

Thanks for your email and my apologies for the lack of communication since I attended the Parish Council meeting on 14th May. We were due to update on the Place Plans shortly after this time, but the calling of the general election changed our plans slightly with pre-election rules starting, and staff resources and some departments changing to focus on the preparation for the logistics of the election.

Just to recap on the position, Shropshire Council approved a large number of projects for inclusion in the 2024 Place Plans at the Cabinet meeting on 13th March, and this included two projects for Bicton which are, shown below

Project ID	Area	Town or parish council area	Title of project	Project description	Place plan category	Delivery timescale
1369	Shrewsbury	Bicton Parish Council	Traffic calming and speed reduction measures on the B4380 between Shelton water tower and Montford bridge through Bicton Parish	The B4380 road runs from the Shelton water town in Shrewsbury through Bicton Parish and onto Montford Bridge. The Coppice sheltered housing scheme has recently been developed on this road so traffic calming, speed reduction and improved public transport infrastructure have been requested on this stretch of road	Priority B	1 - 5 years
1371	Shrewsbury	Bicton Parish Council	Improvements to Bicton Village hall in Bicton	Support for Bicton Village Hall improvements through Bicton Parish Council and support through the local community	Neighbourhood	1 - 5 years

And whilst technically just outside Bicton Parish the Coppice footpath project was approved as well.

Project ID	Area	Town or parish council area	Title of project	Project description	Place plan category	Delivery timescale
808	Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury Town Council	New footpath linking Clayton Way and the Coppice development in Shrewsbury	Create a footpath linking the Coppice new development with the hospice and The Uplands nursing home	Priority B	1 - 5 years

In addition, the Cabinet agreed that new Place Plan projects could be formally added to the Place Plan through our Internal Infrastructure Group, and a series of recommendations for them will be made at their next meeting on 16th July. These include the nominations made by Bicton. I have put a summary of the position on the project nominations made by Bicton Parish Council, in the table below.

There are unfortunately some items its not possible to formally include in the Place Plan – items 1370 and 2026 and the reasons for this are outlined in the table. But projects 2027, 2028 and the cycleway improvements at Shelton Water Tower remain under development, and we hope to progress to a position where they can be formally added to the Place Plan in the near future. I'd be happy for this to be included on the Parish Website, but could I ask its not done until after the General Election on Thursday to comply with pre-election rules.

Ref No if allocated	Place Plan	Town/ Parish	Items for consideration	Infrastructure type	Status of nominaton for inclusion on published Place Plan	Additional information about the nomination
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1369	Shrewsbury	Bicton	Speed limit of 40 mph limit on Holyhead Road from Shelton water tower to Montford Bridge BEFORE opening of NW Relief Road (section of the road that pass the Coppice development). Bus shelter on B4380 at the Coppice To improve public transport facilities for residents of new Coppice development, Oxon Hall, and staff and visitors to Bicton Hospice and Isle Court. Erect a bus shelter on Holyhead Road opposite the Coppice to permit staff and residents to shelter when travelling to Shrewsbury. The Coppice B4380 Puffin safety crossing Install Puffin crossing on B4380 adjacent to the Coppice Development with consequent requirement stated above for 40mph limit.	Highways	Yes	This project has been added to the Place Plan
1370	Shrewsbury	Bicton	Expanded walking cycleway linking Bicton and Montford on Grange Bank B4380 -ideally separate from the road (long standing aspiration that was in last Place Plan as a Bicton PC project but useful to get highways view on viability of this.	Highways	No not appropriate for area at this time	Not possible to deliver this project due to physical constraints of the site
2026	Shrewsbury	Bicton	Speed limits of maximum of 30mph on Calcoltt, Shepherds, Isle and Bicton Lanes These country lanes, increasingly built around, largely lack footways so this is a safety measure. Partner SC.	Highways	No not appropriate for area at this time	Doesn't meet Department of Transport criteria for a reduced speed limit that can be enforced
2027	Shrewsbury	Bicton	Puffin Crossing and review of school safety at Bicton Primary School Long-standing safety issue on Bicton Lane of school pick up and set down parking on narrow road resistant to police and other attention including 20mph speed advisory. Agricultural vehicles use road and only access road to majority of village population. Needed to protect the safety of children entering or leaving the school's curtilage.	Highways	No not enough information	The review is still being undertaken with a Shropshire Council infrastructure department

2028	Shrewsbury	Bicton	Watercourse and water retention improvements in Bicton Parish - Range of projects some linked to NWRR development but others are stand alone issues 1. Review, after inspection, the state of watercourses and material ponds in Bicton parish, to optimise both water retention and drainage in extreme rain events. 2. Bicton brook is obstructed partially or completely in the 20m pipe that passes under the B4380 and water is backed up in the bed to the A5, and Welshpool Road. This is the drainage overflow for Oxon Pool and ponds west of the A5. The stream bed behind Bicton primary school is grossly overgrown, as it is from much of its length. Further review west of the A5 south of Preston Montford farm and down to the Severn is needed. This needs clearing. 3. Because of the NWRR and building on Welshpool Road, A larger conduit (say 5foot diameter) is needed under upper Preston Montford lane to drain water from swales and Welshpool developments. 4. Renovate historic village drove road pond adjacent to old churchyard and Severn Way. 5. Examine Preston Montford brook to reduce risk of flooding on Preston Montford Lane.	Flooding and Drainage	No not enough information	The review is still being undertaken with a Shropshire Council infrastructure department
Parish Email	Shrewsbury	Bicton	Create continuous quality cycleway separate from road from Bicton to Shelton water tower (and onwards) on B4380. (possible link to LCWIP work and NWRR development)	Highways	No not enough information	Shropshire Council is developing a Local Cycling and Walking Plan (LCWIP) which identifies network planning and improvement schemes to improve the cycling network in Shropshire. This project will be assessed as part of this plan, and if appropriate added to the Place Plan

From the meeting on 14th May I outlined that the two main projects Shropshire Council will look to prioritise in the next 12 months in Bicton are projects 1369 and 808

With project 808 WSP have now drawn up a detailed specification for the location of the proposed footpath between the Coppice and Clayton Way, and we are consulting with Wrekin Housing on the exact location the path will connect with the Coppice site. We'd then seek to get a costing for the project in the next few weeks, and look to secure the necessary funding for the project through IIG later in the year.

Project 1369 would go through a similar feasibility study with WSP in the next few months, who will then draw up some plans for what is physically possible in terms of traffic calming and department of transport guidance on that stretch of road. Once we have some more specific details of the potential of that site we'll share that with Bicton Parish Council.