

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 11 FEBRUARY 2016

PROPOSED RAISED ZEBRA CROSSING – OXFORD HILL, WITNEY

Report by Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report considers objections received as a result of a formal consultation on a proposal to introduce a raised zebra crossing in place of an existing 'standard' zebra in Oxford Hill, Witney. This proposal was initially considered by the Cabinet Member for Environment on 8 October 2015. A copy of that report is attached at Annex 1.

Background

2. At the October 2015 meeting a decision regarding alteration of the crossing was deferred to consider further the justification for the works which was not considered to be sufficiently clear, including the appropriateness of the use of a raised feature on a main route into Witney town centre.

Response to deferral

3. The proposed raised zebra crossing is a modification to a crossing which has been in place since 2003. Automatic traffic surveys carried out in 2011 and in 2015 in the general area of the crossing show that 85th percentile speeds are above 33mph, which is close to that recommended for a zebra crossing. During the planning process, discussions between the developer of the adjacent housing site and District and County Council officers concluded that a signalled crossing would not be appropriate for this location but in the light of the survey information, some means to reduce traffic speeds would be highly desirable. Records show that there have been four reported road traffic accidents within the last 10 years at the site one of which was in the last 5 years.
4. With regard to the question of the appropriateness of a raised feature on a main route into the town centre (Oxford Hill is a B road) it should be noted that similar treatments are already in place on the A4095 through Long Hanborough, a road with very similar traffic flows, where raised signalled crossings and a raised zebra crossing have been provided. Furthermore, as noted in the October report, in response to objections from Stagecoach the design of the proposed feature has been modified to make it more 'bus-friendly'.

Conclusion

5. In the light of the additional information regarding traffic speed in the vicinity of the proposed raised crossing, and the successful application of similar treatments in other locations across the County, it is recommended that the raised crossing be approved for construction.

How the Project supports LTP4 Goals

6. The proposals described in this report would help to reduce the risk of accidents and improve public health, safety and individual wellbeing.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

7. Full funding for the proposal has been secured from the local developer undertaking the adjacent works. The appraisal of the proposals and consultation has been undertaken by officers as part of their normal duties.

RECOMMENDATION

8. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the implementation of proposal as advertised and described in the report.**

MARK KEMP

Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Speed surveys
 Planning consent

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