

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

11th SEPTEMBER 2002

**POTTERNE: THE BUTTS - OBJECTIONS TO
ZEBRA CROSSING AND MINI ROUNDABOUT**

Purpose of Report

1. To consider an objection to a zebra crossing at The Butts, Potterne, and to recommend the installation as advertised.

Background

2. Concern had been expressed by parents and Governors of the local Primary School regarding the difficulties of crossing the A360, both on journeys to and from school and also when school classes use the playing fields for recreational activities. This was also highlighted by the School Travel Plan Advisor following her discussions with the school.
3. A school crossing patrol is authorised for a crossing point along The Butts but the school had been unable to fill the vacancy due, amongst other factors, to the concerns regarding the speed of traffic at this site.
4. The crossing point is adjacent to a bend in the A360 at the junction with Silver Street where a footpath from the residential area emerges. The general location of the area is shown on the plan at **Appendix 1**.
5. During discussions with representatives of the school and the Parish Council, a proposal for a mini roundabout and zebra crossing was put forward as a scheme with a number of benefits. It would help to slow traffic at this point. The zebra crossing would assist, not only parents and children at school time and the movement of classes of children during the day, but it would also benefit customers of the convenience store located in Silver Street. It was considered that the scheme would be a contender for funding jointly from the "Taking Action on School Journeys" and Integrated Transport budgets.
6. A combined allocation of £25,000 was approved in the Traffic Management report considered by this Committee at its meeting on 6th March 2002.

Detail

7. The scheme was prepared and the Parish Council formally consulted with a view to carrying out the construction in conjunction with the major maintenance scheme for the A360 between this junction and Devizes.

8. The proposed installation of the zebra crossing has now been formally advertised and although the site notice and plan also indicate the proposed mini roundabout, this latter measure does not formally have to be advertised. The closing date for the receipt of objections was 2nd September 2002. To enable the implementation of the zebra crossing and mini roundabout to be incorporated in the major maintenance scheme, a decision needs to be made at this meeting of the Committee. The proposal is shown on the plan at **Appendix 2**.

Objection and Support

9. At the time of preparation of this report eight letters have been received, two objecting to the proposal and six supporting the scheme. The Parish Council considered the scheme at its July meeting and advised its agreement to the proposals. Following an indication that a number of locals had reservations about the scheme and a petition was being raised, the Parish Council gave further consideration to the matter and stated it is "delighted to see traffic calming measures are to be introduced." The petition entitled "*No to roundabout in Potterne*" with 100 signatures has also been received.
10. Copies of correspondence received, including the petition, are available in the **Members' Room** and from the Environmental Services Department prior to the meeting.
11. A summary of the points made in the letters of objection and support is attached at **Appendix 3**, together with officer comments on the points of objection.

Consideration

12. The mini roundabout would provide a traffic calming feature on the A360 at the junction with Silver Street. It could be installed generally within the existing carriageway. Central islands would assist in slowing traffic on the A360 without impeding manoeuvres in and out of the side road.
13. The layout will not impact on parking in the side road for the nearby convenience store.
14. The zebra crossing would benefit those crossing to and from the school at all times of the day, as well as those crossing from the residential area to the store. If the crossing were to be sited further north, many pedestrians would not divert off the most direct route to and from Silver Street.
15. These measures would not preclude the consideration of further traffic calming measures elsewhere in the area, should the need arise and additional finance become available in the future.
16. Discussions have taken place with a resident whose private access is on the proposed roundabout. Although he had signed the petition because he was unaware of the details of the proposal, he is now satisfied with the arrangements and access to and from his parking area will be acceptable.

17. In view of the above comments, those in **Appendix 3**, the comments of the Parish Council, and the supporting letters, it would be appropriate to implement the scheme as advertised.
18. Should other letters of objection/support be received by the closing date, these will be the subject of a supplementary report.

Conclusion: Options Considered

19. Implement the scheme to include a mini roundabout and zebra crossing.
20. Do not implement the scheme to include a mini roundabout and the zebra crossing.

Recommendation

21. That:-
 - (i) The mini roundabout and zebra crossing be installed as advertised;
 - (ii) The objectors and supporters be advised accordingly.

Reason for Recommendation

22. The installation of the mini roundabout would act as a traffic calming measure at this location and would enable a zebra crossing to be satisfactorily installed to assist with the crossing manoeuvres at this point.

RICHARD J. LANDER

Director of Environmental Services

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

Letters of support and objection

Environmental impact of the Recommendation contained in this Report:

The signing, lining and lighting of the scheme will be kept to a minimum commensurate with the environment of the area and the need to satisfy regulations.