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HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

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REFERENCE: HSB-15-14

WEST LAVINGTON, HIGH STREET
PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the comments received following the formal consultation associated with the proposed Zebra Crossing.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. Outcome 2 of the Business Plan – People in Wiltshire work together to solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them.

Outcome 3 of the Business Plan – Everyone in Wiltshire lives in a high quality environment.

Outcome 5 of the Business Plan – People in Wiltshire have healthy, active and high quality lives.

Outcome 6 of the Business Plan – People are as protected from harm as possible and feel safe.

Background

3. In November 2012 West Lavington Parish Council raised concerns with the Devizes Community Area Transport Group (CATG) relating to the pedestrian crossing provision within the village. This included concerns crossing the A360 immediately outside of Dauntsey School, as well as crossing the B3098 on the eastern side of the crossroads. The CATG supported the concerns raised by the Parish Council and requested that a formal assessment be undertaken by Wiltshire Council's Highway Engineers.
4. This assessment was completed in early 2013, and included a 24 hour pedestrian survey, to ascertain the level of demand, automated traffic count, and a site assessment to assist in identifying the appropriate solutions to the various locations identified by the Parish Council. In relation to the locations identified in paragraph 3, the assessment recommended the introduction of a formal pedestrian crossing for the A360 (Zebra Crossing) and the introduction of an uncontrolled crossing point for the B3098. A copy of the preliminary proposal can be seen in **Appendix 1**.
5. The assessment report was presented to the Devizes CATG at its meeting in July 2013. The CATG supported the majority of the recommendations of the assessment, including this location. However, the group requested that the views of Dauntsey School be sought prior to any further development of the proposal.
6. Parallel to the development of this proposal, an idea had been suggested locally that the junction of the A360 / B3098 could be improved with the introduction of a formal facility, i.e. traffic signals or mini roundabout. Consequently, a site meeting was held in September 2013 with representatives from Dauntsey School, West Lavington Parish

Council, Wiltshire Council, and the locally elected Member, Mr Richard Gamble, to discuss both aspects.

7. At the site meeting it was agreed that no alterations to the current junction arrangement would be practicable, and attention turned to considering the proposed Zebra Crossing and informal crossing point. At the meeting, Dauntsey School outlined its support for the proposal and subsequently formally offered to financially support the proposal by contributing £20,000 towards its implementation. This represents 80% of the estimated installation costs.
8. The issue was again discussed at the subsequent CATG meeting in November 2013; the group approved to fund the remaining shortfall (£5,000).
9. The formal advertisement for the Zebra Crossing and associated controlled zone was undertaken between 28 March 2014 and 25 April 2014. During this period four comments have been received. Three of these are in objection to the proposal, including comments from the neighbouring Market Lavington Parish Council. One comment in support of the proposal has been received, albeit with some general comments, from West Lavington Parish Council. The comments received during this period can be seen in **Appendix 2**. Details of those making the comments can be seen in **Appendix 3**.

Main Considerations for the Council

10. To consider the comments received during the formal advertisement of the Zebra Crossing and associated controlled zone.

Safeguarding Implications

11. It is not considered the proposal has any safeguarding implications.

Public Health Implications

12. The provision of facilities which assist in encouraging sustainable methods of travel are considered to be beneficial to health and wellbeing.
13. The introduction of a facility which impedes traffic flow may give rise to an increase in congestion, and may result in an increase in vehicle emissions in the immediate vicinity.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

14. The introduction of facilities which promote the use of sustainable methods of travel and reduce the dependency on vehicle travel, are considered beneficial to the environment.
15. The introduction of additional street furniture and road markings can be considered detrimental to the street scene and visual vista.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

16. There are none with this proposal.

Risk Assessment

17. There are none associated with this proposal.

Financial Implications

18. A financial allocation has been made by the Devizes CATG from its discretionary element of the Local Transport Plan funds. A decision not to proceed with implementing the scheme will result in the CATG having to reallocate funds and there remains the risk this may not be achievable in the current financial year.

Legal Implications

19. There are none associated with this proposal.

Options Considered

20. To:
- (i) Implement the proposal as advertised.
 - (ii) Abandon the proposal.

Reason for Proposals

21. The scheme has been developed following a detailed investigation of the demand and satisfies the criteria set out in the Wiltshire Council Practice Document for Crossings.
22. The scheme has been developed following considerable discussion within the local community, including the Community Area Transport Group, Parish Council and Dauntsey School.

Proposals

23. That:
- (i) The proposal be implemented as advertised.
 - (ii) The objectors be informed accordingly.

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

None