

PTE/19/15

East Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee
12 March 2019

A376 Exmouth Exeter Road Pedestrian & Cycle Crossing

Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

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

Recommendation: It is recommended that the scheme shown on plan C12021-010 included in Appendix I, is approved for construction at an estimated cost of £97,500.

1. Introduction

The report seeks scheme approval to construct a new signal controlled “Toucan” pedestrian and cycle crossing on the A376, Exeter Road, Exmouth. The proposed crossing will connect northern Exmouth to the Exe Estuary Trail via the National Trust, Lower Halsdon Farm public path.

2. Proposal

The scheme shown on Plan C12021-010 in Appendix I incorporates a new signal-controlled Toucan crossing facility, catering for both pedestrians and cyclists. The crossing is located on the A376 Exeter Road at the site of the entrance to the Lower Halsdon Farm path. The Lower Halsdon Farm path is labelled on the plan as an “existing shared path” to the western side of Exeter Road and it provides cycling and walking access to the Exe Estuary Trail for onward leisure links into the town or to Lympstone, Exeter and Dawlish. The scheme proposal incorporates minor footpath widening on the eastern side of Exeter Road to enable cyclists using the crossing to access a shared path into Estuary View. Estuary View joins Littlemead Lane which offers potential for a future connection for cyclists into the rear of A la Ronde.

Plan C12021-010 identifies an existing safety camera (speed camera) site to the south east of the proposed crossing. This safety camera site enforces southbound traffic traveling on the A376 into Exmouth. The proposed crossing has been located to the north of this camera site to avoid interference with the camera’s operation and detection markings.

The proposed crossing also provides a safe pedestrian facility for residential properties to cross the A376 and access bus stops or other local facilities in the town.

3. Options/Alternatives

Potential locations for establishing a new crossing and associated cycle links to A la Ronde were considered in partnership with the National Trust back in 2011/12. Following the opening of the Lower Halsdon Farm path in 2017, the proposed location of the Toucan crossing has now been identified to provide the most direct future link to A la Ronde.

Alternatives were considered to the south by either linking into Lamplough Road or into Rivermead Avenue. These alternatives would require significant costs to widen pavements for cycle use and would also have required the relocation or removal of an established safety camera site.

The proposed location minimises any widening of footpaths along Exeter Road and is situated to the north of the safety camera site to avoid any conflict with its operation.

An alternative for providing a shared use "Tiger" crossing without signal control was considered. But it was recommended that a signalised crossing would provide the greatest safety benefits for pedestrians and cyclists in this location.

4. Consultations

The National Trust undertook a public consultation exercise in 2011/12 regarding future options for community use of the land at Lower Halsdon Farm. The National Trust worked with DCC to identify options for a multiuse trail link between the Exe Estuary and A la Ronde including a crossing facility over the A376.

Following opening of the Lower Halsdon Farm path, the local County members for Exmouth and the National Trust, were contacted again to confirm continued support for providing an improved crossing facility over the A376 corridor.

To introduce any new controlled crossing, the scheme proposal will need to be advertised by public notice prior to construction.

5. Financial Considerations

The estimated scheme cost of the scheme is £97,500. The estimate includes an allowance for contingencies and also for night working to minimise disruption to traffic on the A376. It is proposed that the scheme will be funded through the Integrated Block element of the 2019/20 Transport Capital Programme.

Subject to scheme and budget approvals, it is intended that construction can take place in the first quarter of 2019/20 prior to the summer holiday period.

6. Environmental Impact Considerations

By promoting sustainable alternatives to travel by car, the proposal will have a minor but positive effect on vehicle emissions and the environment.

7. Equality Considerations

An Equality Impact and Needs Assessment (EINA) was undertaken for the Local Transport Plan. No negative impacts were identified. 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.

8. Legal Considerations

To introduce a new or amended pedestrian crossing a public notice will be required to be advertised in accordance with Section 23 of The Road Traffic Regulation Act.

9. Risk Management Considerations

A controlled crossing will introduce delays to traffic on the A376 at peak times.

10. Public Health Impact

Improved crossing facilities will enhance links between residential areas and the established multiuse-trail leisure network. This will have a positive effect on promoting healthy and sustainable travel within the community.

11. Reasons for Recommendations

It is recommended that the scheme be approved for construction to support pedestrian and cyclist safety and to improve access to leisure and local facilities.

