

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)**

DATE: 14th SEPTEMBER 2015
LEAD OFFICER: NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER



SUBJECT: RYDENS ROAD CONSULTATION RESPONSES
DIVISION: WALTON SOUTH & OATLANDS

<p><u>SUMMARY OF ISSUE:</u></p> <p>This report updates members following the recent public consultation carried out in the area. It was intended to gauge the level of support or otherwise to the closure of the Meadowside junction to facilitate the introduction of a pedestrian refuge island along Rydens Road.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:</p> <p>resolve to continue or not to continue with the initiative to introduce a pedestrian refuge island by way of closure of the Meadowside junction based upon the consultation responses received.</p>
<p><u>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>This Committee have already resolved to carry out a feasibility study, unfortunately a suitable crossing location could not be found which did not affect existing junctions, or accesses. The Meadowside junction is on the pedestrian desire line, and its closure would facilitate the introduction of a pedestrian refuge island.</p>

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Rydens Road is the D3830, which is the main distributor route running east to west, linking the A244 Hersham Road to the C153 Molesey Road, and is 1.8 Kilometers long.
- 1.2 The railway line also runs to the south of Rydens Road and there are only two locations where vehicular traffic can cross this railway line, one being under the railway bridge on the A244 Hersham Road and the other under the smaller arched railway bridge on Molesey Road, adjacent to Hersham railway station.
- 1.3 Height restrictions are imposed on both bridges and whilst the higher bridge at the A244 is 12'6" the lower bridge on the Molesey Road is merely 10'6", and severely limits access from either side. Both bridges have recently been

subject to bridge beam works by Railtrack as they are both prone to strikes by over height vehicles.

- 1.4 Due to the environmental conditions of the surrounding area, with the rivers Mole/Ember bounding the east, railway line to the south, and reservoirs to the North and East, together with height restrictions imposed upon the two bridges, it does mean that vehicular traffic is very limited in its ability to access the area without utilising these limited routes.
- 1.5 The Molesey industrial estate resides on the Molesey Road, to the north of the Hersham railway station and a signed HGV route has been in existence for many years, which directs vehicles to this estate from the A244, by way of Rydens Road due to these limitations explained above.
- 1.6 Rydens Road is subject to a 30mph speed limit and is well lit by a continuous system of street lighting. Pedestrian footways are provided on both sides of the road.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 Due to all the above, members are often receiving requests for improved crossing facilities. The Committee funded a feasibility study to determine what measures could be introduced to assist in pedestrians crossing the road, and also locate such a facility near to the pedestrian desire line.
- 2.2 The feasibility concluded that a pedestrian refuge island would be the most appropriate measure but did also advise that only one location could be found to locate such a measure. The identified location was marked up on site however the local resident fronting it immediately advised highways that due to his disabled son and the type of vehicle that was required, the island would cause safety issues for him.
- 2.3 As no other opportunities existed another solution was identified however this would necessitate the closure of junction of Meadowside with Rydens Road.
- 2.4 An initial consultation with residents was carried out through the Councillors by way of the "inTouch leaflet". This proved inconclusive and hence another more formal consultation was carried out, specifically targeting local residents and passing traffic.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 This report sets out the outcome of the consultation, to enable members to determine whether or not this option should be considered further.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Consultation was carried out from the 10th July until the 17th August 2015.
- 4.2 651 letters were sent out to the local area, including schools, and 3 large signs were also erected on lamp columns in the area, seeking views. A website address where residents could express their views was also set up. A copy of the letter is attached as Annex 1.
- 4.3 An overwhelming response has been received to this consultation.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/elmbridge .

4.4 207 letters were returned of the 651 sent out, 32% return. A further 57 responses were received directly via the web site, from residents who had seen the signs erected on site.

4.5 In total 264 responses, 112 in support, 152 opposing, and 6 with no views.

4.6 Summary results from the letter drop.

Objections	Road Name	Support	Road Name
28	Rydens Avenue	18	Rydens Avenue
15	Walton Park	17	Walton Park
13	The Furrows	8	The Furrows
11	Rydens Road	12	Rydens Road
9	Meadowside	14	Meadowside
9	Ambleside Ave	5	Ambleside Ave
7	King George Avenue	4	King George Avenue
7	Severn Drive	4	Severn Drive
4	Rydens Park	2	Rydens Park
2	Beecot Lane	3	Beecot Lane
1	Brunswick Close	0	Brunswick Close
1	Foxhollow Close	2	Foxhollow Close
1	Walton Park Lane	0	Walton Park Lane
0	Devoke Way	3	Devoke Way
0	Rybrook Drive	2	Rybrook Drive
0	St Michaels Close	2	St Michaels Close
0	The Spur	2	The Spur
0	Wolesey Drive	1	Wolesey Drive
108	TOTALS	99	

4.7 Summary results from website

Objections	Road Name	Support	Road Name
2	Rydens Avenue	1	Rydens Avenue
1	Walton Park	0	Walton Park
0	The Furrows	1	The Furrows
10	Rydens Road	3	Rydens Road
4	Meadowside	3	Meadowside
2	Ambleside Ave	0	Ambleside Ave
1	King George Avenue	0	King George Avenue
2	Danesfield Close	1	Danesfield Close
1	Church Street	1	Church Street
0	Beecot Lane	1	Beecot Lane
1	Colne Drive	1	Colne Drive
3	Wolsey Drive	0	Wolsey Drive
5	Denton Grove	0	Denton Grove
3	Shaldon Way	0	Shaldon Way
1	Cottimore Avenue	0	Cottimore Avenue
1	Braycourt Avenue	0	Braycourt Avenue
3	York Gardens	0	York Gardens
1	Lindley Road	0	Lindley Road
1	Redfern Avenue	0	Redfern Avenue
3	Holly Avenue	0	Holly Avenue
1	Brunswick Close	0	Brunswick Close
0	Stuart Avenue	1	Stuart Avenue
44		13	

4.8 Further details of the comments received in the 207 letters returned are included at Annexes 2 and 3 and the responses received directly through the website at Annex 4.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 If there scheme were to go ahead then it would need to be funded by way of both Divisional Members' local committee highways allocation.

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 consultation is as a direct response to perceived concerns raised by the local community, crossing Rydens Road, and an attempt to locate a suitable crossing point.

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 The committee is asked to determine from the consultation results how it wishes to proceed with this suggested proposal.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 If the committee resolve to progress this initiative then a detailed design will be carried out and funding will need to be made available from both divisional members.

10.2 If not then the initiative will be abandoned.

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- **Contact Officer:** Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (NE)
 - **Consulted:** Divisional Member, Walton Divisional Member, and Borough Councillors
 - **Annexes:** 4
 - **Sources/background papers:** None.
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