
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 11 April 2018
Subject: Flitwick Market Towns Regeneration Fund (MTRF) Scheme (Phase 2) High Street, Flitwick
Report of: Paul Mason, Assistant Director Highways
Summary: This report seeks to inform the Executive Member for Community Services about the proposed way forward for the Phase 2 of the Flitwick MTRF scheme.

RECOMMENDATION(S):-

That the proposed scheme to remove the pelican crossing and instate a zebra crossing be withdrawn but the decluttering elements of the scheme go ahead.

Contact Officer: Nick Shaw
Nick.Shaw@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Flitwick
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The proposal supports the Council 5 year plan priorities to make Central Bedfordshire 'A Great Place to Live and Work' through the objective of Enhancing Central Bedfordshire

The proposal also supports the following Local Transport Plan objectives:

- (A) Increase the ease of access to employment by sustainable modes

Financial:

This scheme is funded through Central Bedfordshire Council's Market Town Regeneration Fund (MTRF) programme

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.

Budget and Delivery:

Estimated cost: Target cost to be determined.

Budget: Funded through the CBCs Market Town Regeneration Fund programme

Expected delivery: Q1 2018/19

Background and Information

- 1 The Central Bedfordshire Local Area Transport Plan (LATP) for Ampthill and Flitwick notes that Flitwick has a very different feel to Ampthill in terms of negotiating the town centre as a pedestrian, notwithstanding the fact that both share similar problems of being traffic dominated in their central areas. The Plan notes that Flitwick town centre is disjointed as a result of being split by the railway line and the roads running through the centre, making the point ...

“...this creates a poor environment for pedestrians and difficulties in accessing shops and services on either side of the railway line.”

- 2 The LATP further notes that where crossing points are provided, these are often away from the desire lines of pedestrians. Specific attention is drawn to locations within the town centre where there is evidence of pedestrians opting to cross at more convenient (uncontrolled) locations, raising road safety concerns.
- 3 The provision of funding through the Market Town Regeneration Fund (MTRF) provided the opportunity to address these issues through improvements to the highway and public realm. These improvements to be designed in partnership with Flitwick Town Council with the objective of improving the longer-term health and vitality of the town centre through an increase in pedestrian footfall.

Market Town Regeneration Fund Programme

- 4 In November 2015, CBC invited bids from 11 town councils for a slice of £4m in capital funding to help reinvigorate their market towns. The money provided the opportunity for town councils to work in partnership with CBC to implement improvements.
- 5 The Market Town Regeneration Fund proposal submitted by Flitwick Town Council sought to support and help revitalise Flitwick town centre. There was a particular focus on rejuvenating the High Street. This complemented a linked improvement scheme being promoted by CBC to develop a multi-modal transport interchange at Flitwick Railway Station.
- 6 Flitwick has an important role as a transport hub and broader gateway for Central Bedfordshire. However, it is faced with a number of ongoing challenges. Many of these are based on how the layout of Flitwick has developed over time. The town centre is, in effect, divided in two due to the presence of the railway line. The traditional High Street is on one side of the rail line, while the more modern expansion of the town is on the other, which is dominated by a large Tesco store and car park.
- 7 The centre does benefit from the presence of the mainline train station linking Central Bedfordshire to London St. Pancras and beyond. It acts as an important commuter hub and generates over 1.6 million passenger journeys per year.
- 8 Flitwick also provides the home station for the Center Parks Woburn Forest and as a consequence its profile is now significantly higher with considerable promotion of transport links to Center Parcs via Flitwick in locations such as Waterloo and King Cross.
- 9 Flitwick Station also links and provides an important facility to the Millbrook Testing Facility and Technology Park, which has developed major proposals for growth that are supported by the South-East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership and other major employers including Lockheed Martin.
- 10 Due to the railway station, Flitwick generates considerable footfall for a location of its size. Alongside plans to regenerate the area around the railway station, the ambition is to improve the retail offer, capturing an increased share of commuter spend. Further, to improve the overall experience of visiting Flitwick through public realm and accessibility improvements, encouraging residents to use the town centre.

