

CROSS ROAD TRAFFIC GROUP

The group was established at a public meeting in 2003 to discuss the proposed traffic calming speed humps proposed by Shropshire County Council but which were overwhelmingly opposed by residents at the packed meeting.



The Group consists of eleven residents and works under the auspices of Albrighton Parish Council which mandated the Group to liaise directly with Shropshire County Council (now Shropshire Council) to agree a scheme acceptable to the majority of residents.

The preferred view at the public meeting was for the police to control the speed along Cross Road and so the first action was to try to achieve this. Failing to get adequate speed checks carried out, a year was then spent reviewing various other options and a set of three mini roundabouts were suggested in preference to other methods. The group carried out a significant amount of consultations including articles in the Parish Magazine, notices in the Library and on the village notice board and leaflets through doors. At the same time the Newhouse Lane school lost its crossing patrol lady and could not recruit another and so the Council installed a zebra crossing across Cross Road. Two mini roundabouts were constructed at the junction of The Orchard and Albert Road with Cross Road as phase 1 of the work. Some poor design by the Council's consultants caused the initial arrangement of the roundabout at The Orchard to be un-workable and at the Group's insistence was remodelled.



Phase 2, consisting of a mini roundabout at the major junction of Cross Road/Patshull Road/Elm Road, a new stretch of footpath along Cross Rd and the narrowing of the road lanes from Patshull Road to Albert Road, by use of a dedicated parking lane, was constructed during Easter 2010 after being delayed for a long time. The 30 mph sign was moved closer to the

village to be seen to be closer to the start of housing. Since installation of the new roundabout, many people have confirmed that it has really improved traffic movements at the junction and that a safer intersection has been created.

During our review of phase 2 it became clear that the 50m length of missing footpath along Elm Road could be built by moving this section of Elm Road westwards a little. Whilst not being a traffic calming issue, the safety of pedestrians who have to walk with their backs towards the traffic along this stretch of road raised concerns and it was felt the Group should that press for this work to be done. The Albrighton Road Safety Group also supports this.



A presentation of the issue was made by CRTG to the Local Joint Committee Meeting 18 held on 10th February 2010 where it was supported by Albrighton Road Safety Group and several Albrighton Parish Councillors. **The meeting and the LJC18 Committee recommended that the footpath be built** and has asked Tom McCabe (Shropshire Council Director of Development Services) for action. Since

then the status of this proposal has been sought at all subsequent LJC meetings to determine when the footpath may be built. A written reply from Shropshire Council, to our question at the LJC Meeting on 12 July 2010, says *“Our consultants have completed some initial work on the design. Estimated cost to complete the design and install new footway (including removal of a section on the opposite side of the carriageway) is in the region of £20,000. Currently no budget is available to complete the design or to undertake the works, however, the scheme will be prioritised and added to the list of possible future schemes if/when funding becomes available.”*

We all need to keep pressing for this work to be done as this is a safety issue, especially for children walking in the road with their back to the traffic.



Missing 50m length of footpath

on behalf of the Cross Road Traffic Group, **Rod Smith** (Tel 372765) 11th November 2010

CRTG:- John Bulmer (372291), John Hallett (372354), Kath Lawrence (374735), Sue Nelson (373613), Gerard Paris (374511), Jeff Smith (374735), Rod Smith (372765), Derek Summers (372674), Dave Turner (373645), Mike Underwood (372716), Brian Watton (372264).