

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT – 5 JANUARY 2012

YARNTON RUTTEN LANE ZEBRA CROSSING

Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Highways & Transport)

Introduction

1. This report details the results of a public consultation on a proposal to install a zebra crossing on Rutten Lane, Yarnton approximately 25 metres north of its junction with Bartholomew Close and recommends approval. A reduced scale plan showing the proposed location and layout of the crossing is attached at Annex 1.

Background

2. Numerous requests have been received from local residents and parents of children at Yarnton Primary School for improvements to crossing facilities along Rutten Lane and part funding for this has been negotiated as part of a nearby development.
3. The proposed facility will improve the crossing arrangements for pedestrians accessing not only the primary school but also the nearby nursing home.

Consultation

4. Public consultation on the proposed zebra crossing was undertaken between 31 October and 28 November 2011.
5. Consultation was carried out with emergency services, local county councillors, Cherwell District Council, Yarnton Parish Council and road user groups. Residents within the length of the crossing area were also consulted. Copies of the public notice were posted on street furniture in the vicinity of the proposed crossing.
6. Yarnton Parish Council have verbally expressed that they are happy with the proposal and have no objection.
7. Oxfordshire Unlimited do not object to the siting of the crossing but have requested that adjacent footways are wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair user or a blind person with guide dog.
8. One further response has been received from a resident of Rutten Lane objecting to the location of the crossing suggesting it should be where an existing pedestrian entrance to the primary school exists some 20 metres south of the proposed site. They have also expressed concern over any additional lighting that might be required.

Officer Comment on Consultation Responses

9. Where site conditions and highway limits permit adjacent footways will be improved. In particular the footway to the west, between the primary school and the nursing home, will be widened.
10. Crossing points directly in line with an adjoining pedestrian route are not recommended as users, particularly children of primary school age in this instance, could run straight out into the carriageway. The location of this crossing has also been chosen as it will also serve pedestrians accessing the nursing home as well as the school. The crossing will require two additional street lighting columns. However, these will be combined with the belisha beacon assemblies which, in turn, will have hoods fitted to concentrate illumination on the highway and help minimise impact on nearby properties.
11. A summary of responses received along with officer comments is included at Annex 2.

How the Project Supports LTP3 Objectives

12. The project meets Local Transport Plan 3 objectives, especially:
 - (a) Improving accessibility to work, education and services.
 - (b) Securing infrastructure and services to support development.
 - (c) Developing and increasing cycling and walking for local journeys, recreation and health.

Equality and Inclusion

13. The scheme proposals are not considered to have the potential to affect people differently according to their gender, race, religion or belief or sexual orientation, age or disability.
14. However, during the detailed design process liaison will continue with local inclusive mobility and access groups in order to offer the most advantageous final design for all users.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

15. The total budget for the project is £20,000, with £10,000 having been negotiated from developer contributions and a further £10,000 from the Integrated Transport Block Fund. Staff from the Highways and Transport Service will deliver the project.

RECOMMENDATION

17. **The Cabinet Member for Transport is RECOMMENDED to:**
- (a) approve the scheme for delivery in 2012; and**
 - (b) delegate authority to the Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Highways and Transport) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport to deal with any specific matters relating to detailed design.**

STEVE HOWELL

Deputy Director for Environment & Economy – Highways & Transport

Background papers: Consultation Documentation

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December 2011

Summary of comments received during Consultation

Respondent	Support proposal	Comments	Officer Comments
Resident, Rutten Lane	N	<p>Crossing should be located at the existing pedestrian access to the primary school</p> <p>Concerns were expressed at any additional lighting (lots had gone in at the access road to the nearby nursing home).</p> <p>Frontagers to the crossing park vehicles on their front gardens.</p>	<p>Crossing points directly in line with the adjoining pedestrian route could lead to children of primary school age running straight out into the carriageway.</p> <p>Two combined street lighting columns/belisha beacon assemblies will be required. Hoods will be fitted to restrict illumination to the highway and minimise impact on nearby properties.</p> <p>This activity occurs but most do not have legal access via dropped kerbs.</p>
Oxfordshire Unlimited	Y	No objection to the crossing but request that adjacent footways are wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair user or a blind person with guide dog.	Agree. The footway to the west, between the primary school and the nursing home, will be widened.