Division(s): Hanneys & Hendred

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – 14 FEBRUARY 2013

PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING, PACKHORSE LANE, MARCHAM

Report by Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to consider objections/comments received following consultation on and formal advertisement of a proposed zebra crossing on Packhorse Lane, Marcham. The detail of the crossing is shown at Annex 1 and the location at Annex 2.

Background

- 2. County Councillor lain Brown proposes to use the Area Stewardship Fund in order to implement a zebra crossing on Packhorse lane, just east of its crossroads junction with North Street & Mill Road.
- 3. The site of the proposed zebra crossing is on the existing pedestrian desire line across Packhorse Lane (A415). There is no footway along the west side of North Street or along the west side of Mill Road in the vicinity of the crossroads junction. This is why pedestrians tend to cross the A415 on the east side.
- 4. Residents from Mill Road and south of the A415 cross here to access the village shop, post office, school and bus stops for Abingdon and Oxford. Residents from North Street and north of the A415 cross here to access the rural right of way network south of the village.

Consultation

- 5. Formal consultation was carried out between 12 December 2012 and 4 January 2013. The proposals were advertised formally in the local press and notices posted on site. Copies of the notice and plan were emailed to all statutory consultees and posted to affected frontagers.
- 6. Three letters and four emails from local residents and the Parish Council together with a letter and report from Thames Valley Police all containing objections/comments have been received. A summary of these together with an officer response is set out at Annex 3 with copies available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.

Objections and concerns

- 7. The main concerns of Thames Valley Police and other respondents centre on the visibility of the new crossing for drivers heading west along the A415. It is accepted that this is below recommended standards but in this location it is mitigated by the close proximity of the narrow bends which naturally reduce traffic speeds. In addition, a permanent illuminated 'zebra crossing ahead' warning sign visible through the bends and two sets of maximum length zigzag lines extending back from the crossing to the bends will highlight the crossing to drivers.
- 8. Some respondents have suggested that the crossing should be located to the west of the proposed location to improve its visibility to westbound drivers. This is not considered an appropriate location as it is remote from the pedestrian desire line and may be unused as a result.

How the Project supports LTP3 Objectives

9. Implementation of the zebra crossing will improve walking facilities and promote road safety.

Financial Implications

- 10. The cost of implementing the zebra crossing will be met from County Councillor lain Brown's Area Stewardship Fund allocation.
- 11. Design and consultation has been undertaken by officers from Environment and Economy as part of their normal duties.

RECOMMENDATION

12. The Deputy Leader of the Council is RECOMMENDED to authorise the implementation of a zebra crossing on Packhorse Lane, Marcham as advertised.

MARK KEMP

Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial & Delivery)

Background papers: Consultation documentation

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January 2013



