



# Whitchurch Village

## Removal of Social Distancing Measures

### Engagement Pack



# Whitchurch Village

## Removal of Social Distancing Measures

### Engagement Pack

The Council is planning highway changes to replace the temporary traffic management in place on **Merthyr Road** in **Whitchurch Village**. The current temporary traffic management measures were introduced to support social distancing during the **Covid 19 pandemic**. The planned highway changes seek to align with the Council's **long term plans** for Whitchurch Village.

Following requests to remove the social distancing measures, the Council has completed an assessment of the Village and taken into consideration long term plans and current work being undertaken.

These plans include:

- Bus corridor improvements, aimed at improving bus journey times and access;
- Flood alleviation measures; and
- Safety improvements

To accommodate the above plans, it is necessary to make changes, the current **Traffic Regulation Orders** (TROs) within the Village will be updated.

We would like to hear your views on the proposal. We will use any feedback received to inform the designs being progressed. Information on **How to Respond** is provided at the end of this document, along with **Frequently Asked Questions**.

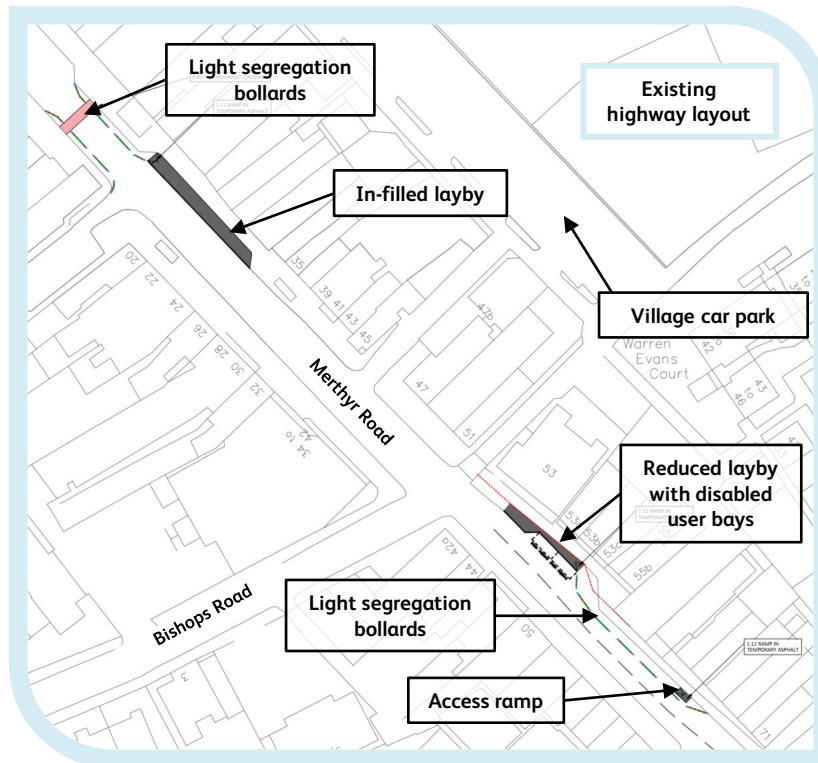


# Whitchurch Village

## Removal of Social Distancing Measures

### Engagement Pack

The social distancing traffic management measures introduced provided **additional space for pedestrians**. On-street limited waiting parking was removed to accommodate these measures and alteration on two of the three lay-by areas as seen below.



Whitchurch Village forms part of a Bus Corridor. As part of a **WeITAG** study being undertaken on this corridor, liaison with bus operators identified that the on-street parking previously in place and illegal parking impeded on **bus service operation**. Bus movements through the village have improved as a result of the bollards introduced, although illegal obstructive parking is still an issue.

In terms of future plans, the Council will soon be developing a **flood alleviation scheme** which will alter the highway layout within Whitchurch Village.

A **pedestrian crossing trial** scheme is also underway on Bishops Road, near its junction with Merthyr Road.

To accommodate future plans and address parking issues, it is necessary to **update the parking restrictions** within the village, which means changing the current **TROs**.

