

**REGULATORY COMMITTEE**  
**8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2003**

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**DEVIZES: A360 POTTERNE ROAD -**  
**OBJECTION TO ZEBRA CROSSING****Purpose of Report**

1. To consider an objection to the siting of a Zebra crossing on the A360 Potterne Road, Devizes, and to recommend the installation as advertised.

**Background**

2. The proposed scheme for the Zebra crossing and mini-roundabout is being jointly funded by the developer Wilson Connolly and from the allocation for the Devizes Community Area Transport Strategy agreed by the Committee in March 2003. The developer is required to provide junction improvements and better pedestrian facilities at the Potterne Road/Wick Lane junction. The proposed scheme is shown on the plan attached at **Appendix 1**.

**Main Considerations for the Council**

3. As a result of the public advertisement one letter of objection has been received from Mr. and Mrs. Burn, Greenfield Road, Devizes. A full copy of the letter of objection is available in the **Members' Room** and from the Environmental Services Department prior to the meeting.
4. Mr. and Mrs. Burn consider the Zebra crossing should be located 200 metres south-west of Wick Lane, close to The Fairway where "pedestrians cross Potterne Road at their peril." Currently pedestrians have no difficulty crossing near Wick Lane utilising the existing refuge which will be even safer when the new roundabout is constructed, according to Mr. and Mrs. Burn. They state that neither pedestrian nor vehicular traffic is heavy enough "to justify such a drastic and costly measure." It is suggested that the funding should be utilised for a crossing at The Fairway or more urgently in Long Street. Mr. and Mrs. Burn consider the real solution would be to extend the footway on the south side of Potterne Road as far as The Fairway so that pedestrians would not need to cross the main road at the top of Potterne Hill.
5. The following observations are made on Mr. and Mrs. Burn's comments:-
  - A proposal to extend the town centre 20 mph zone is currently being progressed for implementation in 2004. This includes the introduction of traffic calming measures in Long Street which will greatly assist pedestrians to cross along its length
  - The absence of a footway on the east side of Potterne Road, near The Fairway, precludes the provision of a crossing in this location
  - Construction of a footway would require acquisition of land from a number of frontagers
  - The developer funding can only be used for a scheme at the Wick Lane junction.

### **Environmental Impact of the Proposal**

6. Signs and beacons could be considered an intrusion to the environment, but the crossing may encourage additional walking as a mode of transport, which is environmentally beneficial.

### **Risk Assessment**

7. Possible costs to the County Council of a legal challenge in relation to the obligations of the developer under the Planning Agreement if the scheme does not proceed.

### **Financial Implications**

8. The scheme is to be funded from a developer contribution and Local Transport Plan funding.

### **Options Considered**

9. Implement the proposed Zebra crossing as advertised.
10. Do not implement the Zebra crossing as part of this scheme.

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

11. The revised locations requested for the Zebra crossing, as stated in the formal objection letter, are not part of the agreement with the developer Wilson Connolly for junction improvements and improved pedestrian facilities at the Potterne Road/Wick Lane junction.

### **Recommendation**

12. That:-
  - (i) The Zebra crossing be installed as advertised;
  - (ii) The objectors be advised accordingly.

**GEORGE BATTEN**

Director of Environmental Services

Report Author

**ANDREW WYATT**

Traffic and Road Safety Manager

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

Letter of objection