The Scheme Proposal

- 11 The MTRF scheme proposal was developed in partnership and at the request of Flitwick Town Council. To focus is on enhancing the public realm in order to help regenerate and promote the local economy on the east (High Street) side of Flitwick.

12 This scheme proposal comprised:

- Replacing the pelican crossing of the High Street with a zebra crossing, relocating it closer to the High Street roundabout to better serve the pedestrian desire line to/from the railway station.
- Decluttering the public realm through the removal of redundant street furniture.

13 The design proposal was subject to a Stage 1-2 Road Safety Audit (RSA) process, considering the needs of all users of the highway. The conclusion of the assessment process was that the scheme would not introduce any conflicts beyond those already in existence between users of the highway.

Statutory Consultation

14 The proposals were formally advertised by public notice in February 2018. Consultations were carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies including Flitwick Town Council and CBC Ward members.

15 Residents and businesses located in the areas where restrictions are proposed were individually consulted by letter. Public notices were displayed at various locations on High Street. The public notice was also advertised in the local newspaper and on the CBC website.

Representations

16 A total of 27 representations were received. Of these representations 1 supported the proposal, 21 expressed concerns and 5 objected to the proposals.

17 Flitwick Town Council responded that their Members felt that the relocation of the crossing would pose additional dangers because of its proximity to the roundabout and vehicles turning from the railway bridge. Members expressed a particular concern that it would put children and older people at greater risk and objected to the crossing being moved on safety grounds.

18 Of the statutory consultees, only The Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire Traffic Management Unit responded to the consultation. They had no objection.

Conclusion

- 19 A scheme to enhance the street scene and improve pedestrian access to the eastern side of Flitwick has been developed in partnership with Flitwick Town Council. These works are designed to facilitate the regeneration of the market town in accord with the brief issued by the MTRF team.
- 20 The proposed works accord with the priorities set within the Ampthill and Flitwick Local Area Transport Plan, specifically to increase pedestrian priority.
- 21 The authority favours zebra crossings in town centres as these have a good safety record and contribute to a more pedestrian-friendly environment. The design of such crossings meet legislative and technical guidance set out by the Department for Transport and are subject to an independent road safety audit process.
- 22 Owing to the strength of public feeling there has been a direction to withdraw the proposal to replace the existing pelican crossing with a zebra crossing and that planned improvement scheme should proceed without this element.

Appendices

- A – Proposal Notice
- B – Drawing
- C - Representations



PUBLIC NOTICE

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO REMOVE A PELICAN CROSSING IN HIGH STREET, FLITWICK AND TO INSTALL A ZEBRA CROSSING IN HIGH STREET, 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 remove the existing Pelican crossing and to establish a Zebra crossing in High Street, Flitwick. The reason is to improve pedestrian access to local amenities, Flitwick Railway Station and local schools. The works are being proposed as part of a highway improvement scheme associated with measures to improve the street scene in Flitwick.

Remove the Pelican Crossing across the full width of the road sited at the following location in Flitwick:

High Street, at a point approximately 47 metres north of its junction with The Avenue.

A Zebra Crossing extending across the full width of the road is proposed to be sited at the following location in Flitwick:-

High Street, at a point approximately 24 metres north of its junction with The Avenue.

Further Details may be examined during normal office hours at the address shown below, viewed online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices or tel. 0300 300 5003.

