

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.