

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

WHEATLEY – STATION ROAD - PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING

Report by Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Introduction

1. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on a proposal to provide a zebra crossing on Station Road north of its junction with Farm Close Road.

Background

2. The above proposals as shown at Annex 1 have been put forward as a result of a residential development on the west side of Station Road.

Consultation

3. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 8 August and 7 September 2018. A public notice was placed in the Oxford Times newspaper, and sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, South Oxfordshire District Council and Wheatley Parish Council and the local County Councillor. Street notices were also placed in the vicinity of the proposed crossing location.
4. Eleven responses were received, all from members of the public. Seven expressions of support, three objections and one response expressing neither support or objection. The responses are summarised at Annex 2 with copies of the full responses available for inspection by County Councillors if requested.

Response to objections and other comments

5. The three objections included expressions of concern that the crossing was not in the correct location stating that a site further north would be preferable. Concerns were also raised that it would present a hazard and increase difficulties for traffic progressing along Station Road, also those turning at nearby junctions and that its proximity to parking by the Co-op store would result in a hazard to those using the crossing.
6. Although the above concerns are noted, it is not considered viable to amend its siting taking account of the site constraints in the area and also noting that the crossing is being provided through the development of adjacent land and that the current positioning reflects the likely desire line of the occupants of

this development. The design of the crossing has been safety audited, including consideration of its location in respect of side road junctions and adjacent accesses and parking for the Co-op store.

7. The expressions of support for the proposed crossing are noted.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

8. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

9. Funding for the proposed zebra crossing has been provided by the developer of adjacent land.

RECOMMENDATION

10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve proposals to provide a zebra crossing on Station Road north of its junction with Farm Close Road as advertised.**

OWEN JENKINS
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Background papers: Plan of proposed zebra crossing
 Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704

September 2018

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	<p>Object - The zebra crossing would be better suited at the bottom of Station road where it is very difficult for parents and young children especially, to cross the road with 4 directions of traffic flow.</p> <p>The zebra crossing being placed in your proposed position would also create a hazard due to the number of vehicles parking on the yellow lines on both sides of the road to use the Coop. By putting a zebra crossing here will mean pedestrians having to enter the road in to oncoming traffic from behind or in front of parked cars not allowing enough visibility of traffic especially considering the speed at which some vehicles travel on that road it is an accident/death waiting to happen. No amount of double yellow lines will stop cars from parking there due to the sheer convenience of its placement.</p>
(2) Local Resident, (wheatley)	<p>Object - Support that a Zebra crossing is needed on Station Road - however this is the wrong position. It is needed further down the road near the High street - suggest nearing fish and chip shop, to safely allow pedestrians particularly schoolchildren to cross the road.</p>
(3) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	<p>Object - I object to this crossing due to the impact on the traffic coming up and going down Ladder Hill and to the traffic coming out of Farm Close Road. As someone who uses that road frequently there is not the need for a zebra crossing there.</p>
(4) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	<p>Support - I fully support this as it will also help slow down traffic</p>
(5) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	<p>Support - <i>No comment</i></p>

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(6) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	Support - I also strongly believe that Ladder Hill should all be a 20mph zone, to discourage speeding.
(7) Local Resident, (Oxford)	Support - <i>No comment</i>
(8) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	<p>Support - As a mother of 2 young children I find the lack of crossings (and narrow pavements) make it difficult to safely get around Wheatley with my children on foot. This crossing is on the route we sometimes take home from the children's primary school and I do not feel particularly comfortable crossing with them here currently, the proposed crossing would definitely be an improvement.</p> <p>The markings preventing cars from parking in the immediate vicinity of the crossing would also be a benefit. Frequently cars and vans park on the road here while their owners visit the co-op. When vehicles are parked on this stretch the visibility for cars trying to turn right out of farm close road is very poor- it makes it impossible to see whether traffic is coming up the hill (which it frequently is). For both reasons I would welcome this crossing. I'd also like to see crossings in other locations around Wheatley and some of the stretches of pavement widened (particularly at the bottom of station road and along the high street). As a parent it's quite unnerving walking with young children on a narrow stretch of pavement where it would only take a small trip or moment of distraction for them to stumble straight into the path of oncoming traffic. I imagine this could also be an issue for the residents of the development, as I understand they will be for older people therefore potentially less mobile/ steady on their feet.</p>
(9) Local Resident, (Little Milton)	Support - <i>No comment</i>
(10) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	Support - At long last, this proposal will significantly improve the safety of those of us who live on Ladder Hill.
(11) Local Resident, (Wheatley)	<p>Neither - I would think it far more beneficial if it could be located nearer the alley from Farm Close Road. Pedestrians going to/from the primary school would be more likely to use the crossing if it was further north.</p> <p>Also, the pavement on the west side (other side from co-op) is very narrow down to the High Street, so it would be</p>

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	<p>harder/unpleasant for families with prams/pushchairs. In my experience, they stay on the Co-op side of the road almost to the end of Station Road - perhaps that is where a crossing would be most beneficial.</p> <p>I suppose the consequence of putting one nearer the High Street is that more traffic might be tempted to nip through Bell Lane.</p> <p>However, anything to help slow traffic down is a good thing.</p>
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