

BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

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Brookley Road scheme

The Parish Council following many debates and much negotiation finally approved the scheme which should be implemented by 31st March 2023.

Following discussions with Hampshire County Council as the Highway Authority in June 2020 a series of temporary measures were installed along Brookley Road to support the local economy and protect public health in the post Covid 19 recovery period. Adjustments were made and consultations began on the European funded Active Travel Scheme.

The latest consultation closed on 14th August: 46% positive about the village square concept and 15% negative with concerns on air quality and traffic congestion. Given the community response, whilst Parish Councillors, Brockenhurst Business Association and the Friends of Brockenhurst all have some concerns about the details there was general agreement to support the proposals.

Once implemented, the scheme will create a different space which will be available for community events so that consideration is now being made with regard to the location of the street furniture; seats, bins and cycle racks.

The Parish Council will continue to pursue investment to improve our village whilst Hampshire County Council, like all Local Authorities, are struggling to cover the ever increasing costs of social care. Some road surfaces and pavements around the village have been renewed but Parish Councillors will continue to press specifically for further investment in Brookley Road given that statutory guidance on reallocating road space clearly states that the government "expects local authorities to make significant changes to their road layouts to give more space to cyclists and pedestrians".

Councillor Pete Wales
Brockenhurst Parish Council