

Tarporley Parish Council

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Tarporley Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to take part on the CW&C Reg. 18 consultation and wishes to submit the following comments.

The Parish Council has not considered other areas, except Tarporley, in section 5.1 Potential Growth Areas nor commented on Sections 6 to 12.

The Parish Council has also limited its comments to those policies it wishes to make additional points, rather than answer every question.

Tarporley Parish Council particularly welcomes Section 21, Health & Wellbeing.

## 1. Introduction

### Question IN 6

Do you have any comments on what role Neighbourhood Plans should play in terms of meeting Cheshire West's development needs and other suggested policy approaches for the new Local Plan? This could include things like meeting housing needs, local connection tests, or design etc.

Neighbourhood Plans should continue to play a vital role in the planning process as should Design Codes.

The Tarporley Neighbourhood Plan which is currently under review and soon to be subject to informal consultation along with a new up to date detailed Design Code are key documents which reflect the views and will of the residents of Tarporley.

It should be noted that as part of the Neighbourhood Plan review we are seeking to allocate sites which the community can support and which will deliver much needed infrastructure to Tarporley.

## 2. Vision

### Question VI 2

Should the vision include/establish a set of principles and priorities? Are these the right ones – do you have any other suggestions?

Tarporley Parish Council supports the principles listed.

Providing Infrastructure – it must be recognised by the Plan that the provision of infrastructure is just as important in the rural areas as the urban areas if not more so. Infrastructure and services including care homes, health facilities and car parking are required in the rural areas and to date have been neglected.

Protecting character - Tarporley Parish Council is due to undertake an informal consultation on a new Design Code for Tarporley which provides detailed 'codes' to not only protect but make a positive contribution to the character of Tarporley. The new Design Code seeks to deliver quality developments based on good design which enhance the environment and we ask that this is adopted as part of the Local Plan.

### Question VI 3

Do you agree with the approach of establishing concise visions for the key places identified in the new Local Plan? Or do you have an alternative suggestion?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy but believes that it should go further allowing rural areas which want to produce a vision for their future to do so and for it to be adopted as part of the Local Plan and that CW&C should support areas to do this.

Tarporley Parish Council requests that CW&C works with the Parish Council and community to support the positive vision we have for Tarporley as a vibrant village as the heart of the Sandstone Ridge with a thriving High Street and visitor economy as well as being a great place to live.

### 3. Objectives

#### Question OB 1

Please select the option which is the most appropriate approach for the new Local Plan:

- a. Option A – Take forward current Local Plan objectives
- b. Option B – Use the Sustainability Appraisal objectives
- c. Neither of these

Tarporley Parish Council supports an approach which combines both Option A & B, such as for A, particularly the Economic objectives, S02, S04, S05 to ensure we can sustain a thriving village community

Key issues that the Plan must address include:

- Prevention of flooding not just from surface water from storms but also as a result on of existing sewerage system being at or beyond their capacity.
- Adequate water supplies, Tarporley residents already suffer low water pressure in parts of the village meaning they can't take showers when the Fire Service is practising.
- Biodiversity Net Gain – Tarporley Parish Council requests that the Local Plan policy states that bio-diversity net gain should be delivered on the site and where that is not possible it must be delivered within the Parish where that development is taking place and cannot be delivered off site or by a token payment to a scheme elsewhere in the country.

#### 4. Sustainable Development

##### Question SD 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards sustainable development, as set out in SD 1 'Sustainable development' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

##### Question SD 2

Do you have any comments on how feasible district heat networks are? Should district heat networks be a requirement on strategic sites?

##### Question SD 3

Are there any other sustainable development issues or requirements that should be included in the new Local Plan?

Tarporley Parish Council supports the principles outlined for sustainable development.

However, where new development takes place these principles need to be extended to benefit existing development. For example, there is little benefit for a new development to be designed to encourage walking, wheeling and cycling if this is not extended throughout Tarporley linking with existing developments and services, footpaths and cycleways.