*A TRO is the legal document required to support a range of measures, which govern or restrict the use of public roads. For example, double yellow lines.*



# Whitchurch Village

## Removal of Social Distancing Measures

### Engagement Pack

A **phased approach** will be undertaken for the removal of the social distancing traffic management measures and the implementation of the longer-term plans.

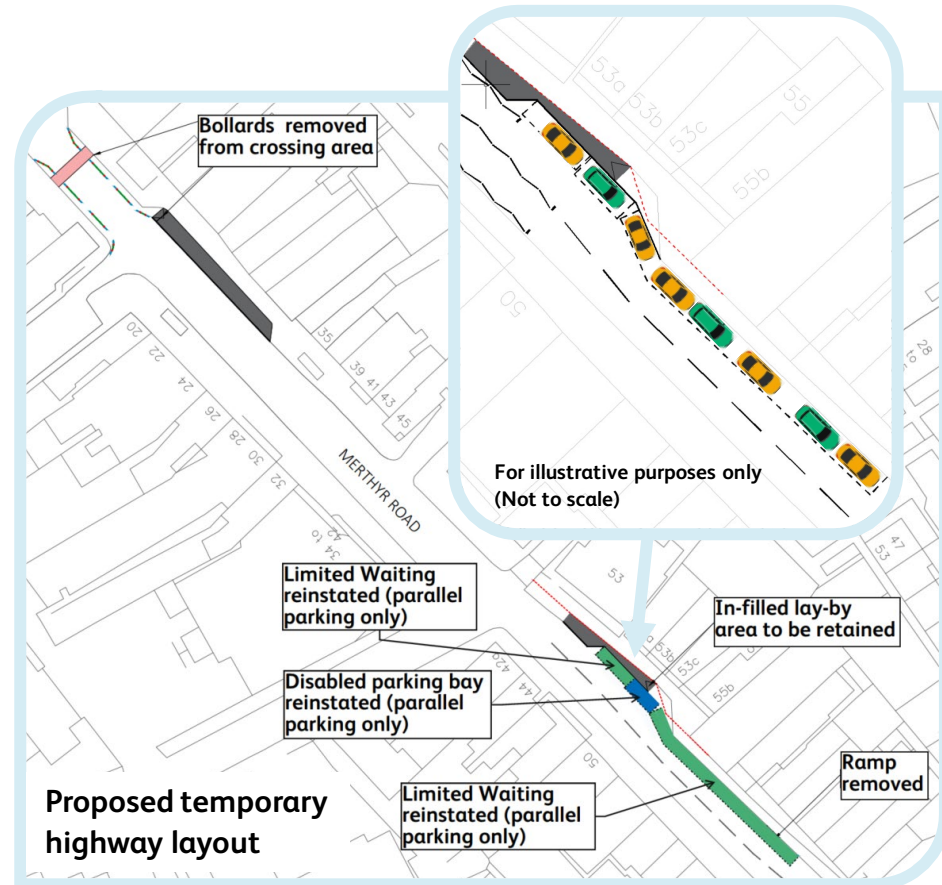
These phases are as follows:

- **Phase 1** – Removal of bollards / temporary parking arrangement
- **Phase 2** – TRO changes and footway improvements
- **Phase 3** – Flood alleviation scheme (a long-term proposal)

**Phase 1** – this phase will include:

- The removal of the bollards in the two areas;
- To remove the tarmac ramp (adj. 63 Merthyr Rd);
- Make good highway of any defects from the removal of the bollards / ramp; and
- Temporarily reinstate lining / signage for the former parking bays between 65 and 53a Merthyr Rd.

An indicative plan is shown to the right that shows the **Phase 1** proposal. It should be noted that the parking bays between 65 and 53a Merthyr Rd would be for **parallel parking only**.



The above arrangement is a temporary layout and is expected to be in place for 7 to 9 months only, whilst Phase 2 is developed / implemented.