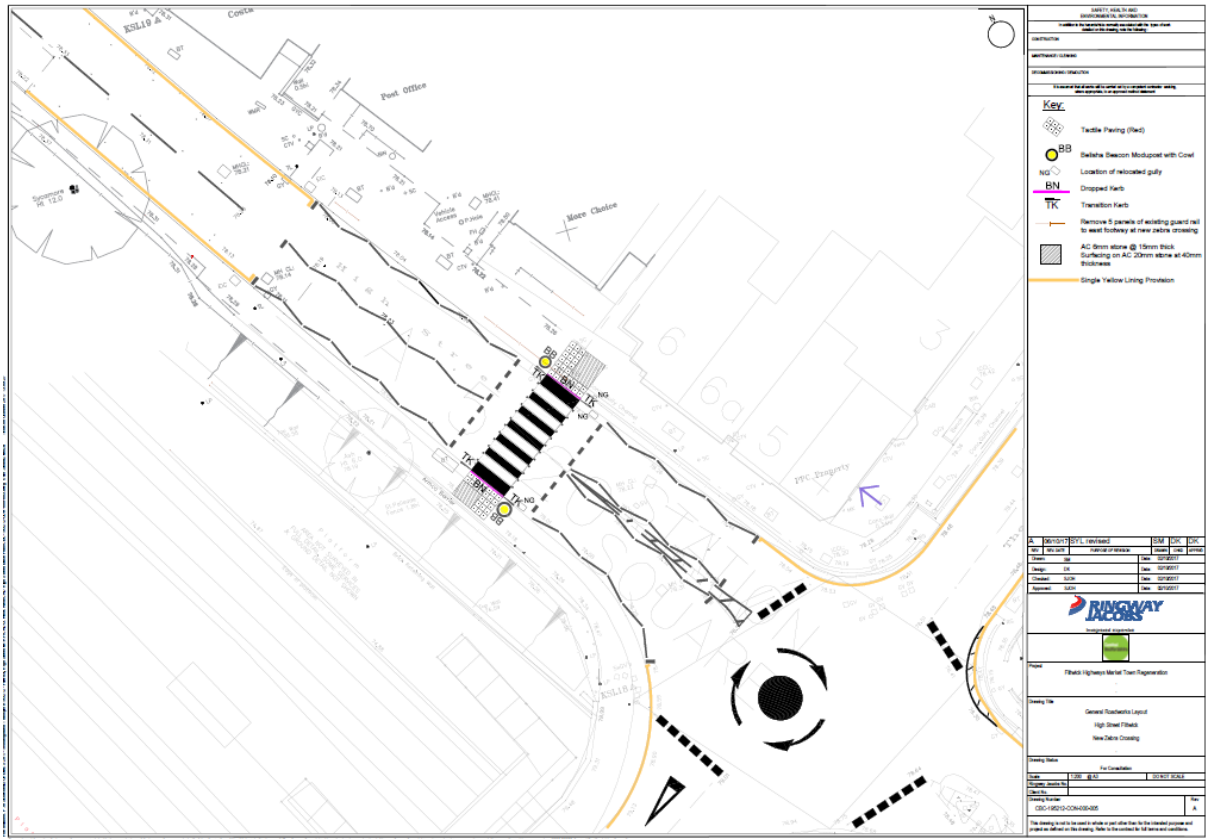
Comments should be sent in writing to the Traffic Management team at the address below or e-mail traffic.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk by 15th February 2018.

Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Chicksands
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Marcel Coiffait
Director of Community Services

25th January 2018

Appendix B – Drawing



Appendix C – Representations

From:

Sent: 27 February 2018 15:36

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: removal of pelican crossing High St Flitwick

As local head teacher (Woodland Middle) I don't understand how the removal of a pelican crossing would improve access to local schools...the replacement zebra crossing would allow for passage BUT not as safe for school children as the existing pelican.

Unless it can be shown that this improves the safer route to school I would strongly object to this proposal.

Head Teacher
Woodland Middle School
Flitwick, Beds
MK45 1NP

From:

Sent: 26 February 2018 21:22

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Zebra crossing - High Street Flitwick

I have only just seen the notice for this proposed change and although the time has lapsed to oppose the change I still think I need to explain why this is such a bad proposal.

1. There are already traffic tail backs caused by the traffic lights but at least that only happens at regular intervals, as the traffic lights control the traffic. These tail backs cause problems, along all routes leading to the two central roundabouts, sometimes causing problems all the way back to Temple Way.
2. This is extremely dangerous to put a zebra crossing so close to a roundabout, many people driving the cars are so busy trying to judge traffic they won't even have time to look before they hit someone on the zebra crossing. Children are extremely vulnerable as they are inexperienced road users and you, as a council, are putting them in danger of injury and even death.
3. Many children use this route to school alone and at school times traffic will be having to stop every few minutes at an already busy time of day.