As see previous comment regarding biodiversity net gain (OB1).

#### 5. Spatial Strategy

##### Question SS 2

Do you think the Council should consider a stepped housing requirement that plans for a lower level of housing delivery earlier in the plan period?

CW&C should consider a way of managing development so that the allocated housing is delivered in a phased way over the plan period with infrastructure put in place in advance of the development.

Phasing development is particularly important for social housing.

Tarporley Parish Council wishes to emphasize the importance of a more strategic approach to delivering development in key rural service centres, making development an opportunity to deliver needed infrastructure and ensure future sustainability.

### Question SS 6

Should all settlements have some level of development, regardless of whether they are identified in the settlement hierarchy?

Yes, all settlements should have the opportunity to grow in a sustainable way, any such development should be of appropriate scale to its setting and phased over the plan period.

### Question SS 7

Do you think the new Local Plan should contain place-based policies for smaller settlements such as: Cuddington and Sandiway; Farndon; Helsby; Kelsall; Malpas; Tarporley; Tattenhall; and Tarvin?

Yes, however, it is essential these policies should be produced with Parish Councils and communities in these areas and not simply imposed upon them.

Where settlements have up to date Neighbourhood Plan and Design Codes these should be adopted by CW&C noting the Neighbourhood Plan process calls for real community involvement and a referendum. Without community engagement and support the Plans cannot be adopted.

### Question SS 8

Do you agree that in smaller settlements, the character should be protected and development should not exceed the capacity of existing services and infrastructure?

Yes, please see previous comments regarding Tarporley Design Code (VI 2).

### Question SS 11

Please select the option which is the most appropriate spatial strategy for Cheshire West and Chester:

- a. Option A - Retain the Green Belt
- b. Option B - Follow current Local Plan level and distribution of development
- c. Option C - Sustainable transport corridors
- d. None of these

Tarporley Parish Council does not support Option A.

The Parish Council supports an approach which combines Options B & C.

A key criterion of the Local Plan must be that the level of growth is able to be absorbed by a community whilst retaining its current character.

Option A, to retain all the current Green Belt will prevent sustainable growth in villages and areas in the green belt while increasing pressure on green field sites in the open countryside. It is important however

that the development in these areas does not erode the gaps between large settlements that the green belt was introduced to protect.

Option B, to continue existing policies will result in the over development of the key service centres including Tarporley.

Option C – to consider development along sustainable transport routes will take the pressure off key service centres and will also result in development which has access to good public transport and does not rely on narrow county lanes to reach the wider road network.

### **Question SS 21**

What information should we take into account when assessing sites for allocation in the new Local Plan?

Where a Parish Council or community allocates development sites these should be adopted by CW&C. Tarporley Parish Council as part of its Neighbourhood Plan review is seeking to allocate development sites in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Allocation of sites must be based upon critical sustainability criteria for a community, including:

- Proximity to amenities to prevent unnecessary local car journeys, congestion and parking issues.
- Minimising the burden on existing infrastructure and services
- Provision of further essential infrastructure to augment any shortfalls

### **Question SS 56**

Which of the identified potential growth areas around Tarporley do you consider to be the most suitable?

This question will be addressed by our site allocation.

We note that some sites within TARPO1 and TARP02 have already been developed for housing and/or public open space.

Tarporley Parish Council seeks continued dialogue with CW&C through the site allocation process.

### **Question SS 57**

Do you have any further comments about any of the potential growth areas identified around Tarporley?

There are no employment sites currently indicated either in the village or the local vicinity. The allocation of small employment sites should be considered as a means of supporting Tarporley's economy and providing employment for those already living in the village and those who will live in new homes. These sites need to include sufficient parking areas within the site for staff and customers.

### Question SS 58

Are there any constraints, including infrastructure provision, that should be considered for Tarporley when developing the new Local Plan?

