PTE/14/47

East Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee 20 June 2014

Exeter to Broadclyst Cycle Route – proposed toucan crossing and connecting shared use footway/cycleway

Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

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

Recommendation: It is recommended that:

- (a) procedures be commenced to seek planning consent for the scheme shown in outline on attached plan no. GC 12011/7;
- (b) formal negotiations be commenced to secure agreement for the land required; and
- (c) the scheme be approved for construction, at an estimated cost of £128,000, subject to the completion of the land and planning procedures.

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek formal approval for a proposed toucan crossing and connecting shared use footway/cycleway at Dog Village, Broadclyst.

2. Background/Introduction

One of the key objectives in the developing cycle strategy for Exeter is the provision of new and improved cycle links to the surrounding communities. One such link is the Pinhoe to Broadclyst cycle route, which is being implemented as a phased programme over a number of years. The subject of this report is a signalised crossing of the B3181 at Broadclyst and link through to Station Road, which will provide improved access to the village for cyclists and pedestrians (including school children boarding or alighting from buses in the northbound direction on the B3181). The link would also better connect the community of Broadclyst to leisure cycle routes to Killerton.

3. Proposals

The draft scheme proposals are shown on attached plan GC 12011/7 and include the provision of a toucan crossing of the B3181 with a connecting shared use cycle path through the adjacent land, in the ownership of the National Trust. Planning consent and land owner agreement for this new link will be required.

The County Council is also progressing a scheme, in discussion with the Broadclyst Traffic Group, the Community College and local County Councillor, to improve the route for pedestrians between the southern end of the orchard link through to Clyst Vale Community College. Design investigations are ongoing and will be reported at a future HATOC meeting.

4. Consultations

Consultation has been undertaken with various parties including the local Member, the Community College, the National Trust, local residents, the Parish Council and the Broadclyst Traffic Group. Responses to the proposals have been positive. Further consultation will follow as part of the formal planning consent procedures.

5. Financial Considerations

Financial provision to progress the scheme at a provisionally estimated cost of £128,000 has been made in the Investing in Devon programme for 2014/15.

6. Sustainability Considerations

The proposals will have a positive impact by encouraging more people to walk and cycle. It will also improve safer access across the B3181 for people boarding or alighting from the bus in the northbound direction. The provision of improved walking and cycling routes helps to reduce dependence on private car use and is a key element of the County Council's sustainable transport policy

7. Carbon Impact Considerations

The proposals are expected to have a slight positive carbon impact.

8. Equality Considerations

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

9. Legal Considerations

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

10. Risk Management Considerations

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

11. Public Health Impact

The scheme will have a positive public health impact by encouraging increased walking and cycling, with associated personal health benefits.

12. Options/Alternatives Investigated

An alternative to the proposed toucan crossing would be a zebra crossing, but this would not cater for cyclists using the route.

13. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The proposed scheme will provide an improved route to school and will help to reduce levels of car use on the B3181. It will also help encourage increased cycling between Broadclyst and local leisure destinations.

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Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper Date File Reference

None

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