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**Meeting:** Traffic Management Meeting  
**Date:** 4 December 2012  
**Subject:** Sundon Road, Houghton Regis- Resolution of an objection to the Proposed Humped Zebra Crossing  
**Report of:** Paul Mason, Head of Highways  
**Summary:** To report to the Executive Member for Sustainable Communities Services the receipt of an objection to proposals for a raised zebra crossing.

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**Contact Officer:** Caroline Almond – Assistant Engineer (Road Safety)  
[caroline.almond@amey.co.uk](mailto:caroline.almond@amey.co.uk)  
**Public/Exempt:** Public  
**Wards Affected:** Houghton Regis  
**Function of:** Council

#### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Priorities:**

To improve road safety at a currently uncontrolled crossing location on Sundon Road, Houghton Regis. This is part of LSTF works to improve cycling and walking routes in Houghton Regis and Dunstable.

**Financial:**

The cost of introducing the proposed raised crossing is approx. £30,000.

**Legal:**

None as part of this report

**Risk Management:**

None as part of this report

**Staffing (including Trades Unions):**

None as part of this report

**Equalities/Human Rights:**

None as part of this report

**Community Safety:**

The proposal will improve road safety for non-motorised users.

**Sustainability:**

To encourage sustainable modes of transport; in this case walking and cycling.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

**That the proposal to install a raised Zebra Crossing on Sundon Road, Houghton Regis be implemented as published.**

### **Background and Information**

1. Bedfordshire Highways received a budget (Local Sustainable Transport Fund) from Central Bedfordshire Council to improve walking and cycling routes in Houghton Regis and Dunstable. The programme spreads over 3 years.
2. The raised zebra crossing would replace an existing uncontrolled crossing at this location and would improve the safety of school pupils, pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorised users crossing from the adjacent public footpath.
3. The proposals were formally published from 10<sup>th</sup> October to the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012. Consultations were also carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies, Houghton Regis Town Council and Elected Members. Local residents whom live in the vicinity of the proposed raised crossing were also consulted.
4. One objection has been received from a resident of Sundon Road. The objection raised concerns the perceived noise that the hump would create and stated their preference for a zebra crossing without the hump. A further letter from a Sundon Road resident expressing concerns about the noise generated by the humped crossing was also received. Both are included in Appendix D.
5. Bedfordshire Police accept the proposals and have raised no objection. Houghton Regis Town Council supports the proposals.

### **Conclusion and the Way Forward**

6. The following are Bedfordshire Highways' observations on the representation received:-

It is accepted that Sundon Road, Houghton Regis is a busy road. However, this crossing is just part of a wider scheme to improve the safety of school pupils, pedestrians and cyclists using the proposed route. The number of pedestrians crossing Sundon Road at this location justifies the provision of a formal crossing in preference to the existing uncontrolled crossing. As well as providing a safer crossing point, the improved pedestrian facilities aim to encourage more people to walk and cycle in Houghton Regis.

The reason for the proposed hump is due to the need to limit the speed of traffic as it approaches the crossing. Raised zebras have been shown to be highly effective in this respect. The raised crossing meets recommended design standards, including the height of the hump, so should any noise generated should be minimal.