### Phase 2 – TRO changes and footway improvements

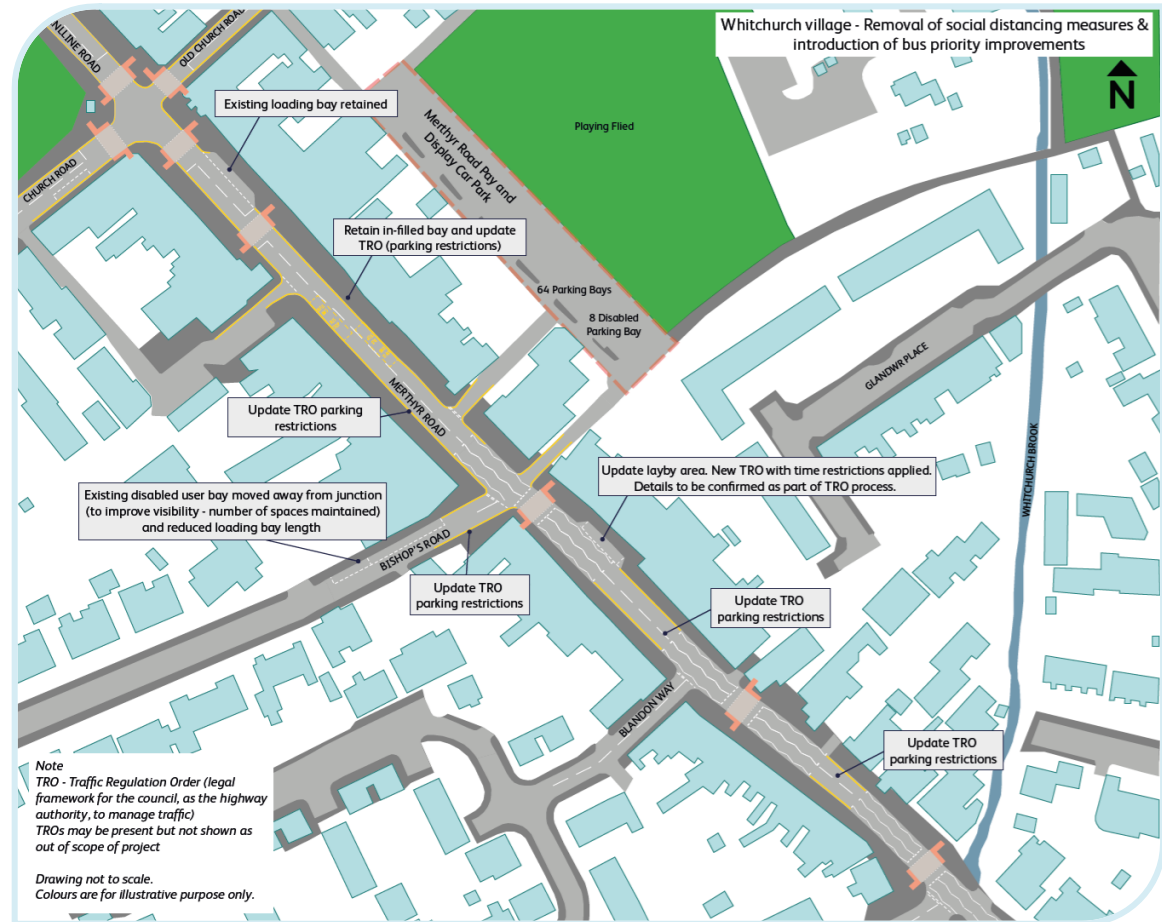
The Council will be developing TROs to remove on street limited waiting parking and illegal parking.

Some disabled user parking will still be available in the southern lay-by area. The disabled parking on Bishops Road will be retained, but repositioned away from the crossing point.

Other improvements may include:

- Kerb-line improvement / resurfacing between 13-23 Merthyr Rd, including bollards to prevent footway parking
- Car Park / disabled parking way-finding signage
- Potential cycle stand installation

An indicative plan is shown to the right that shows the **Phase 2** proposal.



The TROs will be subject to a separate legal process, but may take into consideration views raised as part of this Engagement.

