
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 24th July 2018
Subject: Proposed Toucan Crossing of the A507 between the One-o-One and Doolittle Mill roundabouts, Flitwick
Report of: Paul Mason, Assistant Director Highways
Summary: This report seeks the approval of the Executive Member for Community Services for the implementation of a Toucan crossing, to be sited on A507 west of the One-o-One roundabout and east of the Doolittle roundabout.

RECOMMENDATION(S):-

That the proposed scheme be implemented as published.

Contact Officer: David Huston
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Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Flitwick, Ampthill, Steppingley
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The proposal supports the following Local Transport Plan objectives:

(C) Increase the number of children travelling to school by sustainable modes of transport.

(F) Enable access to a range of leisure, cultural and tourism facilities for residents and visitors alike by a range of modes of transport.

(J) Reduce the risk of people being killed or seriously injured.

Financial:

Funded by developer (Section 106) contributions.

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:

This proposal will improve the safety of people when crossing the A507 in Flitwick, particularly children travelling to local schools and residents accessing local amenities.

Sustainability:

None from this report.

Budget and Delivery:	
Estimated cost: circa £90,000 (TBC)	Budget: Developer (Section 106) contributions
Expected delivery: Quarter 1, 2019-20	

Background and Information

1. This proposal has been bought forward in response to a planning obligation by deed of agreement between Valley Farm Trading and the Council under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, which requires *“the provision of a signalised crossing on the A507 between the One-O-One roundabout and the Doolittle roundabout.”*
2. The scheme provides pedestrians and cyclists with a safe crossing facility. It is located so as to serve residents of developments off Steppingley Road, Flitwick and in particular vulnerable road users such as school children attending Redborne Upper School.
3. The crossing will substantially complete a walking and cycle route linking the town centres of Ampthill and Flitwick, interconnecting existing shared use facilities on Flitwick Road Ampthill and Froghall Road.

The Scheme Proposal

4. This scheme proposal comprises:
 - Toucan Crossing of A507 between One-o-One and Doolittle Mill roundabouts.
 - Provision of a red blister tactile paving to aid visually impaired pedestrians.
 - 60m of new footway connecting from the proposed Toucan Crossing to the existing footway on the eastern side.
 - Upgrade to street lighting provision to ensure the crossing is suitably illuminated.

Automated Traffic Count (ATC) Data

5. The authority commissioned an automated count of traffic volumes and speeds at the proposed crossing location. This data was collected between 15th and 21st December 2017 and showed:
 - Weekday average speed of 27.4mph eastbound and 23.4mph westbound with 85th percentile speeds of 31.8mph and 29.5mph.
 - Average daily traffic flow (over 5/7 days) of 18000 / 16,500 vehicles per day.

Statutory Consultation

6. The proposals were formally advertised by Public Notice in May-June 2018. Consultations were carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies, and Flitwick, Ampthill and Steppingley ward members. Residents and businesses in the vicinity of the proposed crossing received a letter.

Representations

7. No representations were received in response to the scheme proposal.

Other considerations and conclusions

8. The provision of the crossing is a condition of the planning permission for the Valley Farm Trading development. It was mandated by the authority as part of a package of works designed to encourage residents to walk and cycle when travelling to local services.
9. The optimal location for the crossing has been carefully researched by the highway design team. This has taken into account pedestrian desire lines and local site constraints and position of utility services within the footway and carriageway.
10. The authority has installed many similar crossings and believes the facility will be widely welcomed and appreciated.

Appendices:

- Appendix A – Public Notice of proposal
- Appendix B – Scheme consultation drawing

PUBLIC NOTICE



CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO INSTALL A TOUCAN CROSSING ON A507, FLITWICK

Notice is hereby given that Central Bedfordshire Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 90 A-I of the Highways Act 1980 and all other enabling powers, proposes to establish a Toucan Crossing on A507, Flitwick. These proposals are part of a scheme to reduce traffic speeds and improve pedestrian facilities. The works are being promoted as part of a highway improvement scheme associated with Mid-Beds Walking & Cycle.

A Toucan Crossing on A507, approximately 62m West of the 1-O-1 roundabout and about 65m East of the doo-little roundabout.

Further Details may be examined during normal office hours at the address shown below, viewed online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices.

Comments should be sent in writing to the Traffic Management team at the address below or e-mail traffic.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk by 22nd June 2018.

Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Chicksands
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Marcel Coiffait
Director of Community Services

31st May 2018

Appendix B: Scheme Drawing

Drawing

