To: letters at Oxford Times

From: Hazel and Steve Dawe, Cowley Area Transport Group – [www.catg.org.uk](http://www.catg.org.uk)

53 Bulan Road Oxford OX3 7HU – 07747 036192 – 4th July 2021

Dear Editor,

An excellent letter from Tom Sinclair (*Oxford Times,* 1st July 2021), illustrates problems in the debate on Low Traffic Neighbourhoods(LTNs) and the necessity of having LTNs to reclaim roads and pavements for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility scooters. It also follows that fewer cars will mean buses will become more reliable.

We are concerned that discussion on LTNs does not appear to recognise how many LTNs already existed before the current controversy. LTNs are not a novelty since forms of constraining car movements include cul-de-sacs; the speed bumps on Magdalen Road and Bulan Road; very narrow roads that do not permit traffic movement in central Oxford and elsewhere; the barrier in Phipps Road and the play street in Saunders Road/Reliance Way; bollards such as those at the Oxford Road end of Clive Road; the pedestrianised and pedestrian priority areas nearby; partial pedestrianisation of George Street and Broad Street; denial of through access in a substantial area in the City under University and College control; a large area of Wood Farm which has a concentration of cul de sacs. In short, the process of traffic reduction measures comparable to current LTNs goes back a considerable period of time.

We have not been aware of people complaining about the numerous traffic reduction measures which already exist in Oxford. What has changed is that people who would normally use buses, and trains, for journeys within the City, and to commute into the City, are using cars. Until we return to pre-pandemic levels of public transport use, car use will be substantial everywhere in Oxford. Bear in mind also we have far more online delivery vehicles. We need a Low Traffic Oxford as quickly as possible. Both County and City Councils should prioritise action for LTNs on Climate, air pollution and health grounds.

Yours sincerely,

Hazel and Steve Dawe

COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP – [www.catg.org.uk](http://www.catg.org.uk)