



SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE

EGHAM BYPASS FOOTWAY LINK

22 SEPTEMBER 2006

KEY ISSUES

A new footway link is proposed between Cooper's Hill Lane and Footpath 17 along the Egham Bypass. Footpath 17 is the only access point onto Runnymede Meadows that has no pedestrian access.

SUMMARY

On 11th March 2005 it was recommended to Committee to construct a new cycle link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Windsor Road, along the North side of the Egham Bypass and along Footpath 12. The cost of constructing this new cycle link was estimated at the time to be £96,000.

Further feasibility work has now been completed and it is proposed that the new cycle link be removed from the forward programme.

As reported to Committee on 11th March 2005 there is an evident desire line along the Egham Bypass between Cooper's Hill Lane and Footpath 17. It is proposed to construct a new footway link along this desire line; Footpath 17 is the only access point on to Runnymede Meadow with no adequate pedestrian access.

ELECTORAL DIVISION AND MEMBER

Englefield Green – Cllr Mrs Carole Jones (post now vacant)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to approve:

- a) **that the proposed cycleway link between Cooper's Hill Lane and along Footpath 12 to Windsor Road be removed from the forward programme;**
- b) **that a new footway link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Footpath 17 replace the original scheme in the forward programme, and be progressed to detailed design and construction in consultation with the Local Member.**

1.0 The original proposal: a new cycle link

- 1.1 In March 2005 it was recommended to Committee to construct a new cycle link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Windsor Road, connecting National Cycle Network Route 4 to Runnymede Pleasure Grounds and the River Thames. It would have provided a continuous pedestrian and cycle route from Hummer Road to Windsor Road, via the Toucan Crossing at the West end of the Egham Bypass.
- 1.2 The route of the new cycle link was from Cooper's Hill Lane, along the North side of the Egham Bypass, and along Footpath 12 to Windsor Road.
- 1.3 The new cycle link was intended to complement a new pedestrian crossing on Windsor Road, at the North end of Footpath 12. However this new pedestrian crossing is on hold for the foreseeable future. A transfer of National Trust land is required to accommodate the new pedestrian crossing. This transfer of land may not be possible: the land is inalienable; the tenant farmer is opposed. This matter is now in the hands of the National Trust's Legal Team.
- 1.4 The new cycle link requires the widening of Footpath 12, which runs across National Trust land tenanted to the same farmer who is opposed to the land transfer required for the pedestrian crossing on Windsor Road.

2.0 A new proposal: a footway link to Footpath 17

- 2.1 Footpath 17 is the only access point onto Runnymede Meadows with no pedestrian access; pedestrians must walk along the grass verge on the North side of the Egham Bypass. There is an evident desire line between Cooper's Hill Lane and Footpath 17: the verge is well worn. Footpath 17 is well used.
- 2.3 A new footway link from Cooper's Hill Lane to Footpath 17 would enhance safety and accessibility for pedestrians using this route. The new footway would be 1.5m wide, and set back from the carriageway where possible. Details of this footway link and the original proposal may be found in **Annex 1**.

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 The costs of providing a new cycle link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Windsor Road was estimated to be £96,000.
- 3.2 The cost of providing a footway link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Footpath 17 is estimated to be £25,000.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The Divisional Member has been consulted and supports this revised proposal.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 A new cycle link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Windsor Road, along the North side of the Egham Bypass and Footpath 12 is no longer feasible.
- 5.2 A new footway link between Cooper's Hill Lane and Footpath 17 would provide pedestrian access to Runnymede Meadows from Cooper's Hill Lane, where there is none at present.

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Background Papers:

Hummer Road to Windsor Road Cycle Link Feasibility Report, 11th March 2005