Dave Black
Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

Electoral Division: Exmouth

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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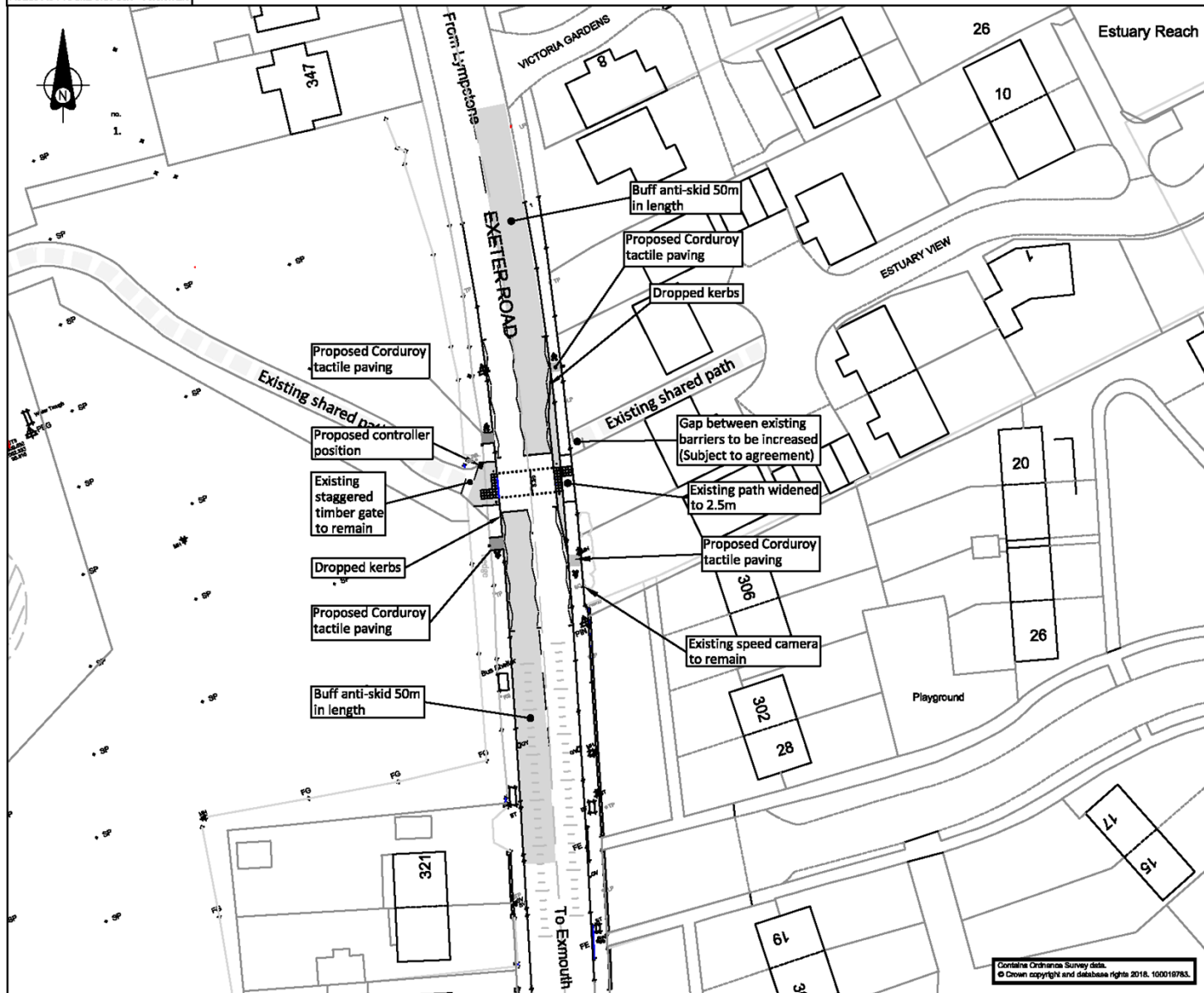
Background Paper

None

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Appendix I To PTE/19/15

Roads A3 FRAME side box - Version 2.0



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NOTES

Rev	Date	Drawn	Revisions	Chk

Rev	Date	Drawn	Revisions	Chk
	30.01.19	IMG		



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JOB
Proposed Toucan Crossing Exmouth

DRAWING TITLE
Committee Plan

Dwg. No.	C12024/010	Revision	
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