Yes, despite significant development having already taken place in Tarporley there has been little or no growth in services and infrastructure to support that development or resulting population growth. This has already resulted in massive strain and overload on existing resources and infrastructure including:

- Lack of short and long stay parking to support peripheral housing development in the village and the visitor economy
- Sewers beyond capacity resulting in flooding of properties with foul water.
- Storm water drainage is at capacity resulting the flooding of properties.
- Limited public transport.
- Health Centre and services are at capacity and have insufficient parking for staff and patients.
- Electricity supply limited, resulting in regular power cuts.
- Water supply limited resulting in low water pressure.
- Congestion on High Street and other roads contributing to pollution.
- Lack of truly affordable properties, noting properties sold through shared ownership schemes or offered at 80% market value are not affordable to most residents.

Please see attached 'Required Community Benefit & Infrastructure Improvements for Target Document'. Appendix A.

#### 14. Transport & Accessibility

### Question TA 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards transport and accessibility, as set out above in TA 1 'Transport and accessibility'? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council supports the policy approach. It must be recognised however that delivering a sustainable transport plan requires a different approach in the rural and urban areas.

Please see Tarporley Parish Council's response to the Local Transport Consultation. (Appendix B)

### Question TA 3

Are there any schemes listed above in TA 2 'Key local transport infrastructure priorities' that should be retained, modified, or deleted?

Tarporley Parish Council objects to the lack of any key local transport infrastructure priorities in the rural areas. Tarporley Parish Council requested that CW&C works with the Parish Council to deliver a Tarporley Transport Hub, see Tarporley Parish Council's response to the Local Transport Consultation. (Appendix B)

## 15. Infrastructure

### Question ID 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards infrastructure and developer contributions, as set out above in ID 1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions'? If not please suggest how it could be amended.

Yes, Tarporley Parish Council supports the suggested policy approach and requests that the policy includes that contributions are agreed in consultation with the relevant Parish Council.

Developer contributions must be spent in the Parish the development has taken place and not allocated to projects elsewhere in the Borough.

At Tarporley High School consideration needs to be given to the provision of a bus park and sufficient staff/6<sup>th</sup> form student parking due to the students' catchment area covering a wide rural area around the village.

### Question ID 2

Should developer contributions only apply to major developments? How should 'major development' be defined?

Developer contributions should be sought from all developments of 2 or more dwellings.

Tarporley Parish Council calls for a more sophisticated approach where sites that don't offer substantial infrastructure on site possibly due to their size should make higher contributions to prevent multiple smaller developments taking place and delivering no infrastructure.

### Question ID 3

Do you agree that developers/ operators should pay the full cost of infrastructure required to deliver their sites?

Yes, and should include payments towards future maintenance of infrastructure.

### Question ID 4

In the event of viability being an issue how could the new Local Plan prioritise the provision of infrastructure across the borough and/ or on a settlement-by-settlement basis?

CW&C should work with Parish Councils to identify the priorities for each settlement and agree ways for money to be earmarked and pooled from various developments to deliver these priorities.

## 16. Economic Growth

### Question EG 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards economic growth, employment and enterprise, as set out in EG 1 'Economic growth, employment and enterprise' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

The policy does not take into account the need for employment growth in rural areas. As the rural areas accommodate more residential development there is also a need to generate more employment opportunities.

Failure to encourage employment opportunities in rural locations such as Tarporley will just make it a commuter residence and will only contribute further to the need for people to use private vehicles to access work in the wider region.

## 17. Town Centres

### Question TC 4

Do you agree with our suggested approach to small scale rural development?

Development of appropriate small-scale retail and leisure facilities should be permitted in rural areas to provide facilities for residents in these areas and should not necessarily be limited to facilities that require a countryside location.

Failure to allow appropriate small-scale retail and leisure facilities in rural locations such as Tarporley will increase the need for all people to use private vehicles to access these facilities.

