HIW/17/93

South Hams Highways and Traffic Orders Committee 24 November 2017

Review of Yealmpton Crossing

Report of the Chief Officer Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

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

Recommendation: It is recommended that a review of the options for installing a crossing facility of the A379 at Underhay, Yealmpton be undertaken, with a view to identifying funding for implementation, if an acceptable site can be identified.

1. Summary

A zebra crossing was advertised at Underhay on the A379 at Yealmpton in July 2014 but, following a number of objections, the proposal was not progressed. The original developer funding is no longer available.

2. Background/Introduction

A planning condition on the construction of 100 houses at Kitley Place on Milizac lose in Yealmpton required the developer, Taylor Wimpey, to install an unspecified type of crossing point at Underhay on the A379. The crossing aimed to connect Yealmpton Primary School on the south side of the A379 with residential development on the north side of the A379.

The close proximity of bus bays and side road junctions made it difficult to find a suitable site for a crossing position. Concerns were also raised about the speed of traffic on the A379. Four options for a zebra crossing were considered in detail between 2012 and 2014, none of which satisfied the criteria for the installation of a zebra crossing in terms of pedestrian and traffic flows. One of these options was advertised for implementation in July 2014, with a proposed construction start in September 2014.

The advertised crossing point, as shown in appendix A, was to be located approximately 50m to the west of the junction with Bowden Hill. Following advertisement, a number of objections were received and a decision was made not to progress with the proposal. As none of the other options was considered safe to implement the obligation to the developer was discharged.

Following a representation from Yealmpton Parish Council, supported by the Head Teacher and Parents Forum at Yealmpton Primary School, on 13 March 2017, Members have asked for the situation to be reviewed, in order to determine whether a crossing could now be installed.

3. Financial Considerations

The original design options were completed in 2014 and would need to be reviewed.

As the developer's obligation has now been discharged there is currently no funding in place to undertake the design or implementation works and funding would have to be found from other budgets.

4. Environmental Impact Considerations

A crossing point would help the school to promote walking to school amongst its pupils, reducing emissions from motorised transport.

5. Equality Considerations

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

6. Legal Considerations

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, secures the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities.

7. Risk Management Considerations

There are no risk management considerations.

8. Public Health Impact

As walking to school is considered to be healthier than using motorised transport there would be a small public health benefit if the zebra crossing were to be installed.

9. Options/Alternatives

There is currently no crossing point in place.

10. Reason for Recommendations

In light of representations from the Parish Council and Primary School Devon County Council has been asked to review the previous proposals to determine whether a suitable site can be found, and funding identified, for the installation of a zebra crossing at this site.

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Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper

File Ref.

None

Appendix A To HIW/17/93

