
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 6 July 2010
Subject: Petition requesting a road safety review of the western side of Appenine Way, Leighton Buzzard from Hockliffe Road to Meadway.

Report of: Basil Jackson Assistant Director for Highways and Transportation

Summary: The report proposes that the portfolio holder for Safer Communities and Healthier Lifestyles note the contents of the petition and the lead petitioner be informed that a scheme to create a build-out and raised table crossing in Appenine Way is already part of the proposed work program for this financial year.

Contact Officer: Nick Chapman, Transportation Manager
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Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: Planets

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The proposal will promote sustainable modes of travel.

Financial:

There is currently £38,760 in the 2010 – 2011 program to deliver a scheme to implement a raised crossing point for pedestrians and cyclists to cross Appenine Way. This will take the form of a combination of a build out and flat-topped road hump. The crossing point is proposed to be located approximately 40 metres south of the junction of North Star Drive with Appenine Way.

Legal:

None as a result of this report

Risk Management:

None as a result of this report

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None as a result of this report

Equalities/Human Rights:

None as a result of this report

Community Safety:

The scheme will improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists crossing Appenine Way.

Sustainability:

Implementation of this scheme may encourage people to walk or cycle instead of using less sustainable forms of transport, is in support of the Leighton Cycle Demonstration Town initiative, CBC and Government sustainability objectives and also the Leighton Linslade Modal Shift Exemplar Town objective.

RECOMMENDATION:

that the Portfolio holder note the contents of the petition and the lead petitioner is informed that there is a scheme in the 2010 – 2011 program to implement a raised crossing point for pedestrians and cyclists to cross Appenine Way. The crossing point is proposed to be located approximately 40 metres south of the junction of North Star Drive with Appenine Way. This will take the form of a combination of a build out and flat-topped road hump.

Background

1. In May 2010 a petition was sent to Central Bedfordshire Council representing a total of 45 residents that live in North Star Drive, Omega Court and Nebular Court, Leighton Buzzard.
2. The petition requests that a road safety review is carried out on Appenine Way, Leighton Buzzard on the section of Appenine Way that currently doesn't have any traffic calming (the western side from Hockliffe Road to Meadway).
3. The petition states that currently cars that are parked on Appenine Way and drivers, who typically speed along one part of Appenine Way, are causing difficulty to the residents to obtain access onto Appenine Way safely by car or to cross Appenine Way safely as a pedestrian.

Information

4. A review of the accidents in the area showed that there was one slight injury accident that occurred at the junction of North Star Drive and Appenine Way in 2007 which was attributed to parked vehicles on Appenine Way obscuring visibility for a vehicle turning left from North Star Drive into Appenine Way which resulted in a collision.
5. Speed data was collected from 20th – 28th May 2010 with a speed data collection device being attached to lamp column No. 6 (outside No. 15 Pegasus Road). The data showed that the 85th percentile speed was 35.9 mph northbound and 35.4 mph southbound.

- 6 In the 2010 – 2011 program there is a scheme to implement a raised crossing point for pedestrians and cyclists to cross Appenine Way to join the two footpaths that run east to west through the estate. The crossing point is proposed to be located approximately 40 metres south of the junction of North Star Drive with Appenine Way. This will take the form of a combination of a build out and flat-topped road hump. This scheme is following a scheme that was implemented last financial year to widen and resurface the footpath to the east of Appenine Way to create a shared use path for cyclists and pedestrians to use. The works will form part of the ongoing programme of works to promote cycling in Leighton Linlade.
7. The proposed scheme is not directly in response to the petition and was already programmed for implementation but it should help to alleviate some of the issues mentioned in the petition such as reducing the speed of vehicles along this stretch of Appenine Way and providing a crossing point for pedestrians and cyclists across Appenine Way.
8. It appears that there is a relatively high demand for on-street parking in this area, including Appenine Way, Nebular Court, North Star Drive and Omega Court even though the majority of properties have some off-road parking. It is likely that residents find it more convenient to park on road to the front of their property as the estate is designed so that parking is generally located to the rear of properties or in blocks that are further away from the properties. It is also likely that some residents that have a garage are not using this to park their car, preferring to park it on street.
9. Central Bedfordshire Council receives a number of requests for waiting restrictions every year in residential areas; many of which where there is no option for off-road parking. In comparison the junction of North Star Drive and Appenine Way would be ranked as low as residents of this area could improve the situation themselves by choosing to make use of off-road parking facilities. The implementation of further waiting restrictions is therefore not seen as the best use of resources at the present time.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Copy of the petition received signed by 45 residents of Omega Court, Nebular Court and North Star Drive, Leighton Buzzard.

