

Report to Amesbury Community Area Transport Group

SOLSTICE PARK PORTON ROAD, AMESBURY

PROVISION OF TOUCAN CROSSING

Background

A controlled crossing of Porton Road was required to be provided in conjunction with development at Solstice Park, Amesbury. Previous attempts to fund the provision of a crossing have not borne fruit, because of development not having come forward.

T J Morris, who are developing a Regional Distribution Centre and a Training Store at Solstice Park have agreed to build a Toucan crossing on Porton Road so as to assist pedestrians crossing Porton Road.

The exact location of such a crossing has not been finalised and it is considered appropriate to seek the views of the CATG and Area Board, with the benefit of their local knowledge, as to the optimum location of the crossing.

Subject to the Board's identification of a preferred crossing location, the crossing will be designed, funded and implemented by T J Morris.

Constraints

In order to be reasonably related to the development at Solstice Park, the crossing

- needs to be located between the London Road roundabout at the north-western corner of Solstice Park (*adjacent to Lidl's*) and the Boscombe Road Roundabout (*adjacent to the Methodist Church*).
- needs to be on a "desire line" for pedestrians where its use will be maximised.
- needs to be located where there is sufficient footway/verge width on either side of Porton Road to ensure that sufficient footway width is maintained taking into account the requirements for poles, dropped kerbs etc.
- needs to be located where there are suitable existing footway links on both sides of Porton Road.

Location Options

Three possible locations have been identified as indicated on the attached plan.

Location 1: Approximately half way between the London Road Roundabout and the Sunrise Way/Mills Way Roundabout.

Location 2: Adjacent to the entrance to Beverley Hills Park.

Location 3: Approximately half way between Beverley Hills Park and the Baptist Centre Roundabout.

NOTE: A location between the Mills Way Roundabout and Location 2 has been dismissed as there is no footway on the east side of Porton Road for the crossing to connect to.

Considerations

A Toucan crossing at location 1 would provide a crossing point which would connect the greater part of Amesbury to Solstice Park, but there are existing “splitter” islands at both the London Road and Mills Way roundabouts which facilitate crossing Porton Road. Location 1 is sited at a point where an existing segregated cycleway and footway on the west side of Porton Road joins the carriageway. To the east side of the road at this point, there is a combined foot/cycleway.

Locations 2 and 3 provide a crossing point which would benefit the residents of the mobile home parks and the Raleigh Crescent area (*but the “beep” from the crossing would potentially be a nuisance to adjacent residential properties*).

Location 2 has the potential to keep “calm” traffic speeds along this section of Porton Road, depending on the level of use.

Recommendation

On balance it is considered that Location 1 is preferred but Members’ views are sought.