HCW/14/39 South Hams Highways and Traffic Orders Committee 25 April 2014

Totnes Station Road and Coronation Road Pedestrian Crossing Facilities

Report of the Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste

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 Raised Table Zebra Crossing detailed in Plan number B13013_10 be constructed, subject to Statutory Consultation at a cost of £20,000;
- (b) removal of the Pedestrian Refuge on Coronation Road detailed in Plan number B13013_2 is undertaken and is replaced with a similar facility to the south east at a cost of £15,000.

1. Introduction

The proposed location of the Zebra Crossing is on the main pedestrian route between the Town Centre, Railway Station and King Edward IV Community College.

The additional proposal to relocate the Pedestrian Island on Coronation Road will enable more efficient use of the available road space on Coronation Road towards the Roundabout whilst maintaining pedestrian access in this area of the town.

2. Proposal

The proposal to provide a Tabled Zebra Crossing at this location (Plan No. B13013_10) addresses issues of community severance and ongoing requests to provide traffic calming features on this section of Station Road. The location will improve pedestrian access to the nearby Hospital, Leisure Centre, Doctors Surgery, Petrol Station and Supermarket and is located on one of the main walking routes used by students attending the Community College.

The provision of a new Community Hub adjacent to the proposed crossing on the former Rushbrook House site is expected to increase pedestrian demand in the area as are other housing developments within the town particularly from Bridgetown and Baltic Wharf.

At its meeting on 24 September 2013 with reference to the ongoing Totnes Experimental Traffic Regulation Order, it was resolved that:

"a scheme for minor lane changes to improve traffic flow on the Coronation Road approach to the Station Road junction be implemented as soon as practicable, subject to prior consultation with the Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service and Hospital who all require access at this location."

This scheme was implemented following appropriate consultation and extended the two lane approach to the roundabout from 45 to 70 metres. However, observations on site and consultation with the Community Transport Operator "Bob the Bus" have since identified that further improvements to traffic flow could be achieved if the Pedestrian Refuge located

adjacent to the Fire and Ambulance Station entrance could be relocated closer to the entrance to Morrisons Supermarket.

Scheme Plan No. B13013/2 shows removal of the existing refuge and a new refuge constructed utilising part of the entrance slipway to the Morrisons Supermarket. Morrisons have indicated that they would not object to the proposal. The proposal if implemented would increase the two lane approach to the roundabout to 100 metres.

3. Options/Alternatives

The changes already undertaken have improved traffic flow on Coronation Road and undertaking no further work is an option. However the benefits are limited due to the current location of the pedestrian refuge which prevents vehicles utilising the additional road space at peak times.

An alternative option to provide a localised widening on the approach to the roundabout has been considered. This proposal involved removal and rebuilding of the wall to the Rushbrook House site and costs were estimated at the time to be in excess of £60,000.

4. Consultations

Statutory Consultation on provision of the Humped Zebra Crossing will be undertaken if the scheme is approved. Relocation of the refuge is not seen as contentious. The matter has been discussed informally with representatives of the Town Council who indicated that a refuge is required but its exact location is not an issue. As mentioned above, the proposal has the support of the Community Transport provider and the only retail outlet to be effected has no objection.

5. Financial Considerations

The estimated total cost of the proposals is £35,000. Funding has been allocated from the Local Transport Plan, Market and Coastal Towns Capital Programme to deliver both elements of the scheme.

6. Sustainability Considerations

The goals of the scheme are to enable more efficient use of the available road space on Coronation Road and to improve pedestrian access in this area of the town.

7. Carbon Impact Considerations

The scheme has been designed bearing in mind the effect on carbon emissions and overall should not have a negative impact.

8. Equality Considerations

Where relevant to the decision, the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duty requires decision makers to give due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct;
- advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs; and
- foster good relations between people by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

taking account of age, disability, race/ethnicity (includes Gypsies and Travellers), gender and gender identity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, pregnant women/new and breastfeeding mothers, marriage/civil partnership status in coming to a decision, a decision maker may also consider other relevant factors such as caring responsibilities, rural isolation or socio-economic disadvantage.

This may be achieved, for example, through completing a full Equality Impact Needs Assessment/Impact Assessment or other form of options/project management appraisal that achieves the same objective.

No equality considerations have been identified arising from Local Transport Plan proposals. Provision of the Zebra Crossing is seen as having a positive effect whilst relocation of the pedestrian refuge is seen as having a neutral effect.

9. Legal Considerations

There are no specific legal considerations arising from this report.

10. Risk Management Considerations

A Safety Audit will be carried out as part of the design process should the scheme be approved.

11. Public Health Impact

The scheme is designed to improve vulnerable road user access to public health facilities in the area.

12. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

Providing a zebra crossing at this location will improve access to schools, leisure and public health facilities for vulnerable road users. Relocation of the pedestrian refuge will maintain vulnerable road user access whilst improving use of the available road space to ease congestion.

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Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper

Date

File Ref.

mj070414shh sc/cr/totnes station road coronation road pedestrian crossing 02 110414