## 18. Visitor Economy

### Question VE 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards the visitor economy, as set out in VE 1 'Visitor economy' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council supports the suggested approach however it does not go far enough to support the promotion of Tarporley as a key visitor attraction or hospitality venue to support local tourist attractions such as Oulton Park.

Tarporley Parish Council supports the promotion of Tarporley as the heart of the Sandstone Ridge providing links to the Sandstone Trail. In addition, Tarporley provides visitors with a range of independent shops and restaurants. The promotion of Tarporley as a visitor attraction is vital to the continued vibrancy of the village, which needs more car parking facilities to be successful.

Please see Tarporley Parish Council's response to the Local Transport Consultation. (Appendix B)

### Question VE 3

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards rural tourism and leisure, including visitor accommodation policies (caravan and camping sites) in the countryside?

Yes.

### Question VE 5

Does the suggested policy approach support a prosperous rural economy, whilst maintaining the character of the countryside?

See previous response to VE 1

## 19. Housing

### Question HO 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards mix and type and specialist housing in new developments, as set out in HO 1 'Mix and type of housing in new developments and specialist housing' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees in principle to the suggested policy approach but requests that housing needs surveys are undertaken at a level which identifies the housing needs for the key service centres including Tarporley, rather than for the Borough as a whole.

The housing needs survey should also take account of any long-term empty properties which should be brought back into use.

### Question HO 2

Should the housing mix and type and specialist housing be delivered through a percentage policy approach that sets requirements for each category of housing?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees in principle with setting the mix of housing through a percentage policy however the percentages set should be based on the housing needs of that community in our case Tarporley. These percentages should be reviewed annually.

### Question HO 4

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards delivering affordable housing, as set out in HO 2 'Delivering affordable housing' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council supports the suggested policy HO 2.

Where developers provide funding in lieu of affordable houses on site that funding must be allocated to the provision of affordable housing in that village.

The provision of housing, which is set at 80% of market value is not affordable related to Tarporley as such these needs to be addressed.

The allocation of affordable housing in Tarporley must be based on the eligibility criteria contained in the existing Tarporley Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council wants this provision to remain affordable in perpetuity and not sold or rented on the open market.

#### Table 1 Eligibility Criteria for Local Needs Affordable Housing in Tarporley

During the first 16 week period the Affordable Housing Units shall be allocated to persons who, in the first instance:

1. have been ordinarily resident in Tarporley Parish for the 12 months immediately preceding the date of application for the affordable housing unit or who have at any time previously resided in Tarporley Parish for a period of at least 5 years; or
2. have a Strong Local Connection with Tarporley Parish through (a) a close family association in the Tarporley Parish or (b) being employed within the Parish.

In the second instance if no applicant qualifies under the first criteria, those who are resident in or have a strong local connection with the neighbouring parishes of Rushton with Eaton, Utkinton with Cotebrook, Clotton Hoefield, Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall.

In the third instance, if no applicant qualifies under 1 and 2 those who are resident in or have a strong local connection with Tarporley Ward.

In the fourth instance, if no applicant qualifies under 1, 2 or 3, those who in the opinion of Tarporley Parish Council have need for such accommodation.

Strong Local Connection means in relation to Eligible Persons a Close Family Association, or Employment in the Relevant Area.

Close family association means a close family member of a person i.e. his/her brother/sister/son/daughter/mother/father who is resident in the relevant area and has been resident there for a minimum period of 5 continuous years.

Employment means a person who is self-employed, permanently employed or has accepted in writing a firm offer of permanent employment within the relevant area.

Relevant area means in the first instance the Parish of Tarporley, and in the second instance the Ward of Tarporley, and in the third instance all Rural Parishes within a 5 mile radius of the centre of the Parish (St Helen's Church of England), and in the fourth instance the administrative area of Cheshire West and Chester.