My husband had someone drive into the back of his car at the current traffic lights because the driver was so busy concentrating on the other traffic.
4. Buses cause major tail backs already, they block the road which means congestion builds up on all major roads in the area.
5. The current traffic light crossing has been there as long as I can remember, so at least 30 years and there has never been a problem, why are you wasting taxpayers money changing something that isn't broken.

My son currently attends Flitwick Lower school and the commuter and arrogant parents parking and complete lack of crossing facilities is very dangerous but nothing seems to be done about it, despite petitions and children almost being knocked down.

Please stop wasting our money changing things we don't need to change and think about fixing the things that are actually broken.

I look forward to receiving a response to my email.

Kind Regards

Mrs
Robin Close, Flitwick.

From:
Sent: 23 February 2018 17:24
To: Traffic Consultation
Cc: Cllr Andrew Turner
Subject: Proposed Zebra Pelican Replacement Flitwick High St

I wish to register my opposition to this absurd idea. High Street is an A Class road with no restrictions on HGVs. Replacement of a pelican crossing (with demarcated times when vehicles are stopped to allow pedestrians to cross) with the less safe system of a zebra crossing will put my children at risk when they walk to Redborne School.

A zebra crossing also is far more dangerous for blind people than a pelican crossing (which has an audible safe to cross signal).

Finally to move the crossing to only 24m from the roundabout is highly dangerous. The painted mini roundabout is far too small and not fit for purpose for a junction with high traffic and regular HGVs & buses turning. Why are you proposing to add an additional hazard to the junction?

Finally, the council proposes to increase council tax by 4.5% and claims finances are tight. Yet it intends to waste a five or six figure sum of public money on wholly unnecessary capital work which will make the high street more dangerous for pedestrians (especially disabled pedestrians and schoolchildren)?

Kingfisher Road,
Flitwick.

From:
Sent: 22 February 2018 18:33
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: proposed zebra crossing – High Street, Flitwick (PDF 12.1KB)

Sir

Will you please reconsider these ridiculous plans to remove the current pelican crossing and replace it with a zebra crossing.

This will result in pedestrians playing chicken with the traffic and an accident waiting to happen. Traffic in this part of Flitwick is frequently gridlocked I know but removing this pelican crossing will be a disaster. I cannot see how this can possibly be considered to be of benefit to pedestrians who will have to hold their breath and hope any traffic coming off the bridge will see them and stop!

I am aware the public consultation date has passed but this has only just been brought to my attention and feel very strongly that this is completely the wrong way to deal with this problem. Surely public safety should be a priority!

From:

Sent: 15 February 2018 18:21

To: Traffic Consultation

Cc:

Subject: Proposed Pedestrian Crossing Changes, High Street, Flitwick

Traffic Management Team

We are concerned about the proposal to remove the existing Pelican crossing in the High Street, Flitwick and replace it with a Zebra crossing. The proposed Zebra crossing is a lot closer to the roundabout than the existing Pelican crossing, roughly half the current distance of 47 metres. This means that drivers exiting the roundabout will have less distance and therefore time to react to pedestrians crossing the road.

Changing the type of crossing from a Pelican to Zebra is also a concern. Lots of pedestrians, including children on their way to/from school, use the crossing. The traffic lights for vehicles combined with a clear green signal for pedestrians means that the road can be crossed safely. A Zebra crossing will not provide such clear signals to traffic and vehicles. Our children who use the crossing to go to/from school far prefer using Pelican crossings to Zebra crossings and view Pelican crossings to be a lot safer.

In our view, the proposed Zebra crossing will not be as safe for pedestrians as the existing Pelican crossing. The Public Notice does mention safety. Has this been considered?

The Public Notice does state that the reason is to improve pedestrian access to local amenities, Flitwick Railway Station and local schools. We struggle to see how this can be the case when there will be no change in the number of pedestrian crossings between the East and West sides of Flitwick.

