



A322 / Broadway, Knaphill – Pelican Crossing

23 July 2003

KEY ISSUE:

To consider the introduction of a Pelican Crossing on the A322 Knaphill just South of Broadway.

SUMMARY:

The Local Committee agreed to provide a pelican crossing on the A322 between Broadway and Oak Tree Road following a recommendation from the A322 Task Group.

Observation of pedestrian crossing movements at this location in a 12 hour period recorded 21 persons crossing in either direction. Alternative crossing facilities exist within 170 metres South and 150 metres North of the proposed site.

On the evidence of the existing observed pedestrian movements the case for an additional pedestrian crossing facility at this location is not substantiated. However, it is considered that demand for an additional pedestrian crossing should be kept under review pending further housing

development in the immediate area.

CONSULTATIONS:

Consultation with Councillors and the public has been held throughout the development of the A322 plans as a whole.

The Divisional Member is aware of this proposal.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to agree

- (i) that the proposed crossing is deferred and not constructed; and**
- (ii) that the matter is kept under review pending construction of further housing development in the immediate area.**

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

1. At their meeting of 24 November 1999, Woking Borough Council's Transportation Sub-Committee abandoned the Southern Extension (Bisley Common to Brookwood Crossroads) of the West End, Bisley and Knaphill Bypass and approved a series of proposals along the A322 that had been developed by a Task Group comprising local Borough and County Councillors.
2. At its meeting of 6 June 2002 the Task Group reconsidered an original intention to place traffic lights with a pedestrian crossing facility at the junction of the A322 and Broadway, Knaphill. The Group were informed that the cost for diverting BT equipment alone had risen from £28,000 to £159,000 before the cost of installation was considered. The Task Group concurred that this scheme did not now offer good value and it was abandoned.
3. An alternative scheme was proposed to introduce a pedestrian crossing facility on the A322 between Broadway and Oak Tree Road at a projected cost of £72,000. This proposal was agreed by the Local Committee at its meeting of 1 July 2002.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

4. It is now 45 months since the original proposals were framed and any consideration of pedestrian need at that time may have changed. Since that date four pedestrian crossing facilities have been provided at Redding Way, Sparvell Road, Ivydene and Limecroft Road a distance of 900 metres. These facilities are all light controlled whilst an existing non-controlled crossing was removed.
5. A pedestrian survey was conducted on the A322 in the vicinity of the Broadway, the intended position for the crossing, on Wednesday 18 June 2003 between 0700 and 1900. Throughout the period 9 adults crossed West to East and 11 adults and one child of school age or under, East to West. None of these persons caught a bus at the adjacent stop. Crossing movements were consistent throughout the observed period. The results are shown at Annex A
6. The crossing was proposed as a replacement for the pedestrian part of a larger scheme to install traffic light control at the Broadway junction, which proved too expensive. No assessment was done at this time of actual need and it would not have been possible then to gauge the effect of other crossings now installed.
7. Alternative pedestrian crossing facilities from the proposed site are provided 170 metres south at Redding Way and 150 metres North at Sparvell Road.
8. The relatively low number of pedestrians crossing the A322 at this point and the availability of alternative crossings nearby suggest that this facility is not needed at the present time and the funds allocated for its construction be freed for other projects.

9. Officers are mindful that should further development be undertaken on the Western side of the A322 adjacent to Oak Tree Road this situation may change with further consideration needing to be given to the provision of a crossing at that time.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. When Brookwood Hospital was developed Sainsburys entered into a Section 106 Agreement to part fund the Southern Extension to the West End, Bisley, Knaphill By-pass. The Agreement contained a provision, which allowed for other works along the A322 corridor if the Southern Extension was not built. Originally funding for the pedestrian crossing facility was identified from this source. However it was not possible to complete the installation before the 27 November 2002 Agreement deadline. The scheme was carried forward for funding from the LTP.

11. The funding released from this scheme would be absorbed back into the existing 2003/04 LTP programme.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no sustainable development implications.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no crime and disorder implications.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12. There are no equalities implications.

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13. The current level of pedestrians crossing at the proposed location for a pedestrian crossing is low and does not justify expenditure on construction at this stage.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Nil

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