

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)****DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014****LEAD OFFICER: NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER****SUBJECT: PETITION RESPONSE - JOLLY BOATMAN DEVELOPMENT****DIVISION: EAST MOLESEY & ESHER****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report updates Members following a petition by Mr Tony Nockles requesting an unmanned pedestrian crossing at the top of Cigarette Island Lane, paid for by the developer.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**For information only.**

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

There is no technical justification for an unmanned pedestrian crossing at the entrance to Cigarette Island Lane. The petitioners' request has been declined by the developer of the Jolly Boatman site.

**1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 A Petition was received by Committee in November 2013, requesting the Council to install an unmanned pedestrian crossing at the top of Cigarette Island Lane immediately.
- 1.2 Mr Tony Nockles presented the petition to explain the request for the unmanned pedestrian crossing being made at this time. He described how the top of Cigarette Island Lane doubles as a vehicle access road and a pedestrian and cycle crossing. He suggested that when construction restarts 50% of the expected 100 vehicles per day using the lane will be HGVs. The public is expected to mingle with the construction traffic, which he believes to be dangerous. He suggested that the situation would not improve once the site is occupied, as it will be a multi-purpose site requiring access by a large variety of vehicles.
- 1.3 He added that the petitioners are requesting that the crossing is installed before construction starts in March 2014, but that the developer not the taxpayer pays for the facility.

1.4 Mr Nockles reported that the petition was initiated by local residents and supported by Molesey Residents Association and Hampton Court Rescue Campaign.

1.5 For clarity, when Mr Nockles referred to an “unmanned” pedestrian crossing officers have interpreted this to mean either a Zebra Crossing or a traffic signal controlled crossing.

## **2. ANALYSIS:**

2.1 There have been no Personal Injury Collisions at the entrance to Cigarette Island Lane since records began in 1987.

2.2 As a crude approximation, if 100 vehicles per day use Cigarette Island Lane, and if all these vehicles both enter and leave the lane within an eight hour period, this equates to approximately one vehicle either entering or leaving Cigarette Island Lane every 2½ minutes.

2.3 There is no technical justification for a Zebra Crossing or a traffic signal controlled crossing in this location. The accident history is exemplary. It is not a difficult location to cross the road as the volume of traffic entering and leaving Cigarette Island Lane is very low. The risk of conflict between vehicles and pedestrians is similar at this location to many other side road junctions in Surrey.

2.4 The Planning Authority, Elmbridge Borough Council, following an appeal, has granted the Planning application but this has not been conditioned to include for an unmanned crossing facility, as there is no technical justification for such a crossing.

2.5 Notwithstanding the technical considerations, following receipt of the petition and at the request of Members, a meeting was convened between officers and Members. It was agreed that a request should be made to the developer to provide the crossing as requested by the petitioners. The developer has declined the request.

2.6 Officers visit the Jolly Boatman site regularly and are satisfied that construction vehicles are entering and exiting the site in a safe manner. Banksmen are on site to assist with moving lorries as and when appropriate. As the development progresses, officers will continue to monitor the site to ensure that the construction is not adversely affecting the highway network.

## **3. OPTIONS:**

3.1 None.

## **4. CONSULTATIONS:**

4.1 None.

## **5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 None.

## **6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

6.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding.

## **7. LOCALISM:**

7.1 The Local Committee is able to prioritise its budgets according to local priorities.

## **8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

8.1 A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder as well as improve people's perception of crime.

## **9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

9.1 There is no technical justification for an unmanned pedestrian crossing at the entrance to Cigarette Island Lane.

9.2 A request has been made to the developer of the Jolly Boatman site to provide an unmanned crossing. This request has been declined.

## **10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

10.1 It is anticipated that the development of the Jolly Boatman site will proceed according to the planning permission granted by Elmbridge Borough Council.

10.2 The Council will work with the developer to ensure that their obligations in respect of the Public Highway are discharged as the development progresses.

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- **Contact Officer:** Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (NE)
  - **Consulted:** N / A.
  - **Annexes:** None
  - **Sources/background papers:** None.
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