

Help make  
Godmanchester an even  
better place

**GODMANCHESTER**  
**TOWN COUNCIL**



## **Tell us what you think!**

### **Transport Issues and Options**



**This document lists many of the transport and travel issues which we are aware of.**

**These issues are observations made by the council and will be subject to assessment in the coming weeks and months by a consultant**

**Please add anything we have missed to your questionnaire so we can consider them as we develop our Transport Plan for the town.**

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## **Transport Study – Public Consultation**

### **Issues identified to date**

**Please add anything missing to your questionnaire**

#### **Summary Transport considerations:**

The Council is considering several transport issues including:

- Ways to encourage a shift to sustainable travel modes such as public transport, walking and cycling
- Ways to give priority to non-motorised users around the town, encourage healthy living and reduce congestion
- Cycling in and around the town, including a review of cycle connectivity, parking and hazards
- Environmental issues, specifically air and sound pollution
- Improving accessibility for the less able
- Pedestrianisation of parts of the town
- The behaviour of motor traffic through the town, including rat-running, speeding and congestion
- Parking throughout the town, including parking options, and the deterrence of unsafe informal parking

The following pages list examples under headings of:

- Road Traffic
- Size of Vehicles
- Parking
- Cycling

# Transport Study – Public Consultation

## Issues identified to date

### Please add anything missing to your questionnaire

#### Road Traffic

- The town of Godmanchester routinely suffers from traffic issues associated with its proximity to Huntingdon (i.e. through traffic), although this has reduced with the construction of the Mill Common Link Road to the A1307.
- It also suffers with congestion at peak times associated with its proximity to the A14 and its connectivity of other trunk roads (A1198, A428, A1 and A1307)
- When any of those trunk roads has an issue (an accident or road works) Godmanchester often comes to a standstill.
- We are a small town but one that has a high proportion of those who travel beyond Godmanchester for employment; the lack of suitable public transport means that many are primarily cars users.
- We also have a new large housing estate being developed at Romans Edge that will see the town growing by another third. It is anticipated that this will put a strain on our roads.
- Some roads are relatively open (eg The Avenue, Cambridge Road, London Road, A1198) which facilitates speeding.

#### Size of vehicles

- We used to have a factory on The Avenue (RGE Engineering) that required services from HGVs although RGE Engineering has now closed with the site to be developed for housing.
- We are also an access route to a light industrial storage site at Offord and for large tractors and trailers
- We have a number of businesses that receive deliveries from 7.5 tonnes vehicles.
- Part of the Town is marked as not being accessible to these vehicles and yet we routinely have vehicles of 7.5 tonnes and over travelling along our roads.
- No vehicle over 7.5 tonnes should be using the medieval bridge across the river and yet routinely lorries ignore this. Other hapless drivers do not see the signs and create chaos in trying to turn vehicles around close to the bridge where it is difficult to do so.
- Godmanchester's roads are regularly used by public and private passenger service vehicles (buses and coaches), often as through route to the A14 or other settlements.

# Transport Study – Public Consultation

## Issues identified to date

### Please add anything missing to your questionnaire

#### Parking

- We have two public car parks; both are owned and operated by HDC (Mill Yard and Bridge Place). People working in Huntingdon mostly use the Bridge car park and it is a fee paying car park (revenue goes to HDC). The Mill Yard car park (owned and operated by HDC) should primarily serve visitors to Godmanchester or those who travel from within the town but it is often used by commuters from beyond the town and residents who have houses on Post Street. This car park makes no charges.
- There is limited on-street parking in the historic core of the town. Many of the parking issues are focused on the entry and exit roads for the town or where houses are historic and there is no off-road parking associated with the property. In many cases vehicles are parked partially or wholly on the pavements causing line of sight issues for drivers and safety issues for pedestrians and cyclists
- We do have two other residential areas where the volume of cars exceeds any off-street or on-street provision: the Roman Way housing development and Meadow Way/Anderson Crescent; Hilsdens Drive, Kisby Avenue and Petit Road where parking issues have caused the bus company to withdraw its service and not use the new bus gate to the A1198.
- There are also some businesses in the Town that require deliveries that take place on the carriageway.
- We have three primary schools that occasionally require buses/coaches to park to load and unload teachers and pupils but these are relatively infrequent. Parking for school visitors overflows into neighbouring streets and there is local congestion associated with parents dropping and collecting children.
- We have some overnight lorry parking issues at the allotments on the Cambridge Road and on Roman Way. CCC Highways have been working on this with us.
- We have sections of yellow lines around the Town. However, we are concerned that they have created new parking issues not foreseen by their introduction.
- The Police have enforced parking from time to time, when it has been considered to be dangerous. This has usually only had a short-term impact and has caused new issues where vehicles have sought new alternative parking locations.
- Many areas have narrow roads, both existing and new developments, and car drivers have tendency to park on the pavements.

# **Transport Study – Public Consultation**

## **Issues identified to date**

### **Please add anything missing to your questionnaire**

#### **Cycling**

- The nearest secondary school (Hinchbrooke) is under three miles away (and so there is no access to free/funded public transport) and yet over two miles away. A significant number of our secondary school pupils access the school by bike.
- Whilst we do have part of a national cycle route, it is not joined with other sections of off-road cycle ways meaning that cyclists have to join the road network.
- Many cyclists feel unsafe on the roads (speed, congestion and negotiating parked cars) many are opting to use the pavements that are not intended for bikes, especially on Post Street and The Causeway. These include adults as well as children, which is dangerous for pedestrians.
- We are linked to the Ouse Valley Way and cyclists from the town use the tarmacked path from Cow Lane to Hemingford Abbots for pleasure and to access employment in St. Ives. We also have leisure cyclists who use this route to visit the town or to travel through it.
- Whilst our cycle routes are marked, cyclists routinely report they do not think the markings are clear to them or to pedestrians

**Other topics – please add anything else which we should consider to your questionnaire and return that to the Town Hall by 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022.**

**If you have any questions, please ring the Town Council on 01480 388870 and one of the Transport Team will get back to you.**