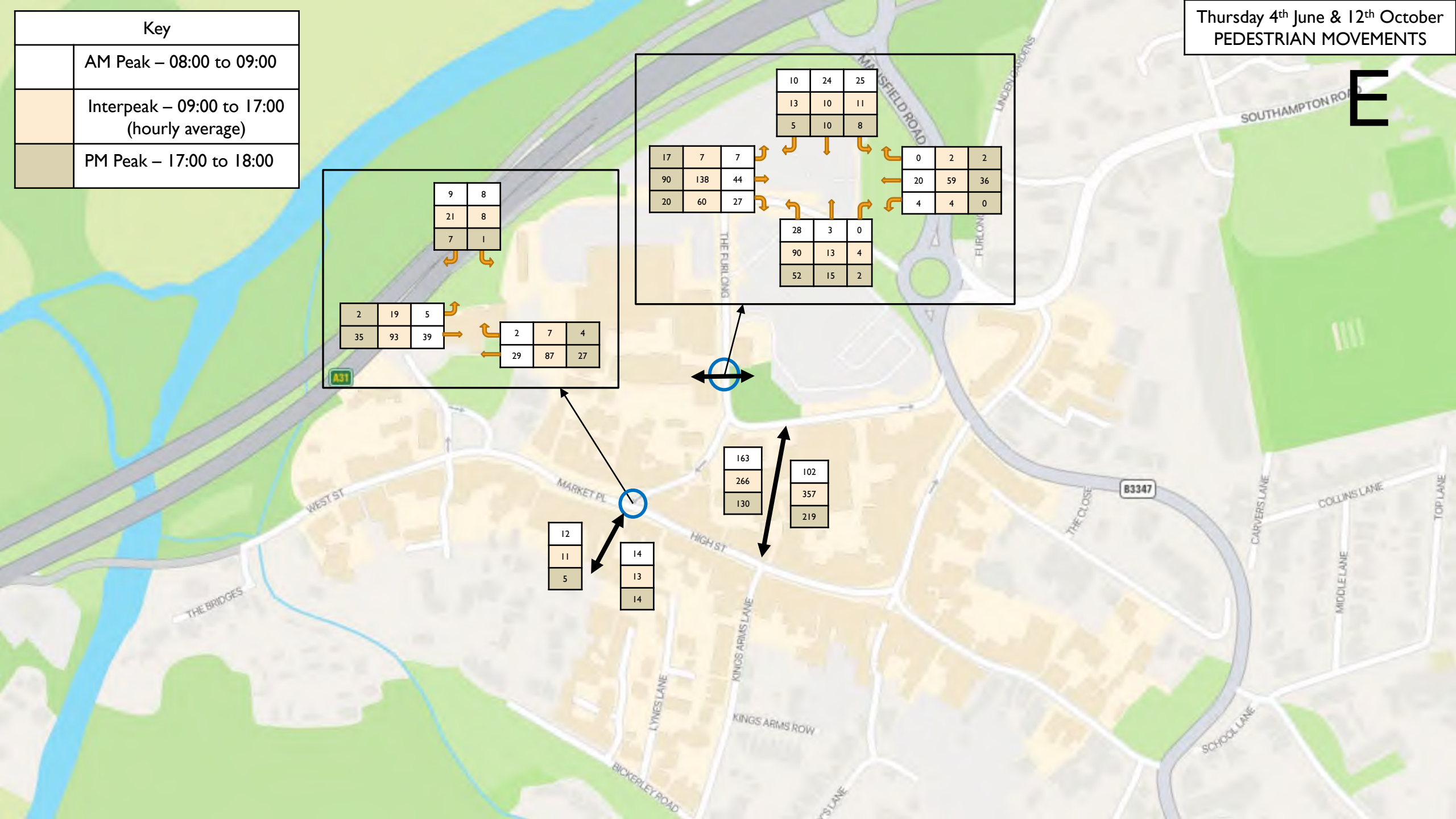
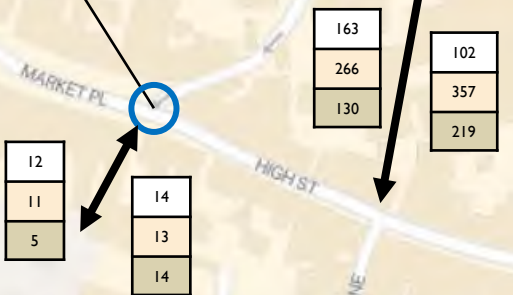
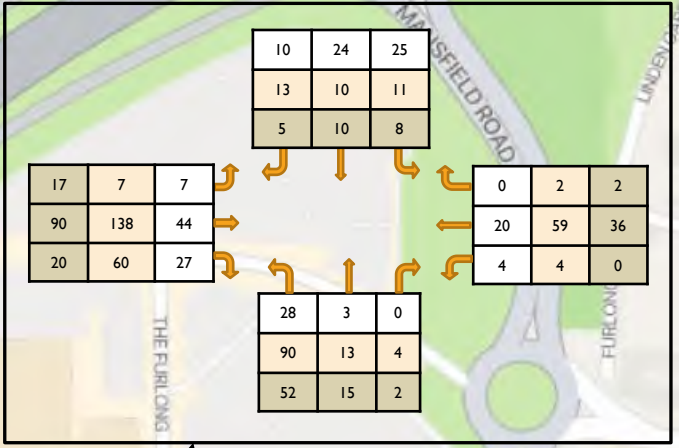
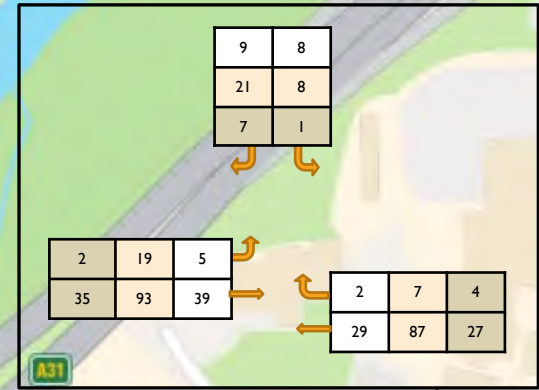
| Key | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------|
| | AM Peak – 08:00 to 09:00 |
| | Interpeak – 09:00 to 17:00 (hourly average) |
| | PM Peak – 17:00 to 18:00 |



