

Chearsley Village

HGV Surveys 2016 Summary Report

Friday 10th June
Thursday 7th July
Friday 25th November

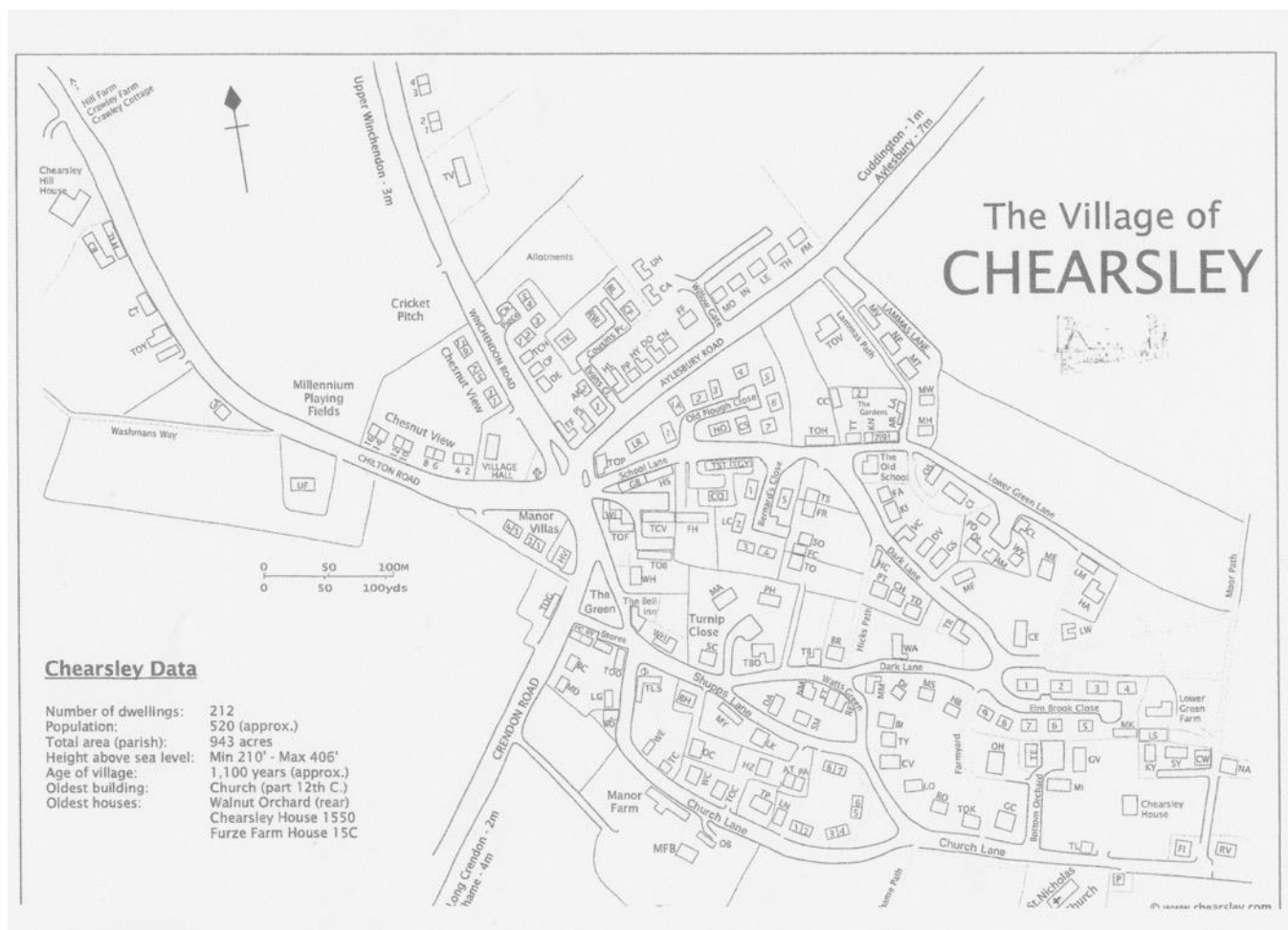


Rev. December 2016

1. Background:

In co-operation with Bucks County Council (Paul Irwin) and the villages of Ashendon, Cuddington and Westcott, monitoring of HGVs entering and exiting Chearsley was carried out on Friday 10th June and Thursday 7th July. In addition, Chearsley undertook an additional survey on Friday 25th November to monitor any changes resulting from the closure of the road through Ashendon/Westcott during that month.

Registration of HGVs was carried out at the main entry points to the village on the four approach roads to the village - Aylesbury Road, Chilton Road, Crendon Road and Winchendon Road - between 8.00 and 16.00 hours.



A record of all HGVs entering the village was compiled, except for buses, bin lorries and farm equipment. Any smaller delivery lorries or vans were also excluded.

2. Summary of findings:

In the June and July surveys, over 100 HGVs of various types entered Chearsley Village between the hours of 8.00 – 16.00. Numbers fell back slightly in the November survey to just below the 100 mark.

In all three surveys, by far the largest traffic flows occurred with HGVs entering and exiting the village from the Winchendon and Crendon Roads – in the June and November surveys the proportion was above 85%.

A clear majority of the HGVs entering the village via the Winchendon Road exited via Crendon Road and vice versa. The HGV numbers using the Aylesbury and Chilton Roads was very small by comparison. The figures below show the individual totals for the four approach roads into Chearsley village:

No. of HGVs entering the village:

	10 th Jun	7 th Jul	25 th Nov
Via Aylesbury Road	13	10	11
Via Winchendon Road	42	47	32
Via Chilton Road	12	5	2
Via Crendon Road	53	48	51
Total	120	110	96

A wide range of hauliers and delivery companies were recorded but a lot of vehicles bore no indication of their commercial owners. The most frequently observed haulier was Bucks Recycling and all their vehicles entered the village via Winchendon or Crendon Road.

No. of 'Bucks Recycling' lorries entering the village:

	10 th Jun	7 th Jul	25 th Nov
	23	15	14



The large numbers of HGVs using the Crendon and Winchendon Roads in all three surveys are clear evidence that these roads are being used as a 'rat run' by a significant number of haulage operators.

3. Other observations:

3.1 HGV Driver Behaviour

The 'triangle' of roads around the Chestnut Tree in the village, formed by Aylesbury Road, Winchendon Road and a slip road joining Aylesbury and Winchendon Road caused a particular issue for larger HGVs in attempting to turn around the sharp corners involved – the damage to the kerb sides caused during the wet weather of last winter is still in evidence. The narrowness of the Winchendon Road and the slip road, which allow travel in both directions, effectively brought traffic to a standstill when HGVs were turning onto up the Winchendon Road.





The reckless and inconsiderate behaviour of a significant number of HGV drivers remains a matter of concern.

3.2 Collection and delivery of schoolchildren during rush hours

During the rush hours, both in the morning and afternoon, heavy traffic through the village coincides with the arrival of school buses as parents deliver and collect their children. The result is a chaotic situation around the bus stops at the top of the village, fraught with potential danger. This matter must also be given urgent attention.



3.3 Speeding

Although the purpose of the recent exercise was to monitor the flow of HGVs through the village, it was impossible to ignore the extremely heavy traffic flows involving all vehicles in both directions along the Winchendon and Crendon Road. Traffic flows between 100 and 250 vehicles per hour were observed according to the time of day.

The speed at which many vehicles enter the village, especially on the Aylesbury Road and Crendon Road, where no crossing exists to bring vehicles to a halt, remains a major concern and a full range of further traffic calming measures should be investigated as a matter of urgency.

John Howard
on behalf of Chearsley PC

December 2016