

Divisions affected: *Banbury Ruscote*

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

18 JULY 2024

BANBURY: DOVER AVENUE - PROPOSED SHARED FOOTWAY & CYCLEWAY

Report by Director of Environment and Highways

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is **RECOMMENDED** to:

- a) **Approve the shared-use foot & cycleway on Dover Avenue in Banbury, as advertised.**

Executive Summary

1. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on the proposal to construct a new Shared-use foot & cycleway on the southern side of the access to properties Nos.25-37 – from its junction with Dover Avenue, westwards towards & linking to the ‘Withycombe Farm’ residential development, as shown in **Annexes 1**.
2. The proposals – which also include a pedestrian guardrail feature at the eastern end at its junction with Dover Avenue, and a central bollard at the western end where it links to the new development (details will be determined as part of the final design process should approval be given) – have been put forward in order to help improve pedal cyclist safety in the area.
3. At the ‘pre-app’ planning stage, the link connecting the north east of the development to Dover Avenue was designed to be one of the primary pedestrian and cycle access points, with the benefit of the site being surrounded by an extensive Public Right Of Way (PRoW) network.
4. It was also deemed essential that all connections to the existing PRoW network were of a suitable quality for use by all pedestrians and cyclists, with high quality connections that abruptly terminate at a poor quality PRoW not to be a feature of the site. Rather the development was expected to provide high quality cycling links to the nearest safe cycling facilities.

Financial Implications

5. Funding for consultation on the proposals (and implementation if approved) has been provided by the developers.

Legal Implications

6. No legal implications have been identified in respect of these proposals.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

7. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

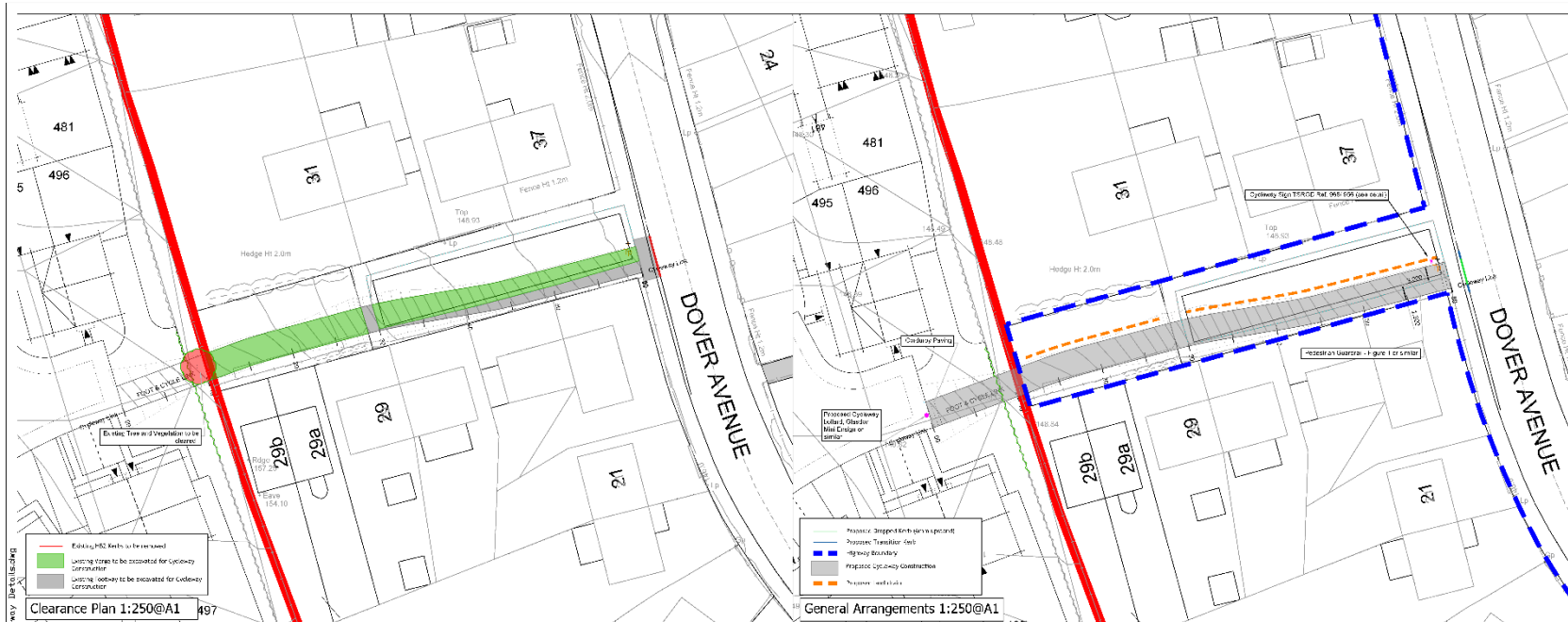
8. The proposals would help to help improve pedal cyclist safety, and also help encourage the use of sustainable transport modes in the area.