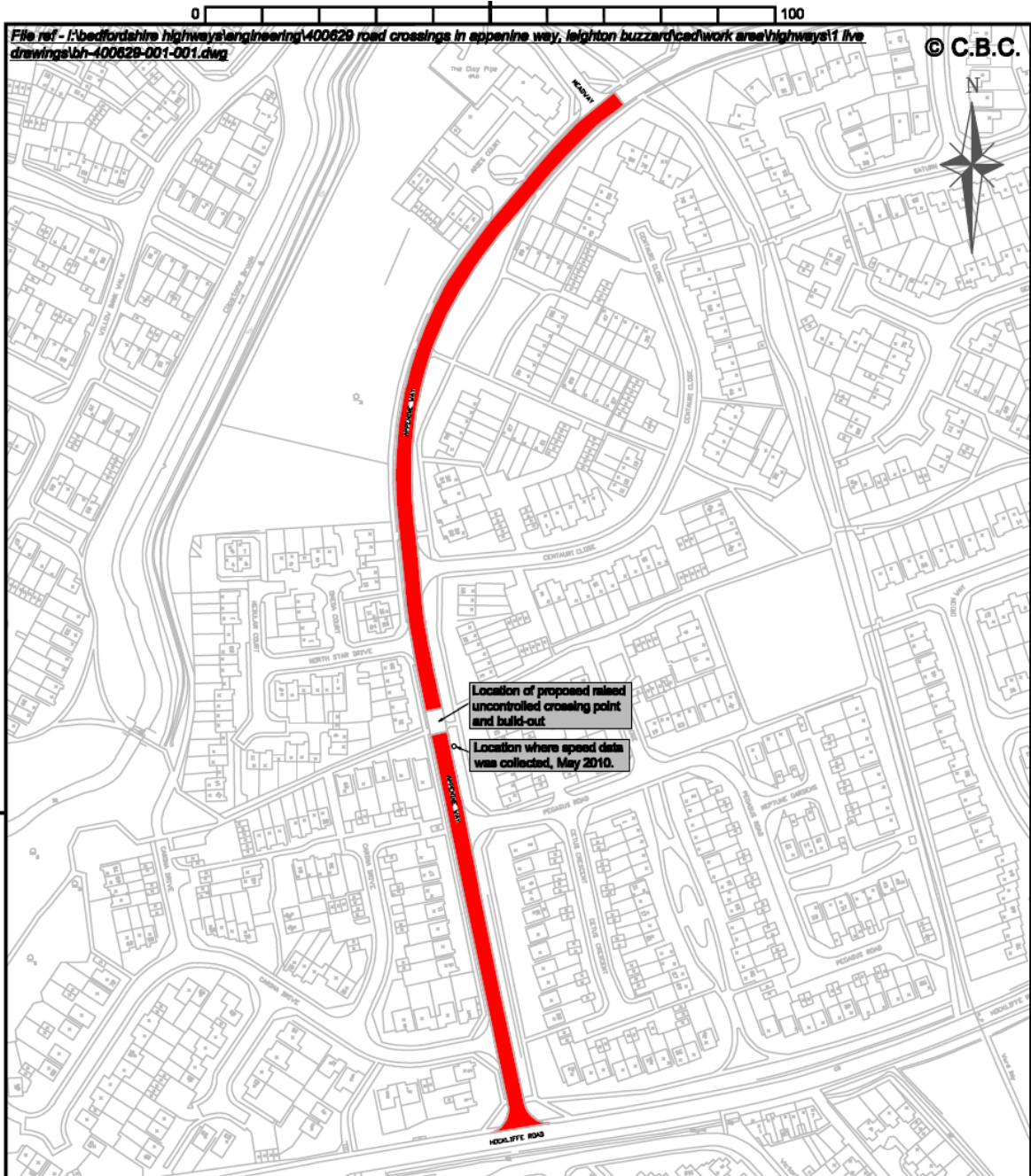
Appendix B – Plan

Background Papers: (open to public inspection)

None

Location of papers: Priory House, Chicksands

Appendix B



NOTES

■ Extent of requested road safety review


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Rev	Revision details	Chkd	Appd	Date
Drawn:	AMT	Preliminary		✓
Design:	AMT	For comment		
Chkd:	SJOH	For tender		
Appd:	SZ	For construction		
Date:	18/08/10	As constructed		
		For info.		✓


Project Name
Appenine Way, Leighton Buzzard

Drawing Title
**Transportation
Location plan**

Original Drawing Size : A4
Scale : 1:2500 Dimensions : mm



Client



Drawing No Rev

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