

## **Fore Street, Witheridge Zebra Crossing and Bus Shelters**

Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

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 proposed zebra crossing and bus shelters shown on the plan 21016/03 is approved for construction at an estimated cost of £77,380; and**
- (b) the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport be given delegated powers, in consultation with the Chair of HATOC and the local member, to make minor amendments to the scheme details.**

### **1. Summary**

The report seeks approval to introduce a zebra crossing facility on the B3137 Fore Street, Witheridge. The scheme will require moving the existing uncontrolled crossing location, to another point on Fore Street; two new bus shelters are proposed. These works are outlined on the included drawings. The scheme aims to support safer routes to school and to support active travel improvements in the village.

The works will be fully funded by Section 106 developer contributions.

### **2. Introduction**

A zebra crossing at Witheridge School has been a long-standing request from the school. A nearby housing development in the village allowed the Highway Authority the opportunity to gain funding for this scheme through the Section 106 process.

The present arrangement requires parents and children to cross at an uncontrolled point in the highway. Efforts have previously been made to improve safety in the area, such as signing and road markings. However, concerns remain about the road safety.

The additional benefit will be a length of footway at the rear of the bus stop, which will allow increased accessibility to other facilities in the village such as the sports club and football pitches.

Similarly, funding for the new bus shelter was also acquired through this process.

Consultation with the school and the Parish Council has been positive with general agreement for the introduction of the scheme.

### **3. Proposal**

Plan 21016/03 in Appendix 1 details the proposed scheme. The zebra crossing will be introduced outside the school. A footway will be provided to the south of the crossing adjacent to the school frontage, which will link up with the existing pedestrian network. The bus layby will remain but will be for the sole use of the school for their mini-bus. Because the layby needs to be shortened in length to accommodate these works, the existing shelter will be moved to a new agreed site, which is expanded on below.

With regards to the two bus shelters:

1. The existing shelter, which is outside the school, is to be moved to the west side of Fore Street, south of the Butts Close access. This will service the new 55 dwelling estate, as well as existing residential areas in the vicinity. This will be a new shelter funded by the same Section 106 agreement.
2. A new bus shelter will be installed on the east side of Fore Street between the sports club and Lakelands Close. It is proposed to widen the footway at this point to allow pedestrians to pass anyone who is waiting at the stop.

### **4. Options/Alternatives**

An alternative option was considered and offered as part of the consultation process. However, this would have required the moving of a telegraph pole, which housed a street-light, electrical power and BT lines. Moving this pole would have been time consuming (based on recent projects with Western Power) and it was likely that the additional costs would have resulted in the scheme being more than the budget available. Therefore, it was agreed that the scheme recommended for approval is the preferred option.

### **5. Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with the school and the Parish Council. The option noted above has been agreed.

### **6. Financial Considerations**

£111,750.46 has been received from developers through the Section 106 process. This can only be used for a crossing facility for the school and if not spent then it would need to be paid back to the developer with interest. There is a requirement to spend this contribution within ten years of receipt.

A cost estimate for the scheme is £77,380.

### **7. Legal Considerations**

To introduce a controlled crossing, the Council is required to issue a public notice in accordance with Section 23 of The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

When introducing new traffic schemes, it is the County Council's 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.

## **8. Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)**

The scheme will have an overall positive impact on supporting active travel. The measures will also support non-car travel to school and active travel links to local facilities.

## **9. 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.

## **10. Risk Management Considerations**

The proposal will have an ongoing revenue cost for the Council to maintain the controlled crossing facility.

## **11. Public Health Impact**

There will be an overall positive benefit to public health by supporting active travel.

## **12. Reasons for Recommendations**

The proposed scheme will have a positive benefit in promoting walking and active travel within the community.