# Whitchurch Village

## Removal of Social Distancing Measures

### Engagement Pack

#### Phase 3 – Flood Alleviation plans

Cardiff Council Flood and Coastal Risk Management Team have been successful in obtaining funding from The Welsh Government to develop a **flood alleviation** scheme to reduce the flood risk from the southern catchment of **Whitchurch Brook** from Manor Way to its outlet on The River Taff.

It is envisaged that the scheme will involve **flood gates**, **amendments to the brook** and installation of **green infrastructure** assets such as rain gardens.

Consultants have been appointed to undertake the detailed design and the **project is underway**.



**Public involvement / engagement** will take place **once draft designs are complete** to gauge opinions / thoughts of stakeholders, which will inform the design further (anticipated in late 2023).

We do not currently have any plans showing locations or proposals, or any further information to share with you in respect of Phase 3 (Flood Alleviation plans). On this basis, **only views in respect of Phase 1 and Phase 2 will be considered at this stage**.

# Whitchurch Village – Removal of Social Distancing Measures

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What are you consulting on exactly?** We are consulting on the planned changes to the TROs within Whitchurch Village, the removal of the temporary traffic management measures and information on future plans.

**Are you proposing to remove the bollards?** Yes.

**Why are you planning to change the TROs?** There are three main reasons:

- **Bus movements** – *Cardiff's Transport White Paper sets out bold targets to achieve a significant mode shift from private car journeys. The Council is therefore seeking to encourage people to make changes to more sustainable transport to support decarbonisation. The on-street parking previously in place and obstructive/illegal parking impedes on bus services. The introduction of parking restrictions will create a clear passage for bus movements by helping to remove obstructive parking.*
- **Flood alleviation works** – *The Council is planning to develop measures to address flooding. These will alter the highway layout within the Village, through the introduction of sustainable drainage, rain gardens and flood defence. Public engagement is planned late 2023. The introduction of parking restrictions will open the opportunity to implement measures within public highway area.*
- **Safety Improvements** – *The visibility at the pedestrian crossing point on Bishops Road is affected by the close proximity of the parking bay and when vehicles stop adjacent the corner shop. The repositioning of the parking bay and change of parking restrictions will improve visibility at the junction and stop vehicles from causing an obstruction.*

**Why can't the parking remain on Merthyr Road?** The return of on-street parking will have a negative impact on buses. Phase 1 will only be in place for a short period of time whilst the TROs are being developed. Typically this will take seven to nine months to process.

**Will alternative parking be provided?** No, there is ample parking available in the off-road public car parks.

**What is proposed in the lay-by?** This will be determined as part of the TRO process. A loading bay that becomes a taxi rank in the evening is an option. Also a blue-badge holder bay with time and return constraints to provide regular turn over will be considered.

**Would I be able to use my blue badge on the road?** Only in the designated bays or where parking restrictions allow it.

# Whitchurch Village – Removal of Social Distancing Measures

## How to respond

Please respond to this consultation using this survey form: [HERE](#)

Or copy and paste the following URL: <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/WhitVil>

This will allow you to make formal comments in response to this consultation.



Alternatively, email [transportprojects@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:transportprojects@cardiff.gov.uk) or write to Transport Programme Team, County Hall Room 301, Cardiff, CF10 4UW.

**This consultation will remain open until 16/06/2023**

**We are not able to comment, or provide information on the flood alleviation scheme at present**

All responses will be reviewed and be used to help write the Consultation Report - one of the tools used to inform the decision-making process for the scheme. Changes may be applied to the illustrative plan shown as a result of the detailed design process, or from other feedback received during the engagement or design process.

Responses to questions about the proposal will be available within the Consultation Report which will be provided online when available via [www.cardiff.gov.uk/transportprojects](http://www.cardiff.gov.uk/transportprojects) using the 'previous consultations' link and selecting the scheme title. Following the publication of the Consultation Report, the project will then be designed in detail and implemented, subject to approval and funding.

Please note that only feedback and questions relating to this project will be considered or acted upon. If you have any feedback relating to other Council Services, please visit [www.cardiff.gov.uk](http://www.cardiff.gov.uk)

We will also be unable to respond to individual responses – however all responses will be included within the Consultation Report which will be available shortly after the consultation close date. No personal information will be shared.