

## **Blackhorse Lane to Clyst Honiton: Cycle Link**

Report of the Head of Highways and Traffic Management

***Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.***

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that:

- (a) the scheme shown on attached plan no. C11014/6 for a footway/cycleway link along the C832 (the former A30) from Blackhorse Lane to Clyst Honiton be approved at an estimated cost of £78,000;**
- (b) approval in principle be given, at an indicative cost of £200,000, for the scheme shown diagrammatically on attached plan no. C11014/7 to continue the footway/cycleway eastwards to link up with the footway/cycleway to be constructed as part of the Clyst Honiton by-pass proposals.**

### **1. Summary**

This report seeks approval to a package of works to complete further sections of a walking and cycling route from Exeter, via the new Redhayes Bridge over the M5 motorway, to Clyst Honiton and the new community at Cranbrook.

### **2. Background/Introduction**

Members will be aware of the major developments and employment opportunities planned and under construction to the east of Exeter, including the Science Park, Skypark, the Monkerton development, the new East Devon community at Cranbrook, the proposed intermodal freight terminal and future expansion of the airport and the associated business park. Accommodating this level of future development and ensuring the transport system can cope with the increased demand likely to be generated will be a major challenge. With limited options for expanding the highway network, the level of private car usage will need to be managed and greater use made of sustainable travel options, including walking and cycling.

In recognition of these future pressures, a programme of major infrastructure improvements east of Exeter was approved by Cabinet on 10 March 2010 (report EEC/10/47/HQ refers). These works, largely funded by the Department for Transport, include the widening of the C832 (the former A30) from Clyst Honiton to the proposed new junction serving Cranbrook. When these works are complete, together with the developer-funded Clyst Honiton by-pass, they will provide a continuous off-road footway/cycleway from Clyst Honiton to Cranbrook. There will, however, still remain a 'missing link' between the C832/Blackhorse Lane junction and the northern end of the Clyst Honiton by-pass.

The two schemes proposed in this report will complete this 'missing link' by providing a safe off-road route from the Blackhorse Lane junction to Clyst Honiton, and from Clyst Honiton to the northern end of the by-pass. A spur from this route will also connect Clyst Honiton to the Airport and the Business Park, and this further section is the subject of a separate report to this Committee (report HTM/11/23 refers).

### **3. Proposals**

Attached plan no. C11014/6 shows the proposals for the Blackhorse Lane to Clyst Honiton scheme, which involves the construction of a 3.0m shared use footway/cycleway (narrowing to 2.5m on the bridge) on the northern side of the C832 from the Blackhorse Lane junction to a proposed new crossing point with central refuge in the vicinity of the existing lay-by. The shared use path will continue on the southern side of the road as far as the Clyst Honiton junction.

Also recommended for approval (in principle) is a further section of footway/cycleway to continue the route eastwards to link up with the Clyst Honiton by-pass proposals. Attached plan no. C11014/7 refers. The detailed design and costing of this section has yet to be completed and a further report will be brought to this Committee in due course.

### **4. Financial Considerations**

The estimated cost of the Blackhorse Lane to Clyst Honiton scheme is £78,000, and funding has been identified in the 2011/12 Local Transport Plan Exeter Foundation Walking and Cycling programme.

Possible options for funding for the further stage of the scheme will be investigated, including potential S106 developer contributions. The indicative cost of this stage is expected to be in the order of £200,000.

### **5. Sustainability Considerations**

The provision of improved walking and cycling routes, helping to reduce dependence on private car use, is a key element in the County Council's sustainable transport policy.

### **6. Carbon Impact Considerations**

The proposals should have a positive impact by encouraging walking and cycling and reducing levels of car use.

### **7. Equality Considerations**

No new policies are being recommended in this report and therefore an Equality Impact and Needs Assessment are not considered necessary.

### **8. Legal Considerations**

The lawful implications/consequences of the proposals have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

### **9. Risk Management Considerations**

This proposal has been assessed and all necessary safeguards or actions have been taken to safeguard the Council's position.

## 10. Options/Alternatives Investigated

As an alternative to the central refuge crossing point recommended in this report, the option of a signal controlled 'toucan' crossing was also investigated. However, the safety audit response commented that this could have the effect of introducing 'shunt' type vehicle accidents and was rejected for that reason. It is considered that with the relatively low traffic flows currently using this route, the central refuge crossing point will provide a satisfactory alternative to a signal controlled crossing, but the situation will be kept under review in the future.