Meg Booth  
Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

**Electoral Division: South Molton Rural**

**Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers**

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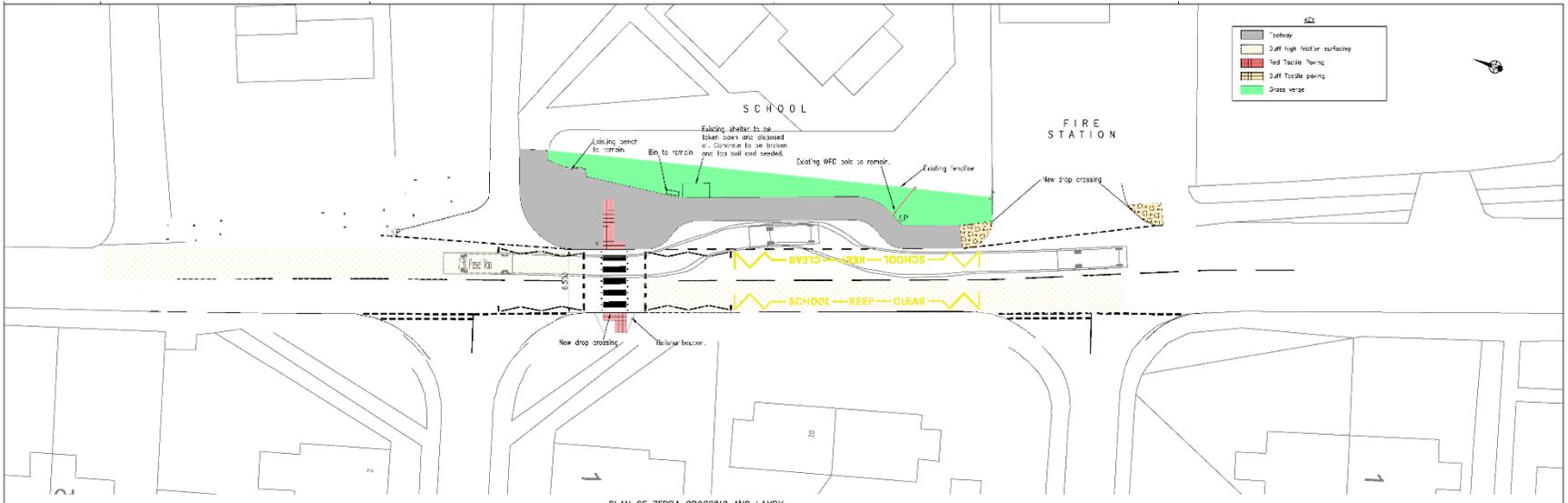
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<b>Background Paper</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>File Reference</b>
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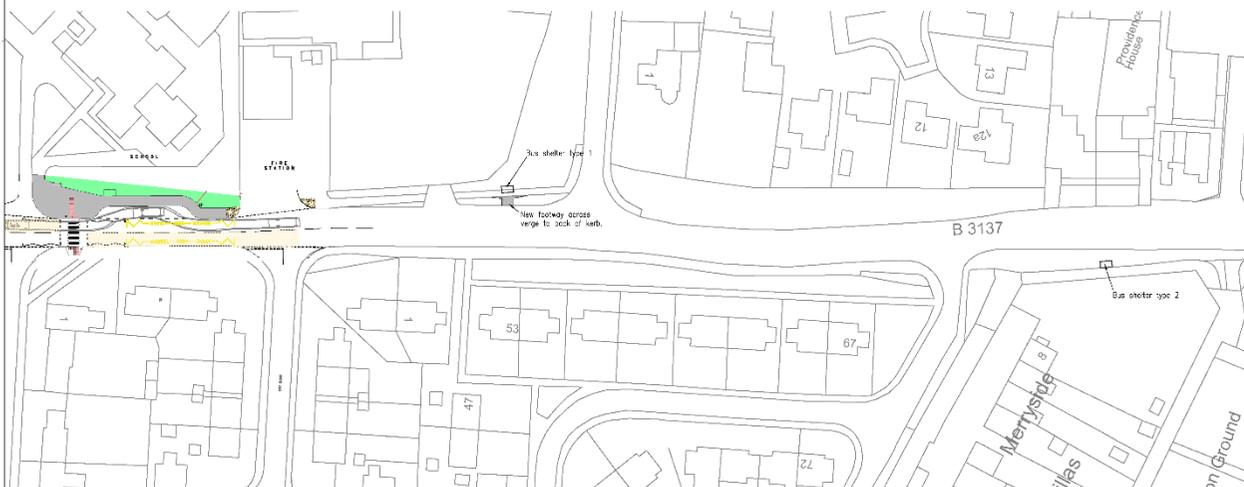
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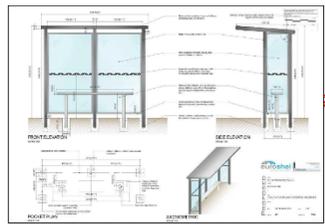
# Appendix 1 To CET/22/10



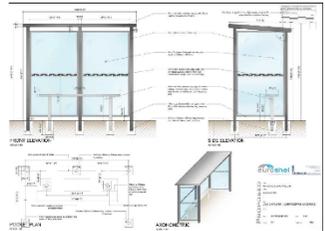
PLAN OF ZEBRA CROSSING AND LAYBY  
SCALE 1:200



PROPOSED BUS SHELTER POSITIONS  
SCALE 1:500



PROPOSED NEW BUS SHELTER TYPE 1  
N.T.S.



PROPOSED NEW BUS SHELTER TYPE 2  
N.T.S.

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