Yours faithfully

The Avenue, Flitwick

From:
Sent: 15 February 2018 15:41
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Move of crossing near station square Flitwick

Dear Sir,

I wish to object to the moving of the crossing near Station Square. As a resident (Station Square) I view this as un necessary. The current crossing is perfectly adequate. To move it closer to the roundabout is a waste of taxpayers funds and would give drivers less reaction time after crossing the tescos bridge. The money could be better used to provide a better crossing near the local schools etc. also provide better local parking and disabled parking.

From:
Sent: 14 February 2018 16:59
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Proposes to move pelican crossing High Street Flitwick

I would have though moving the crossing nearer to the roundabout would be more dangerous than its current location. I also cant see how moving the crossing will make any difference to the number of people using it.

Regards,

Station Square, Flitwick, Beds. MK45

From:
Sent: 14 February 2018 13:50
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Zebra crossing in High street Flitwick.

I rent 3 shops at High Street Flitwick and to waste thousands of pounds and so much time to move this crossing 23 metres just is stupid.

Just utter waste of time and money which could be put to much better use, cannot see how it will make any difference accept from being far less safe which is something that should be considered.

This action is far more likely to cause an accident as no distance to crossing from roundabout and blind as people drive over the bridge.

I am totally against this and cannot understand where the idea came from as none of the people on the High Street I have spoken think it is a good idea or that anyone has made a suggestion to move it.

I thought councils were short of money and this just seems a waste.

--

Managing Director

From:

Sent: 30 January 2018 16:46

To

Subject: Re: Hair brained traffic scheme.

They propose to move the pedestrian crossing in the high-street back toward the bridge by 20 m which will reduce the buffer for stationary traffic back nearer the roundabout causing it to back up over the bridge and cause even more problems with the Tesco roundabout.

What is so wrong with the existing system that justifies the cost when we tax payers are being asked to pay up more each year.

Then to add to the stupidity they propose a 40 m table at the top of Kings Road back down from Station Road for no purpose. It is not traffic calming as traffic automatically slows for the junction. If that is the claim they are putting it in the wrong place.

Both schemes are an utter waste of money when you think it took over twelve months to paint the roundabout markings at the end of the High St by the bridge because we were told there was no money.

Incidentally while we are on about traffic and roads, they repaired the C100 in Steppingly and the repair they did at the bottom of the hill toward Flitwick is already seriously breaking up where the drain is.

From:

Sent: 11 February 2018 15:43

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Proposed Zebra Crossing - High St Flitwick

Hi

I just wanted to comment on the proposed removal of the crossing on High St Flitwick, and replacement with a Zebra crossing. I understand the benefit of a zebra crossing, as it will likely result in shorter periods of stationary traffic, but don't understand the logic of it being moved closer to the roundabout from the current crossing point. With the crossing so close to

the roundabout, would this not result in the traffic backing up to the roundabout and blocking it every time a pedestrian crosses? I would have thought having it at the current location would give scope for traffic to queue without backing up as far as the roundabout. Also, I would expect some occurrences of people accelerating to cross the roundabout when there is a short opportunity, and then being immediately on top of the roundabout, with a risk of not seeing waiting pedestrians in time.

It's good to see some measures to manage traffic in Flitwick being proposed, I just wondered if the logic of the relocation closer to the roundabout could be further considered please.

Kind Regards,

From:

Sent: 10 February 2018 10:46

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Crossing changes in High St Flitwick

Sirs

the proposals to remove the current pelican crossing and install a zebra crossing nearer to the bridge and roundabout are short-sighted and dangerous.

Your stated reason is to improve pedestrian access to local amenities, the station and schools. The degree to which this will be achieved is negligible compared to the outlay and the disruption caused. But the resultant new zebra crossing will in fact be dangerous to use.

Traffic coming off the railway bridge will have so little fore-warning of having to stop. Will there be signage on the bridge warning of the crossing? There is so much traffic that uses Flitwick that is unfamiliar with the local area- a crossing at such close proximity to the roundabout will be a surprise. When exiting the bridge and turning left, you are required to look at traffic coming from all other directions, but not in the direction in which you are turning, i.e. towards the crossing.

