

'Easier Access for Residents'

using wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters

Access to the town centre by wheelchair, mobility scooter and pushchairs- many forced off the pavement- **can be very difficult.**

Several causes regrettably- ignoring potholes and the state of pavements:

Overgrown hedges

Lack of (and inconsistency of provision of) drop kerbs.

Paucity of pedestrian crossings.

Barriers (bicycle) now obsolete and difficult to manoeuvre round

Cars parked on pavement so as to allow no access whatsoever

Proposal:

To create a volunteer effort to achieve:

Stage 1: 1. Comprehensive identification of each of access problems by type and by neighbourhood- carried out, where possible, by residents' associations.

2. General appeal for information from Users.

3. 'Good neighbour' article

Stage 2: Priority listing of 1.1 & 1.2 above.

Stage 3: Agree programme for 'fixing' the access issues on a priority basis whilst acknowledging that method may vary according to type and agency involved. For example, this could be via TTC (e.g. letters), a direct group approach to OCC or on an individual basis. This may require adaptation of current TTC policies and procedures where feasible.

Please note the following parameters as stated by the Acting Town Clerk:

1. Remember TTC does have a policy for structures on the highway, which will need to be reviewed in August for P & R. This does help to control A-boards. If you know which ones are causing an issue, we can remind the shop owners of the Town Council Policy.

2. Parking will be devolved in November with parking wardens. This will include parking on pavements and parking enforcement for all of Thame. We have been waiting for an update from the County Council.

3. Overgrown hedges: TTC has a good neighbour letter that we can send out.

4. Drop kerbs: There is a highway issue in the Town Centre and around Thame. We would need a practical approach and direct input from users (see above) to optimise suitable locations.

5. Bicycle barriers would need the landowner's permission or a direct response from OCC Highways.

6. Pedestrian crossings: a grant to install a pedestrian crossing on Wellington Street has been achieved.