Thursday 4th June & 12th October
PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS

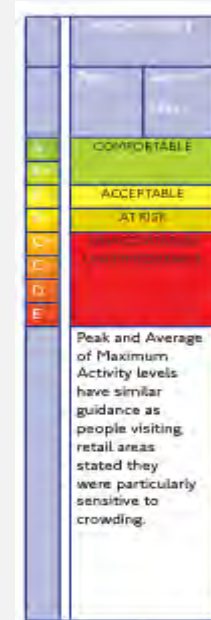
E

| 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



Pedestrian Comfort Levels (PCL) on Footways

PCL A COMFORTABLE FOR ALL AREAS

Comfortable ↑

| | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| A+ < 3ppmm < 3% Restricted Movement | A 3 to 5 ppmm 13% Restricted Movement | A- 6 to 8 ppmm 22% Restricted Movement |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

The pedestrian environment is very comfortable at PCL A+ to A- with plenty of space for people to walk at the speed and the route that they choose.

PCL B B+ RECOMMENDED MINIMUM FOR ALL AREAS

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| B+ 9 to 11ppmm 31% Restricted Movement | B 12 to 14ppmm 41% Restricted Movement | B- 15 to 17 ppmm 50% Restricted Movement |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|

PCL B+ is the recommended level of comfort for all area types. This level provides enough space for normal walking speed and some choice in routes taken.
At PCL B and PCL B- normal walking speed is still possible but conflicts are becoming more frequent and, in retail areas, people start to consider avoiding the area.

PCL C INCREASINGLY UNCOMFORTABLE

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| C+ 18 to 20ppmm 59% Restricted Movement | C 21 to 23 ppmm 69% Restricted Movement | C- 24 to 26 ppmm 79% Restricted Movement |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|

The pedestrian environment is becoming increasingly uncomfortable, with the majority of people experiencing conflict or closeness with other pedestrians and bi-directional movement becoming difficult.

PCL D or E VERY UNCOMFORTABLE

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| D 27 to 35ppmm 100% Restricted Movement | E >35 ppmm 100% Restricted Movement |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|

At PCL D walking speeds are restricted and reduced and there are difficulties in bypassing slower pedestrians or moving in reverse flows.
At PCL E people have very little personal space and speed and movement is very restricted. Extreme difficulties are experienced if moving in reverse flows.