#### Question HO 5

Do you have any views on thresholds for affordable housing in relation to applying a lower threshold for designated rural areas and what approach could be taken to parts of the borough not subject to the designation?

Tarporley Parish Council supports the lower threshold for development in rural areas.

### Question HO 15

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards rural exception sites, as set out in HO 5 'Rural exception sites' above? If not, please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

## 21. Health & Wellbeing

### Question HW 4

What is an appropriate quantity of outdoor amenity space to be provided in new developments? What approach should we apply to apartments/flats?

Balconies big enough for seating should be provided in all properties (flats, apartments and maisonettes) with living space above the ground floor in order to provide outdoor space. Such ground floor properties should have outdoor space away from parking areas.

## 22. Open Space

### Question OS 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards open space, sport and recreation, as set out in OS 1 'Open space, sport and recreation' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

Contributions towards open space, sport and recreation as a result of development in Tarporley must be allocated to Tarporley and should be allocated with consultation with the Parish Council.

Measures to reduce anti-social behaviour and dog fouling should be taken into account in the provision and design of these spaces.

### Question OS 4

Should the policy approach be more flexible in the order provision of open space in new developments? If yes, do you have any suggestions how this could be achieved?

Any funding financial contributions from developments in Tarporley must be spent in Tarporley in consultation with the Parish Council.

### Question OS 5

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards cultural and community facilities, as set out in OS 2 'Cultural and community facilities' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

### 23. Flood risk & water management

#### Question FW 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards flood risk and water management, as set out in FW 1 'Flood risk and water management' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

### 24. Landscape

#### Question LA 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards landscape, as set out in LA 1 'Landscape' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

Tarporley Parish Council is currently reviewing its Neighbourhood Plan and has developed a new Design Code both of which are to go out to informal consultation both documents contain policies which seek to protect the character and landscape which must be taken into consideration.

### 25. Green Infrastructure

#### Question GI 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity, as set out in GI 1 'Green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity' above? If not, please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

## 26. Historic Environment

### Question HI 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards the historic environment, as set out in HE 1 'Historic environment' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy.

## 27. Design & Sustainable Construction

### Question DS 1

Do you agree with the suggested policy approach towards high quality design, as set out in DS 1 'High quality design' above? If not please suggest how it could be amended?

Tarporley Parish Council agrees with this policy

### Question DS 2

If the Council produces a borough-wide Design Code, should this form part of the new Local Plan?

Tarporley Parish Council has developed a Design Code which is due to go out to informal consultation shortly and will become part of the reviewed Tarporley Neighbourhood Plan. Where a Parish Council or Community has produced an approved Design Code this should be adopted by CW&C and take precedence over the Borough Wide Design Code for the appropriate parish.

## 31. Miscellaneous

### Question MISC 5

Do you think that the new Local Plan should have an individual policy for employment land provision in the rural area that takes forward the content of current Local Plan (Part Two) policy R 3? Or could policy R 3 potentially be deleted?

Yes, a policy is required to provide small scale suitable employment sites in the rural area.

It is important that employment opportunities grow with residential development in our rural communities to sustain the key rural service centres.

# TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Required Community Benefit & Infrastructure Improvements for Tarporley.

The Tarporley Neighbourhood Plan is supportive of appropriate development that delivers significant infrastructure improvements and community benefits, whilst ensuring no loss or reduction of public amenity.

The village priorities have been updated, by the Parish Council with reference to the Neighbourhood Plan. The following is intended to help developers and landowners when considering whether their proposed development plans meet with the Vision, Objectives and Policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The following list is not exhaustive and has not been prioritised but should form a basis for discussions between developers, Cheshire West and Chester Council and the Parish Council.

### Public Sports and Recreation Facilities for Public Use

1. S106 Funding for play, recreation, open space and pitches to be allocated to Tarporley Parish Council for the play area and playing field off Eaton Road (behind the Community Centre) and Brook Road Playing Field and Country Park and any additional open spaces which may be developed.
2. Provision of either gifted or leased land to the village for use as an additional public play, playing fields and recreational facilities.