Formal Consultation

9. A formal consultation was carried out between 03 May and 31 May 2024. An email was sent to statutory consultees & key-stakeholders, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport/access & disabled peoples user groups, Cherwell District Council, local District Cllr's, Banbury Town Council, Drayton Parish Council, and the local County Councillors representing the Banbury Ruscote, and the Wroxton & Hook Norton divisions.
10. A letter was also sent directly to approx. 55 properties in the area, and street notices were placed on site in the immediate vicinity adjacent to the proposed changes.
11. Nine responses were received during the course of the formal consultation, comprising of four objections, one partially supporting, one in support, and three non-objections.
12. The responses are shown at **Annex 2** and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Officer Response to Objections/Concerns

13. Thames Valley Police expressed no objections to the proposals as advertised.



1. This drawing is a technical drawing and is not to be used for any other purpose.

2. The client is responsible for the accuracy of the information provided.

3. The contractor is responsible for the accuracy of the information provided.

4. The contractor is responsible for the accuracy of the information provided.

5. The contractor is responsible for the accuracy of the information provided.

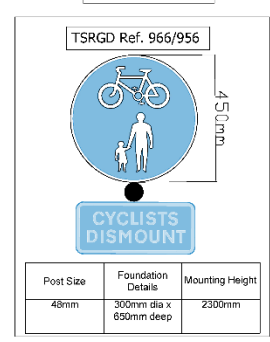
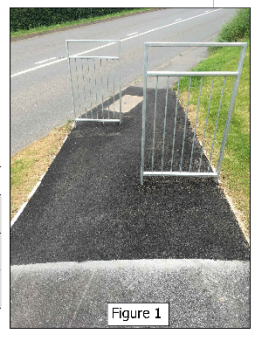
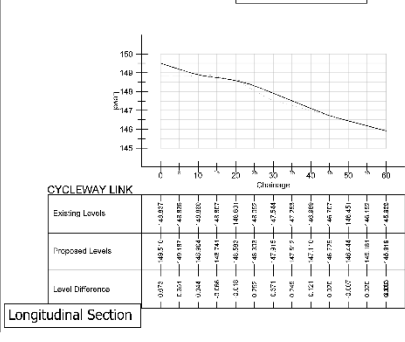
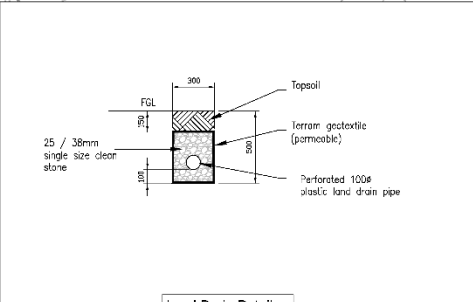
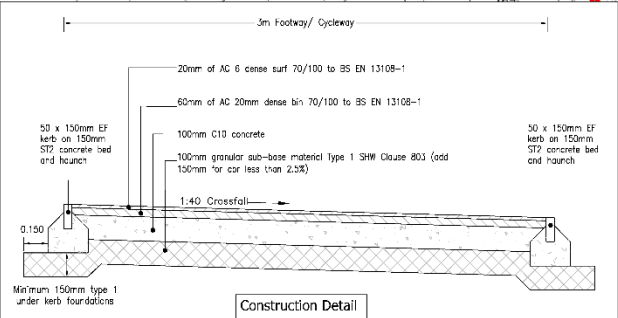
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| Rev. | Description | By | Date |
|------|------------------------|----|----------|
| A | Issue for construction | RB | 15/03/24 |

APPROVAL

Withycombe Farm
Banbury
Oxfordshire

Footway/Cycleway Link

DATE: 15.03.24
SCALE:
DRAWN: RB
CHECKED: JB

BLOOR HOMES

Drawing No: WE102-EN-108A

ANNEX 2

| RESPONDENT | COMMENTS |
|--|--|
| (1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police) | No objection |
| (2) County Cllr, (Banbury Ruscote division) | Support – as local member i would support the increase cycle provision as long as it's safe. |
| (3) Head of Built Environment and Infrastructure, (Oxford Bus & Thames Travel) | No objection – No comments from us – this is off the carriageway. I actually urged that ped and cycle connectivity from the development towards the B5 bus route was maximised and this is part of that strategy. |
| (4) Cherwell District Council, (Communities Directorate) | No objection – I would confirm that the planning department have no comments or objections |
| (5) Local resident, (Banbury, Dover Avenue) | Object – with regard to your arbitrary decision to make the footpath outside my home into a cycle path. This will impact my self my wife who are both 80 ,my neighbours who are in their late 70s ,this is an accident waiting to happen. There is access to this development in the next cul-de-sac which has always been there as it is a public footpath. What we need is hard standing for parking instead of this green and not a cycle path, the creation of which will impact greatly on the residents ,but not faceless planners sat in an office 25 miles away. We strongly object. |
| (6) Local resident, (Banbury, Dover Avenue) | Object – the proposal shows the access will front my property as well as the 6 properties wholly owned by the private residents. this access should be routed the other side of the grassed area fronting the housing association properties. what is the guarantee that this access will not become access for motor cycles. parking is already a problem for us residents. this proposal will only exacerbate that problem. |
| (7) Local resident, (Banbury, Dover Avenue) | Object – There is already pedestrian and cycle access less than 50 metres away onto this development, in dover avenue running via Nos 39-45 dover avenue. |

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|--|--|
| <p>(8) Local resident, (Banbury, Dover Avenue)</p> | <p>Object – Safety of residents stepping from their front gardens on to mixed use path and danger of cyclists hitting pedestrians. Proximity of path directly in front of residential properties.</p> |
| <p>(9) Local group/organisation, (Banbury Civic Society)</p> | <p>Partially support – Is it really such an inconvenience for cyclists to dis-mount and walk the length of this link in order to ensure that pedestrians, especially young children, are not put in harms way ? Also is it really necessary to fell established trees to achieve this end ?</p> <p>The subsoil hereabouts is dense clay and one can easily find examples in the Banbury area of footpath surface damage due to subsoil shrinkage and swelling - a movement membrane should be inserted under the concrete slab to accommodate such movement or the path will very soon break-up - see paths around Crouch Hill.</p> |