HTM/12/28 South Hams Highways and Traffic Orders Committee 20 April 2012

Scheme for Approval Exeter Road, South Brent Footway/Cycleway

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 drawing B2300113/EXRD/0005 rev P0 is constructed at a scheme cost of £87,000; and
- (b) consent is given to extinguish the footway under S 66(4) of the Highways Act 1980 and for creating the shared footway/cycleway under Section 65(1).

### 1. Summary

An advisory cycle lane, running north to south, was created in Exeter Road, South Brent in 2011, taking advantage of the wider than normal carriageway width. The widening of the existing footway on the west side of Exeter Road will enable a facility to be provided for northbound cycle movements. The shared footway cycleway will also better connect the National Cycle Network route to the Primary School located in Totnes Road and to the Palstone Park Recreation Ground.

# 2. Background/Introduction

The National Cycle Network Route 2 passes through South Brent, entering at the south via Brent Mill road, entering the village centre via Plymouth Road and leaving on Station Road and Hillside. The link to the Primary School currently is along a narrow section of Totnes Road, sufficient only for a single vehicle and a narrow footway. There is no link to Palstone Park Recreation Ground.

South Brent Parish Council have been consulted, especially in view of their concerns for northbound cycle traffic when the southbound advisory cycle lane was introduced last year. They have indicated approval to the proposals made in respect of this scheme.

### 3. Proposal

The opportunity was taken last financial year to introduce a southbound cycle track within the carriageway of Exeter Road (formerly the A38) and to amend inappropriate road markings during surface dressing operations. That emphasised the lack of northbound cycle facilities and design work was done in 2011/12 to see how that could be overcome. The proposed solution is a widening of the existing footway on the west side of Exeter Road that will permit shared foot and cycle use. Cycling on a footway is not permitted and so a new cycle track is to be designated on the newly widened path using Section 65(1) of the Highways Act 1980. At the same time the singular use of the footway for pedestrians only is to be rescinded using Section 66(4) of that Act.

In addition to widening existing footways a new section of footway/cycleway is to be constructed north of Heather Park that will permit foot and cycle access to Palstone Park Recreation Ground.

The scheme is shown on drawing number B2300113/EXRD/0005 rev P0 attached to this report. A larger copy of the drawing will be available at the HATOC Meeting.

#### 4. Financial Considerations

The overall cost of the scheme is £87,000. Some £13,000 of design fees have been incurred in 2011/12 and an estimated £74,000 in supervision fees and construction costs are anticipated to complete the scheme. A construction contingency of £12,000 has been made.

Funding is available through the Local Transport Plan capital fund.

## 5. Sustainability Considerations

The scheme is proposed in order to allow cycling.

## 6. Carbon Impact Considerations

Increased use of cycling will lead to less need to use motor vehicles on local journeys to the Primary School and Recreation Ground.

#### 7. Equality Considerations

There are no known equality issues.

### 8. Legal Considerations

There are no known legal issues.

#### 9. Risk Management Considerations

The risk to the County Council by not undertaking this scheme is that it will not provide an off-road cycle path that can be used safely by all cyclists, but especially by the young.

### 10. Options/Alternatives

The option of leaving the status quo is not considered acceptable.

#### 11. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The recommendations are made following a detailed study of the needs of the community.

Lester Willmington Head of Highways and Traffic Management

**Electoral Division: South Brent & Dartington** 

# Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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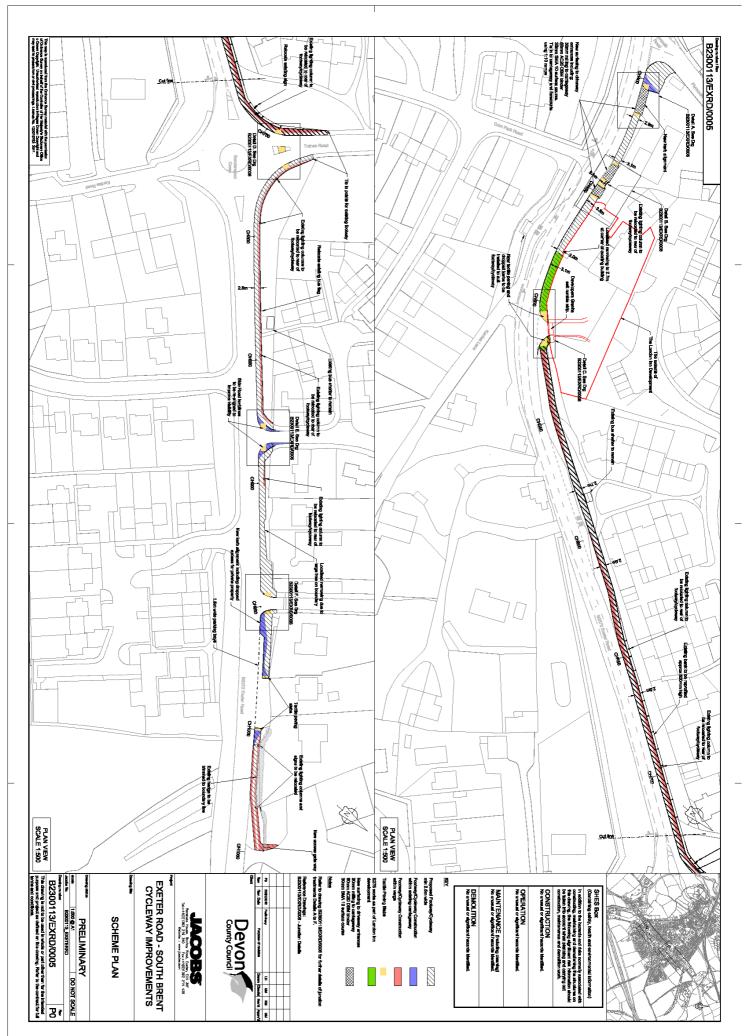
Tel No: (01392) 380193

Background Paper Date File Ref.

1. Various correspondence with South Brent Various 2011

Parish Council

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