### Public Car Parking

Tarporley is a Key Service Centre (KSC) and the heart of the Sandstone Ridge which at the time of writing is being considered as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB).

As KSC Tarporley serves the needs of the wider community and neighbouring villages.

To ensure the commercial viability and vibrancy of Tarporley High Street, in the absence of an appropriate public transport service, provision of sufficient local car parking is critical. Any new parking provision should be delivered with EV charging facilities.

1. Provision of either significant new public car parking accompanying any new multi-house development or in the form of gifted or leased land to the village for use as a green car park.
2. Provision of a contribution towards the provision of additional parking in Tarporley to be delivered by CW&C in partnership with Tarporley Parish Council. This may be then provided in the form of:
  - a. Longer stay or all-day car parking space on the outskirts of the village or near to the village centre with at least 100 spaces required.
  - b. Expansion of the public car park behind the Rising Sun by at least 50 spaces.
  - c. Provision of public EV charging car parking in new public car park area for village visitors.

### Village Access and Connectivity

As the village has grown, improved access from the village outskirts to High Street is needed to allow greater accessibility. As such the following is required:

1. Provision of funding to improve footways to Tarporley High Street including installation of dropped kerbs.
2. Provision of funding for significant improvements to the pavements, walkways, and bollard replacements etc on Tarporley High Street.
3. Provision of funding, to be allocated to Tarporley Parish Council, for improvement, extending, interconnecting, and maintaining the public footpaths around the village.

4. Provision of funding, to be allocated to Tarporley Parish Council, for the extension and enhancement of the art trail with commissioned artworks via public footpaths out and around the village.

### **Village Infrastructure**

Any new developments will add increased pressure on already strained local services which include the health, dental and education services in Tarporley. For example, any new developments will increase pupil numbers at the Tarporley High School and so increase traffic in the area which is already a source of congestion in the village.

1. Funding is provided to provide new, relocate or increase the capacity and facilities of the Health Centre and Doctors Practices in Tarporley, including adequate car parking.
2. Provision of funding to contribute to a bus park or coach drop off and parking solution for Tarporley High School off Nantwich Road.
3. Provision of land adjoining the schools to enable expansion of their educational facilities.

### **Affordable Housing Provision**

Registered Providers/Housing Associations to provide a mix of housing including housing to rent (not shared ownership) at social rents (not affordable rents).

### **Biodiversity**

Any provision of biodiversity net gain not provided on the development site must be delivered within Tarporley.

1. Provision of funding and additional green space for specific biodiversity projects around the village such as the creation of a wooded or orchard area, or additional tree planting for several village locations.

Approved 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Appendix B

### Tarporley Parish Council – Transport Consultation Response 2025

Tarporley Parish Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the CW&C Transport consultation and requests an opportunity to discuss the challenges faced by Tarporley and work with CW&C in partnership to rise to these challenges and produce a plan for the future.

Tarporley is more than a key service centre it has a thriving and attractive High Street in an attractive rural setting and as such it has been and will continue to be a focus for developers.

This brings greater challenges on many infrastructure fronts, notably parking and traffic, which arguably will disproportionately worsen over time.

We request that CW&C make it a priority to work with Tarporley Parish Council and the community to develop a strategic long-term solution to the issues we face.

We believe the best way forward is to create a **Tarporley Transport hub** which:

- Is a public transport hub connecting to the wider area providing more opportunities to use public transport.
- Recognises the continued reliance on cars and private transport in Tarporley and the surrounding rural areas.
- Provides adequate parking for residents, those who work in Tarporley and visitors.
- Connects to the High School providing a drop off and collection point and bus park area.
- Reduces congestion and pollution on the High Street.

### Biggest Challenges

#### Parking

Parking, both short and long stay, is one of the biggest challenges Tarporley faces.

