
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 19 June 2012
Subject: Bedford St, Woburn - Resolution of an objection to the Proposed Zebra Crossing and Prohibition of Waiting
Report of: Basil Jackson, Assistant Director of Highways and Transportation.
Summary: To report to the Executive Member for Sustainable Communities Services the receipt of one objection to proposals for a zebra crossing and subsequent loss of parking.

Contact Officer: Caroline Almond – Assistant Engineer (Road Safety)
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Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Woburn
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

To improve road safety at a frequently used crossing location on Bedford Street, from Staunton House to the footway leading to Eleanor Close.

Financial:

The cost of introducing a Safer Routes to School and cycle improvements scheme to the cost of approx. £35,000 is being funded by Woburn Parish Council.

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, in particular those travelling to the doctor's surgery from the west side of Bedford Street.

Sustainability:

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

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1. That the proposal to introduce a Zebra Crossing on Bedford Street, Woburn be implemented as advertised.**

Background and Information

1. Bedfordshire Highways received a request from Woburn Parish Council to carry out the design and implementation of a Zebra Crossing at a location outside Staunton House. A crossing at this location had also been requested directly from the residents of Staunton House. Therefore, the proposed crossing is largely to cater for the elderly living in Staunton House who often find it difficult to cross Bedford Street. There is a necessity to cross due to the Doctors Surgery located in Eleanor Close.
2. As part of the introduction of a zebra crossing, it is necessary to improve visibility by extending the existing 'no waiting at any time' restriction on the junction with Crawley Road by 10 metres. In total, taking into consideration the standard 'zig-zag' controlled area of the proposed crossing, the scheme would result in the loss of 10 available parking spaces. These are mainly located on the east side of Bedford Street where residents already have off-street parking.
3. The proposals were formally advertised public notice from 26th April to the 21st May 2012. Consultations were also carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies, Woburn Parish Council and Elected Members. Local residents were also sent a letter at the beginning of the consultation.
4. One objection has been received, which is included in Appendix D. The main point raised by the representation to the formal consultation concerns the loss of on-street parking spaces.
5. Bedfordshire Police accept the proposals and have raised no objection.

Conclusion and the Way Forward

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

The zebra crossing was requested by the residents of Staughton House and selected for inclusion onto the Woburn 'Parish Council Plan' to be funded by the Parish Council themselves.

It is accepted that Staunton House rely on on-street parking which would be removed with the proposed zebra crossing, associated zig-zag markings and additional double yellow lines. However, if the zebra crossing is to be provided, the loss of parking spaces is unavoidable due to the visibility needed on both sides of Bedford Street when crossing at the proposed location. There needs to be a minimum of 60 metres of intervisibility between road users and non-motorised users at the crossing point (based on the speed data collected) to achieve an adequate visibility distance. This is achieved by the standard 'zig-zag' carriageway markings combined with the extended waiting restriction.

The Parish Council, following the objection have been in discussions with the manager of The Bell public House whom are in support of the proposed crossing and who have kindly agreed to allow the residents of Staughton House to use their Car Park, which is accessed approximately 70 metres south of Staughton House.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Location plan

Appendix B – Public notice for zebra crossing

Appendix C – Public notice for prohibition of waiting

Appendix D – Representation on proposal



PUBLIC NOTICE

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 23

PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING **A4012 BEDFORD STREET, WOBURN**

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 install a zebra crossing on A4012 Bedford Street, Woburn its junction with Crawley Road and Marquis Court. This proposal is fully supported by Woburn Ward and Parish Councillors.

This proposal to install a Zebra Crossing is considered as a solution for the elderly residents and other users to cross the busy and wide carriageway of Bedford Street due to difficulty at present to cross along this length. There is a Doctors surgery at the other end of an adjacent footpath which they would have to cross the carriageway to otherwise reach.

The location of the proposed zebra crossing is as follows:-

A5130 Bedford Street, Woburn: between its junction with Crawley Road and Marquis Court.

A copy of a plan showing this proposal may be examined during normal opening hours at Leighton Buzzard Library, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1RX or online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations. For more information please contact Caroline Almond on 08453 656057 or by e-mail caroline.almond@amey.co.uk.

Technology House
Amphill Road
Bedford MK42 9BD

Basil Jackson
Assistant Director for Highways

26 April 2012



PUBLIC NOTICE

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO EXTEND THE EXISTING PROHIBITION OF WAITING ON A4012 BEDFORD STREET NEAR CRAWLEY ROAD, WOBURN

Reason for proposal: The proposed Order is considered necessary on the grounds of promoting road safety. The waiting restriction is specifically aimed at improving the intervisibility between drivers and pedestrians at the proposed Zebra Crossing on Bedford Street located at the entrance to a Public Footpath leading to Eleanor Close. Therefore, Central Bedfordshire Council proposes to make a Road Traffic Regulation Order as follows:

Effect of the Order:

To introduce a Prohibition of Waiting at any time on the following length of road in Woburn:-

A4012 Bedford Street, north-east side, from the existing prohibition of waiting that terminates outside property no.29 Bedford Street extending in a south-easterly direction for a distance of approximately 10 metres to a point approximately 4 metres south-east of the north-west flank wall of property no.29 Bedford Street.

Further Details: of the proposal and a plan may be examined during normal opening hours at Leighton Buzzard Library, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1RX or online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations. These details will be placed on deposit until 6 weeks after the Order is made or until it is decided not to continue with the proposal. For more information please contact Caroline Almond on 08453 656057 or by e-mail caroline.almond@amey.co.uk.

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 stating the grounds on which they are made by 21 May 2012.

Order Title: if made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (Bedfordshire County Council (District of Mid Bedfordshire) (Civil Enforcement Area and Special Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2008) (Variation No *) Order 201*".

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APPENDIX D

Proposed Zebra Crossing and extension to the existing waiting restrictions – Bedford Street, Woburn

I am writing to you on behalf of the residents of Staunton House to object to the above proposed crossing and prohibition of parking in the said area.

I wish to point out that as a resident of Staunton House (marked on your plan as 1-8 and 9-18 Bedford Street) we will lose our parking entirely.

Currently there is space for approximately a dozen cars in this area. If the above proposal goes ahead, this will leave the residents without any parking space. Staunton House is home to nineteen adults aged between sixty and ninety two with thirteen cars between them. Are you going to provide an alternative safe parking area close to Staunton House, not only for the residents, but also for the professional carers, family and friends who visit the residents on a daily basis?

Car parking in Woburn is extremely sparse as it is and taking away our parking will only cause us a great deal of difficulty.

I look forward to hearing from you with your comments.

14/9/11 E

Cc Woburn Parish Council