Large and articulated lorries use that route and often have to drive over the roundabout in order to make the turn. If they are forced to stop at the new crossing, they will be an obstruction to traffic exiting onto the roundabout from other roads.

Stopping at zebra crossings has become optional with the current standard of driving. At least with lights, it is a more definable offence to ignore them.

Please reconsider this proposal- it makes no sense at all.

From:

Sent: 06 February 2018 11:56

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Zebra crossing proposal, High Street, Flitwick

With reference to the attached, could I ask as to what consideration has been given to slow traffic down as it exits the roundabout onto High Street towards the proposed Zebra crossing? My concern as a parent whose children use the current Pelican crossing is that some drivers will simply ignore or not see pedestrians (especially children) waiting to cross and simply drive through the Zebra crossing.

As a resident of Princess Close (approx 160m from the railway bridge, off Kings Road) we unfortunately witness all too often speeding and ignorant motorists who seem to revel in accelerating away from the centre of town, be it along either the High Street or Kings Road and so feel at least that the red light of the Pelican crossing gives the driver the clear instruction to stop that a flashing amber zebra crossing does not (although it should of course).

Furthermore, I notice too that there is a planned tabletop for the junction of Kings Road with Station Road/Square, which is welcome to see as it will undoubtedly force drivers to slow down to negotiate it, however I feel that without further traffic calming measures further down Kings Road this will only again enrage some idiotic drivers to speed down Kings Road (as they often do presently) away from the centre. There is currently in place a crossing point opposite the footpath to Kingsmoor Close which is heavily used by lower school children and parents, who have witnessed speeding motorists as the speed either down (more commonly) or up Kings Road.

Consideration to introduce further calming measures down the length of Kings Road into Greenfield Road would be a welcome addition to the calming measures already proposed for the town centre.

Kind Regards,

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: 04 February 2018 18:50

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Proposed new zebra crossing on Flitwick High Street.

Dear Traffic Management Department

I don't have a reference for the above proposal, but I hope that it is clear which proposal I am commenting on.

My husband and I both live in Flitwick and we both commute to London using the railway every weekday.

We live in Ash Close, therefore we approach the station from the Station Road direction.

At present, the volume of traffic on the bridge makes crossing the road dangerous.

If the new zebra crossing on the High Street is closer to the station entrance, we will both welcome this. I believe that there may be plans for a new station entrance.

In our opinion, it would be easier to access the station from Station Road itself, i.e. near the Barclays Bank/ Flitwick Jewellers car park. This would also provide step free access, which would be a priority based on the recent public consultation feedback.

We are pleased with the overall plans that appear to provide traffic calming measures.

I hope our comments are clear, but if you need further clarification, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best regards

Ash Close
Flitwick
MK45

From:

Sent: 03 February 2018 21:30

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Objection to proposed zebra crossing on Flitwick High Street

This proposal will put pedestrians, including many school children, at risk and increase the likelihood of road traffic collisions! The proposed zebra crossing is too close to a dangerous roundabout junction, where some cars will be turning downhill from the railway bridge, looking in the opposite direction having to give way to the right, then picking up speed as they turn into a road with the view partially blocked by a bridge wall and shrubbery. Large lorries are also known to mount the pavement on this corner!

Please log objection.

Concerned Flitwick Resident

From:

Sent: 03 February 2018 12:57

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Proposal to remove the traffic lights from high street Flitwick

Please see attachment and my reservations regarding such a redic move , has health and safety been considered it seems not.

The move would put the pedestrians at risk (health and safety) of being knocked over whilst trying to cross as the proposed crossing will be nearer the round about !

It seems this aspect hasn't been considered and I know several other people in Flitwick will

also have the same concerns once they realise this proposition exists

Please think again on this move and answer one question , why are you trying to fix once again something that is not broken and spending the tax payers money on something that doesn't need to be done.

I will be writing to my MP regarding this application and seeing what their take on and reasoning to justify such a dangerous move

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 02 February 2018 18:41
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Changing and moving road crossing.

