

Emma Kearney
Islip Parish Council
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Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Mr. Brummell,

Re Proposed traffic calming measures for the B4027, Wheatley Road, Islip.

We are writing to express our concern over the proposed traffic calming measures for the B4027, Wheatley Road in Islip and the potential impact on flooding in the adjacent street, Collice Street.

The current proposal is for a full width road hump to be placed at the junction of the Wheatley Road with Collice Street & Bridge Street.

From a road safety perspective, we believe that a single full width road hump in this location is not the most effective traffic-calming measure. During the traffic lights trial on the bridge, 2 sets of cushion humps were placed on the A4027 on the hill leading south from the bridge. These were very successful in slowing the traffic and also allowed ambulances and buses to pass without undue jolting. A single hump is likely to cause sudden braking from fast-moving vehicles when approaching the bridge, risking shunting accidents. It also will not be effective in reducing speeds on the hill as vehicles drive out of the village, where there is a public footpath immediately adjacent to the road.

Of additional and very significant concern is the impact of a full width road hump on flooding in Collice street. Collice Street is prone to flooding, both from rising river levels and from groundwater pouring down the hill onto the street during periods of heavy rain. In recent years, large quantities of sandbags have been required urgently on several occasions to mitigate the flooding of residential properties due to groundwater flowing down the hill. A fire engine was also needed this year to pump away excess water. We are extremely concerned that a hump at the junction of the B4027 Wheatley Road, Collice Street and Bridge Street is likely to serve as a dam for groundwater running down the hill, ultimately funnelling the water onto Collice Street as it pours around the side of the hump. This will inevitably exacerbate the flooding on the street, which is already at significant risk of entering residents' homes. Sets of cushion humps would not carry the same risk as groundwater will be able to flow down between them.

We understand that you are responsible for land drainage for Cherwell District Council, and we would be grateful for your assistance in investigating this issue and establishing whether our concerns are justified before any road works take place.

Many thanks for your help in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Emma Kearney

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On behalf of Islip Parish Council