
Meeting: Delegated Decisions by the Executive Member for Community Services on Traffic Regulation Orders
Date: 4 February 2016
Subject: Appenine Way, Leighton Buzzard – Petition requesting a Pedestrian Crossing
Report of: Paul Mason, Head of Highways
Summary: This report is to note the receipt of a petition submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council and suggest a way forward.

Contact Officer: Nick Chapman
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Leighton Buzzard North
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Financial:

There is no highways budget available to undertake any work at this location in the current financial year.

Legal:

None from this report

Risk Management:

None from this report

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None from this report

Equalities/Human Rights:

None from this report

Community Safety:

None from this report

Sustainability:

None from this report.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that the Executive Member for Community Services notes the petition and that the lead petitioner be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

Background and Information

1. A petition has been received, signed by 480 residents, requesting the provision of a pedestrian crossing in Appenine Way in the area of its junction with Meadway. The concerns are primarily related to the risks encountered by children crossing the road in the morning. The location of on-street has also been identified as obstructing pedestrians' view of approaching vehicles.
2. Appenine Way and Meadway are essentially residential roads, but relatively heavily trafficked as they form a link between Hockliffe Road and Vandyke Road which are two of Leighton Buzzard's main radial routes.
3. Gilbert Inglefield Academy is located approximately 600 metres away near the junction of Meadway and Vandyke Road. It is likely to generate significant volumes of traffic, particularly at the start and end of the school day. Due to the school and the existence of footpath links adjacent to the Appenine Way/Meadway junction, it is likely that pedestrian movements are reasonably high.
4. There are no immediate proposals to install a pedestrian at this location. However, consideration will be given to including this as future Safer Routes to School scheme. If funding was provided an assessment would be required to determine as number of factors, such as the number of pedestrians crossing, the appropriate type of crossing facility and other site constraints.
5. Possible funding sources are via the Council's LAMP allocation or the Parish Council could be encouraged to use the Rural Match Funding process to part-fund any improvement projects.

Appendices:

- Appendix A – Petition and covering letter
- Appendix B – Location plan

Appendix A

Help a child cross the road safely! We need a pedestrian crossing over Appenine Way in the area of the junction near Meadway in Leighton Buzzard. Too many children risk crossing this busy road each morning.

Please find enclosed the Petition, as discussed.

My daughter suffers from high frequency hearing loss and even with her hearing ~~loss~~ aids, she is unable to hear the traffic. As you will see from the enclosed photos, the parking is such that you are also unable to see if there is traffic coming and combined with the volume, frequency and speed of the same, crossing is dangerous to people of 'normal' hearing.

I understand that Andrew Selous, MP, has contacted your colleagues to support my daughter.

Appendix B

