



Response to Petition

Petition for Safe Footpath Crossing of Littlewick Road

**Surrey County Council
Local Committee (Woking)
21 June 2007**

SUMMARY:

Wording of the petition:

To request that a form of pedestrian crossing or warning system be erected along the sometimes very busy Littlewick Road, to warn motorists that parents and children are crossing to and from Weasedale Court footpath and Littlewick Common.

Presentation of the Petition:

The petition has been signed by 56 people and will be presented to the Committee by Mrs Vine.

Paul Fishwick, Local Highways Manager, responded:

The Council received a letter dated 1 March 2007 from Mr and Mrs Vine of

Langton Close, Goldsworth Park, together with a petition, bearing 56 signatures, requesting some form of pedestrian crossing on Littlewick Road.

The petitioners want a pedestrian crossing to be positioned at the point where Right of Way 399 leads from Weasdale Court, Goldsworth Park to Littlewick Road and thence via a track on the other side of Littlewick Road to Littlewick Common. This route is used by parents taking young children to the Peter Pan pre-school Nursery, situated on Littlewick Common. (See attached Location Plan).

This section of Littlewick Road is subject to a 40mph speed limit, and can be busy at peak times. Pedestrians must wait for a suitable gap in both directions of traffic before being able to cross the road.

A zebra crossing at this location would not be suitable because of the speed of traffic. Therefore, if a crossing were provided, it would be a light controlled crossing, which could typically cost around £75,000.

An alternative would be to provide a traffic island, allowing pedestrians to cross the road in two stages. However, there is insufficient room to provide an island without widening the road. This in turn would mean the acquisition of private and/or common land, and perhaps the loss of several mature trees. Any common land needed for the scheme would have to be replaced elsewhere. This could take many years to resolve.

A pedestrian count was carried out at the crossing point on Monday 18 June 2007. Between 08.45 and 09.30, a total of 8 pedestrians crossed the road. This included 4 children. (The nursery opens at 09.15)

Although similar numbers of pedestrians could be expected when the nursery closes, the count would indicate that a formal crossing would not be used by large numbers of pedestrians, even allowing for some pent up demand. It is suggested that a scheme for the provision of a formal crossing be considered for inclusion in the rolling five year programme of works when this is discussed at the Members' Working Group in July.

In the short term, signs warning drivers of pedestrians crossing the road have been ordered. In addition, foliage on the south side of the road will be cut back to expose the overgrown pedestrian direction signs, thus highlighting the position of the crossing point.

Pedestrian count

Date: 18/6/07

Time: 08.45 – 0930

Location: Littlewick Road, by ROW 399, Littlewick Common

Time	North to south		South to north		TOTAL
	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	
0845 – 0900	-	-	-	-	-
0900 – 0915	-	-	2	3 (1 in buggy)	5
0915 - 0930	2	1 (in buggy)	-	-	3
TOTAL	2	1	2	3	8