Please would you let me know the reasons for changing the crossing on Amptill Road Flitwick, many thanks

From:
Sent: 02 February 2018 17:18
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Proposed zebra crossing high Street Flitwick

Hi,

I'd like to voice some concerns regarding the proposal to replace the pelican crossing by Flitwick post office with a zebra crossing.

I've viewed the plans and am concerned that the crossing will be much closer to the roundabout. I regularly drive this route and find that when I am crossing the railway line and turning left at the roundabout to go north, crossing this area, that due to the height of the bridge walls it is a blind corner. Even as things currently stand, and being aware of the road layout, I find that it's difficult to see if cars have stopped for the current crossing until nearly round the corner.

The current crossing is very noticeable and there is plenty of space to stop if the lights are red for traffic, however even at the current distance from the roundabout traffic can quickly build up and block the roundabout.

The new zebra crossing seems to close to the roundabout. Not only will it be difficult for drivers to stop in time for someone crossing, but the traffic will build up and block the roundabout more quickly.

I'm not sure why it's felt that a zebra crossing will be better than the current pelican crossing, but if this is a necessary change, why can the new crossing not be in the same place at a safe distance from the roundabout?

I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Holland Rd
Ampthill
Mk45

From:
Sent: 02 February 2018 14:21
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Proposed Zebra Crossing at High Street, Flitwick

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to raise my concerns with removing the current traffic lights at the pelican crossing and replacing with a zebra crossing.

The current scheme allows both traffic and pedestrians to 'have their turn', whereas a zebra crossing tends to halt the traffic for individual pedestrians and doesn't operate in such an efficient manner. At certain times of the day, there are school children, commuters and others using the crossing and as it is not usual for people to wait and cross in a group, traffic will be backing up whilst individuals cross continuously. There is an assumption that vehicles will stop if a pedestrian is waiting at a zebra crossing and I therefore feel it is not as safe as the current scheme.

My main concern is that it will dramatically slow the flow of traffic particularly at peak times when Flitwick already has congestion problems, and more sitting traffic will result in more car fumes.

Kind regards

Ampthill Road, Flitwick

From:
Sent: 01 February 2018 20:35
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Proposed zebra crossing high St Flitwick

Dear traffic management team

I live in Flitwick and use this road on a regular basis but can't understand any justification for this proposal.

Why remove a perfectly use able crossing to replace it with inferior one. The plan to move it closer to the roundabout will only cause more traffic on the bridge and other roads which are busy enough already and more confusion leading to an increase in accidents. Also removing the lights to use it as a zebra crossing will again cause more confusion between motorists and pedestrians.

I have three young children and I'm worried that this will endanger them unnecessarily.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and hope you consider my view.

Kind regards

From:**Sent:** 01 February 2018 20:20**To:** Traffic Consultation**Subject:** Pelican crossing Flitwick

I've just seen your proposals to change the crossing and move it. This is utterly ridiculous! Moving it closer to the roundabout is very ill thought out. It is unsafe as the junction of the roundabout is too busy anyway.. the proximity to the post office and carparking exit makes it untenable.... Without lights noone will stop as it's too close to the roundabout to be able to.....

Please reconsider

Mk45

From:**Sent:** 01 February 2018 20:19**To:** Traffic Consultation**Subject:** Change of crossing High Street Flitwick

I object to this change for the following reasons:

1. The new zebra crossing will be too close to the roundabout on the railway bridge - there could be a risk of drivers accelerating off the roundabout and hitting a pedestrian.
2. Constant use of the crossing will cause congestion on the roundabout.
3. A pelican crossing is surely safer than the proposed crossing.

An explanation of the need for the change would be helpful.

From:**Sent:** 01 February 2018 20:01**To:** Traffic Consultation**Subject:** Proposed Zebra Crossing High Street Flitwick

Good evening,

I am emailing to voice my concern over the proposed zebra crossing on the high street in Flitwick and removing the pelican crossing.

Having experienced the traffic speeding over the roundabout and coming around the blind corners from over the railway line there is a substantial risk of someone getting knocked down, especially a child during rush hour. The pelican crossing works well and is a safe distance from the roundabout.

I urge the council to reassess.

