To: letters, Oxford Mail

From: Hazel and Steve Dawe, COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP – [www.catg.org.uk](http://www.catg.org.uk)

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Dear Editor,

**RIGHT OF REPLY**

We agree with Jolene Sims (Oxford Mail, 31 July) that there has not been enough consultation with Temple Cowley residents on a Low Traffic Neighbourhood(LTN). However, that is because government-imposed speed on this process. But Cowley Marsh local councillors have been consulting the public, including a street stall outside the Library in Temple Road.

That 80% of the public are supporting more bus gates is not surprising (Oxford Mail, 8 August). Our experience with work on LTNs is that, once people understand the proposals, support for change is overwhelming. We do understand the impacts of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods(LTNs). We have visited the Waltham Forest Low Traffic Neighbourhoods on more than one occasion and attended talks at Oxford Town Hall on Waltham Forest. We have attended consultation events regarding the Florence Park Low Traffic Neighbourhood proposals. And, we have worked on street stalls in the Church Cowley area talking to the public about their LTN proposals, and have attended the Oxfordshire Liveable Streets exhibition of all of the LTN plans held recently.

The evidence from Waltham Forest and other locations which have introduced LTNs is that they reduce traffic by encouraging people to walk and cycle for journeys where they currently use a car. Roads with modal filters are clearly signed as cul de sacs so that U turns should not be necessary. As for discrimination against car users, walking and cycling have never received the financial support from local councils or the Government which they deserve given the health benefits.

The traffic at St Christopher’s School is an ongoing problem for Temple Cowley residents. Consultations will no doubt continue on this and other topics.

yours faithfully

Steve and Hazel Dawe

**COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP**