

<b>Report To/ Decision Making Body:-</b> Witham Area Committee	<b>Date of Meeting:-</b> 31 January 2006	<b>Agenda Item:-</b> 6
<b>To be presented by an Essex County Council Highway Engineer:-</b> Mrs Olive Cowell		
<b>Title of Report:- Proposed Zebra Crossing – High Street, Kelvedon</b>		
Background Papers:- Letters of objection from: Ms M Jones of SCOPE dated 28 <sup>th</sup> December 2005; Ms D Hagger dated 30 <sup>th</sup> December 2005; Mr R Strange dated 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2006.		

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider objections received as a result of the formal advertising of the proposed Zebra Crossing.

### **CONSULTATION/REPRESENTATIONS**

Braintree District Council Officers support the proposal.  
The District and County Member support the proposal.  
Essex Police support the proposal.

### **POLICY**

The County Council's Policy is to introduce a Zebra Crossing to improve pedestrian safety at all times of the day.

### **BACKGROUND**

It was identified several years ago by the Parish Council that an additional Zebra Crossing was required for Kelvedon High Street, to assist pedestrian movement for residents on the south-west of the Co-op Store. This would enable residents to access the facilities safely. Due to the location of side roads, vehicular accesses and the width of footways at this location, the Zebra Crossing could not be designed at the location originally requested. However, the new location is within 20 metres of the desired location.

The scheme has been on the Locally Determined Programme for several years and it was agreed at the Area Planning Committees that funding be allocated for this scheme to be constructed.

OBJECTOR	GROUNDS	AREA MANAGER COMMENTS
Ms M Jones of SCOPE	The zebra crossing is still to be sited near to the Co-op, despite over 300 signatures being collected for the crossing to be placed in the vicinity of the Post Office.	Although the 300 signature petition was received, the majority of signatories were not residents of Kelvedon. The Parish Council conducted their survey with the residents of Kelvedon and it was felt that a crossing at the proposed site served the needs of more residents of Kelvedon.
Ms D Hagger	<p>The High Street is increasingly used by vehicles diverted from the A12.</p> <p>Is the proposed siting the most appropriate place? It seems people generally cross at the junction of High Street and New Road.</p> <p>Consideration could be given to introducing further parking restrictions on the High Street</p>	<p>This issue must be directed to the Highways Agency who are responsible for the A12.</p> <p>The Parish Council carried out a resident's survey and two possible locations for the crossing were suggested. Both suggested sites conflicted with side roads and due to the width of footway and the position of private vehicular accesses there was no room to accommodate the crossing. The proposed location for the Zebra Crossing is the nearest available site to the desired position.</p> <p>We have recently introduced additional commuter waiting along the High Street. Any further suggestions need to be passed to the Parish Council.</p>
Mr R Strange	<p>Does the crossing conform to Essex County Council Policy as written in the statement of reasons?</p> <p>Has sufficient consideration been given to the on-street parking currently enjoyed by residents, shop customers and Barclays Bank customers?</p> <p>This length of the High Street is used by customers of the bank, the Co-op, the greengrocer and users of the Labour Club. I understand that the bank is used not only by</p>	<p>This pedestrian crossing conforms to the Essex County Council Pedestrian and Mobility Policy.</p> <p>The carriageway is for passing and re-passing, not for parking. Whilst parking has been enjoyed by both customers and residents previously, this benefit was never legal and not an automatic right.</p> <p>The zig-zags outside the bank will result in the loss of spaces for 1.5 vehicles but the proposed Zebra Crossing will allow more pedestrians easy access to local facilities.</p>

<p>Kelvedon residents and businesses but also by customers from Coggeshall where there is no bank. It is likely therefore that bank customers will take their business elsewhere if parking is restricted and the viability of a bank in Kelvedon would then be in doubt.</p> <p>The small florist/greengrocer at No. 56 has regular deliveries to the front of the shop and customers collecting large items such as sacks of potatoes are able to park outside for a few minutes for ease of loading.</p> <p>There are occasional disabled drivers who find difficulty in getting into shops and are also served direct to their cars. Parking and unloading restrictions will create problems for the new owner.</p> <p>I believe the planning and design are based on a Speed &amp; Crossing Survey that was carried out nearly four years ago in March 2002 at a point 69m south west of the centre line of New Road – near the location where the Parish Council has asked for a Zebra Crossing. The proposed location is about 50m away from where the Parish Council wanted it.</p> <p>Would like other options to be considered e.g. do nothing or install traffic calming, such as kerb realignment, reduced footway width, reduced carriageway width and the creation of parking spaces.</p> <p>A problem could occur with the</p>	<p>The florist/greengrocer will be affected by the zig-zags for approximately 10 metres, but the proposed Zebra Crossing will allow more pedestrians easy access to local facilities.</p> <p>Should the Parish Council wish to see allocated Disabled Parking provided on the High Street, they would need to inform Essex County Council directly. However, disabled holders of Blue Badges have the facility to park on all restrictions except zig-zags.</p> <p>The location of the proposed zebra crossing is 20 metres south-west of the location requested by the Parish Council. Unfortunately, due to the position of side roads, vehicular accesses and the width of footways at this location, the zebra crossing could not be constructed at the preferred location, therefore no further Surveys need to be carried out.</p> <p>It was identified by the Parish Council that an additional pedestrian crossing was required within the High Street. At no time was a traffic calming scheme proposed or requested, therefore traffic calming options were not investigated.</p> <p>This issue is being investigated</p>	<p>The florist/greengrocer will be affected by the zig-zags for approximately 10 metres, but the proposed Zebra Crossing will allow more pedestrians easy access to local facilities.</p> <p>Should the Parish Council wish to see allocated Disabled Parking provided on the High Street, they would need to inform Essex County Council directly. However, disabled holders of Blue Badges have the facility to park on all restrictions except zig-zags.</p> <p>The location of the proposed zebra crossing is 20 metres south-west of the location requested by the Parish Council. Unfortunately, due to the position of side roads, vehicular accesses and the width of footways at this location, the zebra crossing could not be constructed at the preferred location, therefore no further Surveys need to be carried out.</p> <p>It was identified by the Parish Council that an additional pedestrian crossing was required within the High Street. At no time was a traffic calming scheme proposed or requested, therefore traffic calming options were not investigated.</p> <p>This issue is being investigated</p>
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	<p>drainage at this location.</p> <p>Car parking must be handled more sensitively than appears to be the case with the current proposals.</p>	<p>by our partnering contractor and, if required, remedial works will be undertaken.</p> <p>Essex County Council do not own any car parks or have the facility to offer off-street parking.</p>
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**RECOMMENDATION(S) FOR DECISION**

That notwithstanding the above objections, an order be made subject to and in accordance with the County Council's standard order making procedure.

**Date report prepared:-**  
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PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING  
HIGH STREET, KELVEDON

PLAN NOT TO SCALE