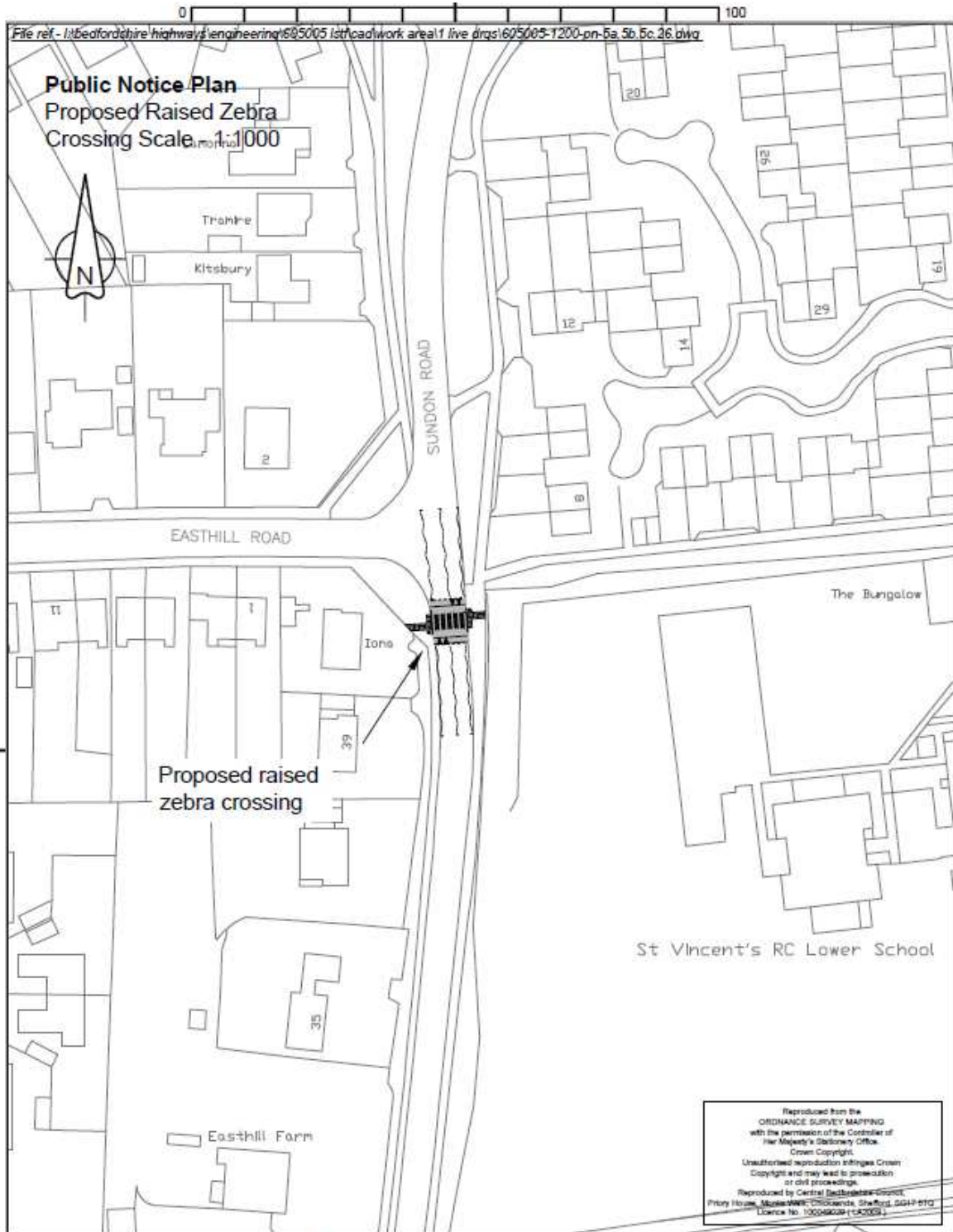
### **Appendices:**

Appendix A – Location plan

Appendix B – Public notice for raised zebra crossing (this includes other locations)

Appendix C –Representation on proposal

# APPENDIX A



Rev	Revision details	Chkd	Appd	Date
Drawn: CA	Preliminary			
Design: CA	For comment			✓
Chkd: GPB	For tender			
Appd: NO'L	For construction			
Date: 01/10/2012	As constructed			
	Other			

**Project Name**  
LSTF - PUBLIC NOTICE

**Drawing Title**  
Bedfordshire Highways - Trans  
5C: Sundon Road

Original Drg Size : A4    Dimensions : -  
Scale : As Shown    Copyright © Amey/CBC



Client



Drawing No    Rev  
605005/1200/PN/5C    -





# PUBLIC NOTICE

## ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 23

### **PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS – PARKSIDE DRIVE, SUNDON ROAD AND PARK ROAD NORTH, HOUGHTON REGIS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL, in exercise of its powers under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 and all other enabling powers, proposes to establish pedestrian crossings, including their associated zig-zag markings, in Parkside Drive, Sundon Road and Park Road North, Houghton Regis. These works are part of a wider scheme to improve pedestrian and cycling facilities.

#### **Zebra Crossings are proposed to be sited at the following locations:-**

1. Parkside Drive, at a point approximately 80 metres north-east of its junction with Elm Park Close.
2. Sundon Road, at a point approximately 15 metres south of its junction with Easthill Road.

#### **A Signalised Toucan Crossing is proposed to be sited at the following location:-**

3. Park Road North at a point approximately 160 metres north-west of its roundabout junction with Sandringham Drive.

## HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 – SECTION 90A-I

### **PROPOSED HUMPED ZEBRA CROSSINGS – PARKSIDE DRIVE AND SUNDON ROAD, HOUGHTON REGIS**

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL proposes to construct Humped Zebra Crossings under Section 90 A-I of the Highways Act 1980 and all other enabling powers in Parkside Drive and Sundon Road, Houghton Regis. These works are part of a wider scheme to improve pedestrian and cycling facilities. In addition, the proposed humps are designed to reduce vehicle speeds and create a safer environment for all road users.

#### **A Humped Zebra Crossing at a nominal height of 75mm is proposed to be sited at the following location (This is an existing zebra crossing to be re-built on a raised table):-**

1. Parkside Drive, at a point approximately 32 metres south of its junction with Bromley Gardens.

#### **A Humped Zebra Crossing at a nominal height of 75mm is proposed to be sited at the following location (This is a new zebra crossing to be built on a raised table):-**

2. Sundon Road, at a point approximately 15 metres south of its junction with Easthill Road (relates to crossing no.2 identified above)

Further Details of the proposal and plans may be examined during normal opening hours at Houghton Regis library, Bedford Square, Houghton Regis LU5 5ES or online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations).

Objections should be sent in writing to the Transportation Manager, Bedfordshire Highways, Woodlands Annex, Manton Lane, Bedford MK41 7NU or e-mail [centralbedsconsultation@amey.co.uk](mailto:centralbedsconsultation@amey.co.uk) stating the grounds on which they are made by 2nd November 2012.

Technology House  
239 Amptill Road  
Bedford MK42 9BD

Basil Jackson  
Assistant Director for Highways

10th October 2012

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Objection**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you because my wife and I are very concerned to learn that you are proposing to install a pedestrian crossing which will include humped zebra crossing outside our property.

Whilst we realise and appreciate that a zebra crossing may be required because of the public walkway opposite our home. Sundon Road is as you know a very busy road with a great deal of heavy goods vehicles using it which does create a great deal of noise anyway. Having hump outside our property would create a huge amount of further noise to an unacceptable level.

If the reason for the hump is to slow the traffic down especially at the various crossing points then we cannot understand that you would place it right on the crossing itself rather than trying to slow the traffic down prior to the crossing!

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### **Other representation**

Dear Sir/Madam,

With regard to your proposed installation of a Humped Zebra crossing out side my Bungalow.

The last time we had a fault in the road outside the noise of passing traffic kept us awake most of the night. We realised that heavy lorries etc. took no notice of it at night and as they bounced over the dip all loose stuff clattered about and woke us again.

I am sure that the same thing will occur with the hump. This is of course will be as well as the gear changing up and down after just leaving the roundabout or before they arrive at the hump and go up or down before the roundabout the other way.

A Zebra crossing minus the hump would be a better option.