Second more you are planning to put a zebra crossing on the high street which is not needed and removing a pelican crossing which works, yet you will do nothing about the placing a

zebra crossing or traffic calming measures on Manor Way outside Flitwick Lower school where a child was hit a few weeks ago.

Let's put them where they will save lives not where they are not needed or safe.

Kind regards

From:
Sent: 01 February 2018 18:55
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Flitwick crossing

I wish to make my comments about the proposed change in the crossing in High Street Flitwick.

I can not believe the plans I have seen. Who on earth drew these up? Do they have any planning experience or any common sense?

I cannot see how anyone would move the crossing closer to a roundabout. So when a vehicle comes round from over the bridge they can not see if anyone is on the crossing. Not just that, but the plan says it's changing from a pelican crossing to a zebra crossing.

Is it the plans of central beds council to kill off some of the Flitwick residents? Because I fear that is what will happen if these plans are approved!

I hope they do not get passed when it comes to the council meeting.

From:
Sent: 30 January 2018 17:23
To: Traffic Consultation
Subject: Proposal to remove a Pelican Crossing in High Street, Flitwick

Good afternoon,

I noticed several proposals for traffic measures in the Times and Citizen, 25th January.

I appreciate anything that will aid traffic calming in the area, but am puzzled by the above proposal, and wonder if you could clarify it for me.

As I see it:

- The present crossing is controlled. It is therefore safer for children, families, and people with poor mobility or vision. Am I right that 'zebra crossing' means no push-button control, or audio indication of when it is safe to cross?
- The present crossing leads to the Post Office, which is probably the busiest building in that row of shops and offices. It is therefore a natural choice of crossing point.
- Is the intention partly to improve traffic flow? The pelican crossing can cause temporary hold-ups on the High Street, particularly to the Station Square roundabout, and therefore the railway bridge. However, the bus stop and deliveries also cause blockages.
- My main concern, however, is the road layout nearest to the proposed zebra crossing. When northbound traffic is stopped at the moment, there is room for about 4 cars before a tailback begins at the Station Square roundabout and bridge. The proposed crossing would reduce this space and therefore push the tailback further into already congested areas. Along with this, I feel that cars

coming off the bridge on to the High Street, which have to concentrate on the traffic at several approaches to the Station Square roundabout, and make quick decisions about turning, may drive straight on to the crossing.

I hope I have understood your proposals correctly, and that you can give me further information.

With kind regards,

Mr _____

Hampden Close
Flitwick MK45

From:

Sent: 25 January 2018 20:43

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Proposed change of pelican crossing to zebra in High St, Flitwick

Sir,

As a regular user of the Ampthill to Flitwick and beyond route I find it strange that you are to further congest the centre of Flitwick by changing the nature of this crossing. You may well be aware that congestion close to Redborne school in Ampthill is caused each morning and evening as children heading to and from school use the zebra crossing at the junction of Tavistock Avenue and Flitwick Road in twos and threes with short gaps between each little group. The traffic crawls along, often backing up to Glebe Road to the north and the 101 roundabout to the south. In Flitwick the pelican crossing holds people for a while and allows a better flow. This area also has bus stops on either side of the road often with buses waiting at both. Large lorries coming over the railway bridge sometimes block the mini roundabouts and traffic heading to and from Tesco, the station and the M1 is often very heavy. I anticipate that a zebra crossing will make an already bad situation even worse for car drivers and add polluting exhaust fumes to the air. To my mind a better proposition would be to change the Ampthill crossing to a pelican from the existing zebra.

(Ampthill resident)

From:

Sent: 25 January 2018 14:08

To: Traffic Consultation

Subject: Zebra crossing

With reference to the removal of the pelican crossing in the high street flitwick.

The existing pelican is too close to the roundabout and causes a backlog when lights are red so why would you put a zebra crossing 20 metres nearer the roundabout surely it should go 20 metres further north and the bus stop should go 50m further north as the bus stop causes enough congestion on the roundabout as it is anyway. The road is a nightmare when two buses are there causing major backlogs as far as Dunstable Road.

Very strange idea