The nature of Tarporley with a linear village centre where the vast majority of services, shops and restaurants are based results on residential development taking place further away from the centre meaning residents tend to drive to services rather than walking.

As more development takes place estates will be located further from the village centre increasing traffic and the need for short term parking.

In addition to growth in Tarporley itself there has been a large amount of growth in the surrounding areas including in Tiverton, Beeston, Bunbury, Alpraham and further afield areas which regard Tarporley as the nearest town or service centre and travel regularly into the village and require parking.

Tarporley requires long term parking for employees who work in the village in shops, offices and various services.

Tarporley Parish Council strongly supports the promotion of Tarporley as the Heart of the Sandstone Ridge and as a tourist and visitor destination all of which again requires parking.

Tarporley Parish Council requests that CW&C works with the Parish Council to increase both short and long stay parking in Tarporley with charging facilities for electric vehicles.

#### High Street Congestion

High Street congestion is a serious challenge for Tarporley and is the result of the following:

- Vehicles looking for parking, pulling into and out of parking spaces.
- Vehicles parking on double yellow lines and junctions due to a lack of parking and enforcement.
- Traffic including High School buses.

### School Transport

The success and growth of both the primary and secondary schools is resulting in increased traffic along Tarporley High Street.

The Parish Council would support the opportunity to discuss ways to encourage parents to walk to school with their children and the possibility of creating walking buses to the Primary School.

The location of the High School off Eaton Road close to the junction of Nantwich Road, the High Street and Birch Heath Road is a huge cause of congestion and safety concerns at both dropping off and collection times.

The area becomes congested with students walking, parents and staff driving and parking and approximately 23 full size buses accessing and exiting the site in a 20 to 30 minutes period.

### Transport Issues for Older and Physically Limited People

There are very real issues for older people and those with limited mobility accessing services, getting to the GP and hospital appointments.

This is compounded in Tarporley by the lack of parking at the Health Centre on Park Road which is should be remembered serves a much wider area than Tarporley alone.

### **Rethinking**

- Making it easier, safer, and more attractive to travel by walking, cycling, and public transport.
- Making sure essential services are built close.
- Improving digital connectivity to reduce the need to travel.
- Working with schools, workplaces and other destinations to reduce the need to travel at peak times.

The above statements are positive aspirations for all our communities but take on a different meaning in rural areas like Tarporley.

For Tarporley High Street to continue to thrive we need people to visit Tarporley and even with improvements to public transport the majority of visitors will travel by car.

We do not want to shut Tarporley to residents, employers and students we want it to be a vibrant, thriving, safe community.

### Walking

Due to our location, walking outside of Tarporley will only be for recreation purposes and not as a means of accessing amenities or places of employment.

Within the village it should be promoted more as a primary means of transport for accessing amenities. To support this, serious effort needs to be put into improving walkways, many of which are currently in a poor state.

### Cycling

Again due to our location, cycling outside of Tarporley will for the vast majority be for recreational purposes.

Many people will not cycle on the road network around Tarporley which is made up of busy A roads and narrow country lanes due to safety concerns. This is worsened by the poor condition of the local roads making them very difficult to cycle along confidently.

### Public Transport

We welcome the increase in the bus service to Tarporley to every half an hour. However it should be noted the service only connects with Chester, Vicars Cross, Tarvin, Wardle, Nantwich, Willaston and Crewe. It does not serve the railway stations in Crewe or Chester.

It does not provide transport to the rural communities surrounding Tarporley of Utkinton, Tiverton or Eaton.  
It does not provide a link to Winsford the closest town.

Work needs to be done to attract more users to public transport including wider promotion of the bus service and electronic real time updates of when buses are due at bus stops.

### **Conclusions**

Tarporley Parish Council requests a meeting with CW&C officers to discuss our response in more detail and look at ways we can work together to address challenges and reach all our aspirations.

**August 2025.**