## 11. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The proposed measures will help to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists using this route, including children attending Clyst Honiton Primary School, and will help to encourage more local journeys to be made by sustainable means.

Lester Willmington  
Head of Highways and Traffic Management

## Electoral Division: Broadclyst & Whimble

### Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

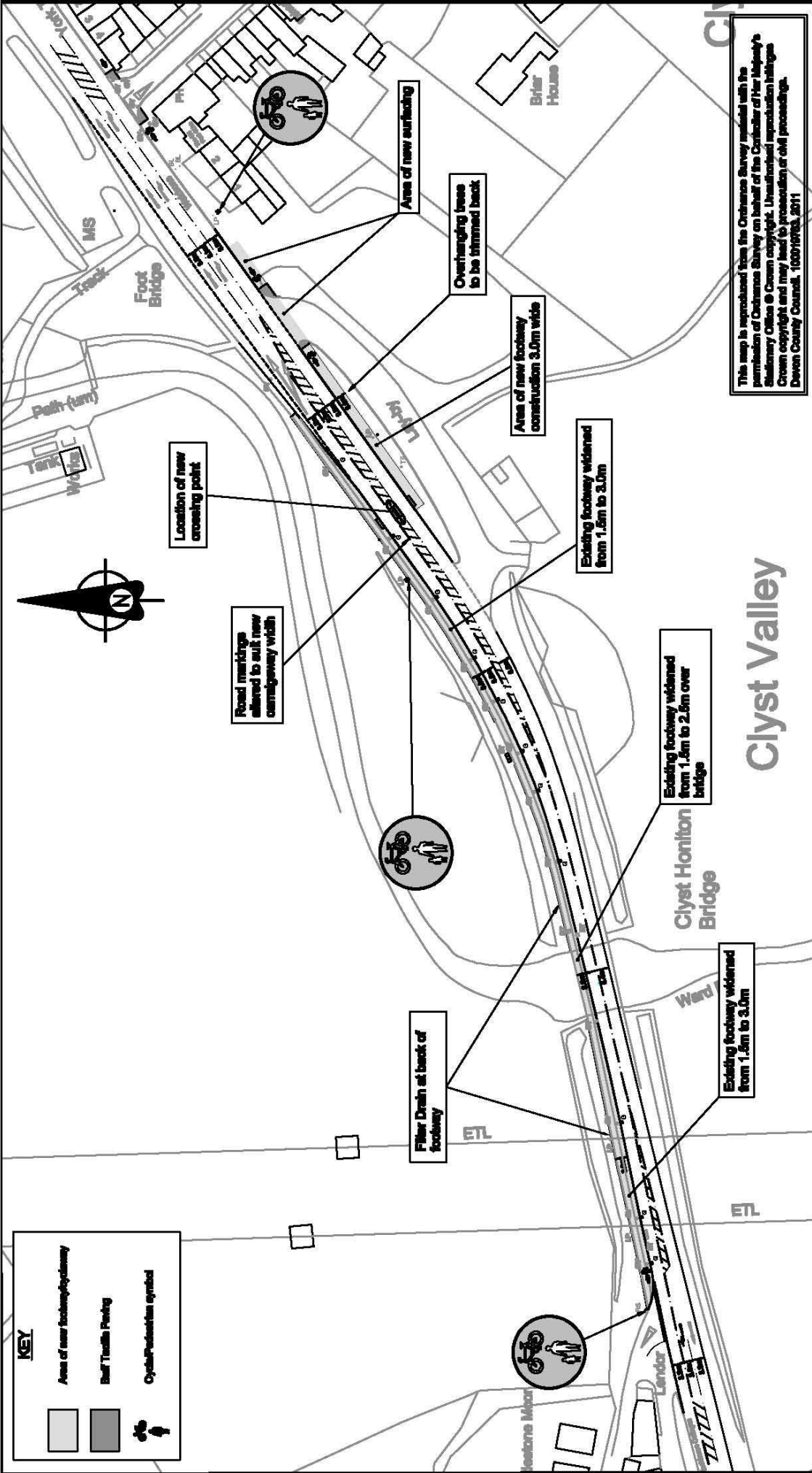
Contact for enquiries: Richard Oldfield

Room No. AB1

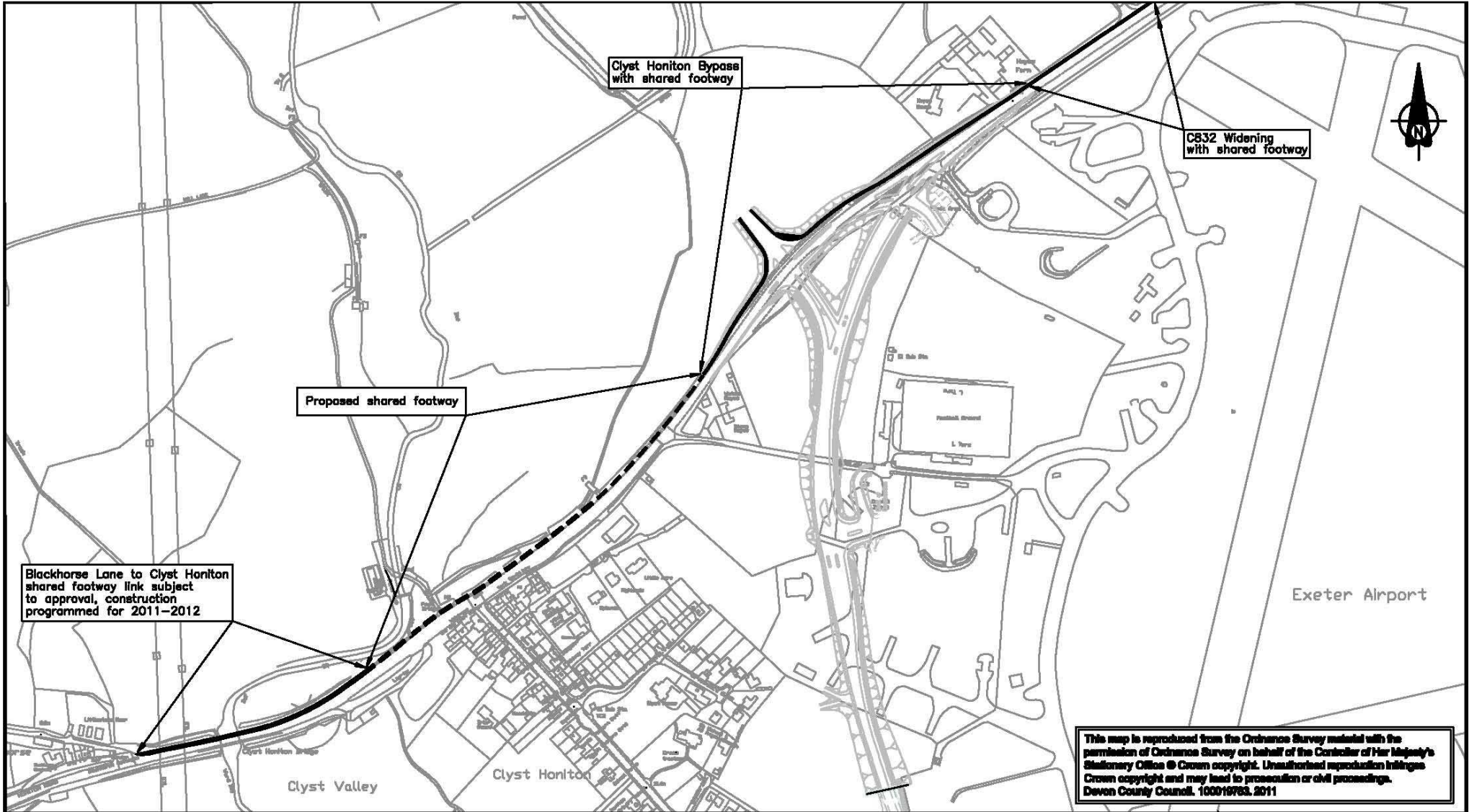
Tel No: (01392) 382118

Background Paper	Date	File Reference
None		

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sc/cr/Blackhorse lane to clyst Honiton cycle link  
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	<b>Engineering Design Group</b>	Cabinet JAH/MS/JMP/SPD	
		<b>BLACKHORSE LANE TO CLYST HONITON CYCLE LINK</b>	
<b>Engineering Design Group</b>		date DD	ref NTS
number <b>C11014/6</b>		ACAD Ref	



	<b>Engineering Design Group</b>	<b>Cabinet</b> Job/Title/responsibility	<b>C832 CLYST HONITON TO WATERSLADE LANE CYCLE LINK</b>		<b>date</b> 11-10-2011	<b>scale</b> NTS
					<b>number</b> C11014/7	