Uncomfortable ↓

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 10th May and Thursday 11th 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

E

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

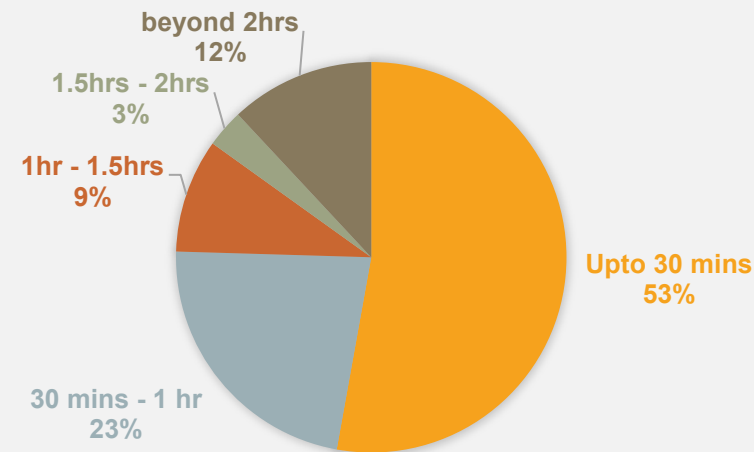
- ↔ On-street parking
- Single yellow line parking restriction
- == Double yellow lines parking restriction
- ↔ Accessible bays
- ↔ Loading bays



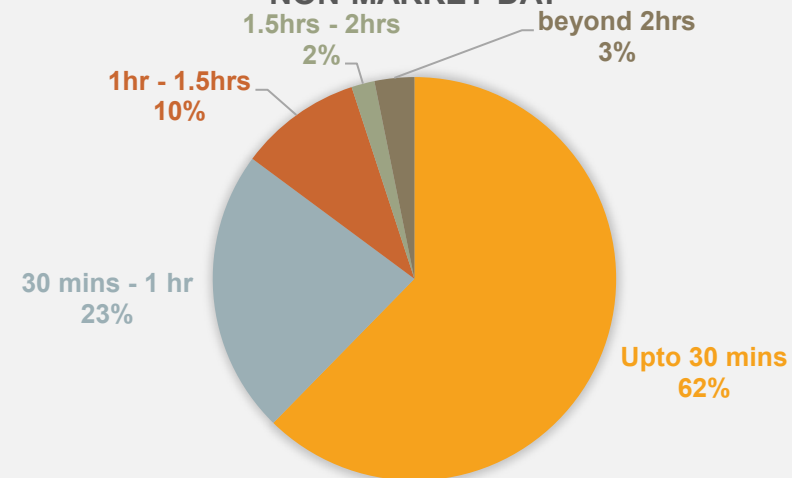
Parking Beat Results

- 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 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

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

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] 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>

The information in this electronic mail (email) and any appendices to it is the property of New Forest District Council. It may contain confidential information. It is intended for the addressee only. Communications using this email system may be subject to recording and/or monitoring in accordance with relevant legislation.

Please examine the full terms of this disclaimer by clicking on the following hyper link: [Email Disclaimer](#)

Our privacy notice can be read here: [Privacy Notice](#)

This email was sent using the New Forest District Council Corporate Email Service.

[New Forest District Council](#)

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

H

| No. | Name | Status | Recent developments | Description and notes | Lead Officer/Member | Financing |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Council | | | | | | |
| 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). |
| Planning Town & Environment Committee | | | | | | |
| 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 & 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

H

Proposed/Emerging Projects Update



| No. | Name | Description | Lead | Recent developments | Progress / Status Stage reached | Estimated cost | Funding sources |
|-----|------|-------------|------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|-----|------|-------------|------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|

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 | | | |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | None | (Current projects expected to absorb available resources for several years) | | | | | |
|--|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|

Staffing Committee

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | None | | | | | | |
|--|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Closed Projects Report



| No. | Name | Description | Outcome | Notes |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full Council | | | | |
| 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 | |
| Planning, Town & Environment Committee | | | | |
| | 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 | | | | |
| Policy & Finance Committee | | | | |
| 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 | |
| Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee | | | | |
| 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. |
| Staffing Committee | | | | |
| 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 | |