

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

DATE: 3 OCTOBER 2016
LEAD OFFICER: NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER



SUBJECT: BURWOOD ROAD JUNCTION WITH PLEASANT PLACE
 PEDESTRIAN AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

RESULTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

DIVISION: HERSHAM

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Concerns have been raised by residents and road users regarding the existing road layout at the junction of Burwood Road and Pleasant Place. Following discussions with the divisional member, it was agreed to consult on proposals to amend the road layout at this location to improve facilities for road users and pedestrians.

Public consultation has been carried out on the proposals. The consultation also invited any other comments to be raised.

This report presents the results of the public consultation. The Local Committee is asked to note the results of the consultation and the recommendations made. The Local Committee is also asked to note the next steps, in that the scheme will progress to detailed design and construction, informed by the public consultation that is the subject of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

- (i) Note the results of the public consultation as set out in this report, particularly that there is overwhelming level of support for the proposals presented for public consultation;
- (ii) Note that the preferred option is recognised and will be incorporated in the detailed design;
- (iii) Note that the results and feedback will be used to inform the detailed design.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To inform the Local Committee of the results of the public consultation and the next steps in progressing the scheme.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Burwood Road and Pleasant Place are streets in Hersham, of predominantly residential use. A location plan is attached as **Annex 1**.
- 1.2 The junction of the two roads is adjacent to Hersham Green and close to the mini-roundabout junction of Burwood Road, Queens Road and Molesey Road. There are a number of mixed retail and commercial units with frontages on Burwood Road, as well as pedestrian access to Hersham Green shopping area.
- 1.3 There are existing marked parking bays, including one disabled bay. The marked bays number fewer than ten, with the additional area used as an informal parking area. There is a bus stop adjacent to the parking bays, and the wide junction area is used to facilitate turning of buses. See **Photo1** below.



Photo 1
Existing layout at the junction of Burwood Road and Pleasant Place

- 1.4 Burhill Primary School is accessed from Pleasant Place, approximately 150 metres from the junction area.
- 1.5 There is an existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on the Burwood Road arm of the mini-roundabout junction, which includes a central refuge island, dropped kerbs and tactile paving.
- 1.6 There is an existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on Pleasant Place near the junction area, with dropped kerbs and tactile paving. Whilst this provides benefits, it is not on the desire line for pedestrians travelling between Burwood Road and the Hersham Green shopping area or Molesey Road.
- 1.7 The current layout can lead to confusion and potential difficulty in negotiating the wide junction mouth and parking area, particularly for pedestrians. It has also been noted that the existing footway on the west side of Pleasant Place near the junction is narrow and adds to safety concerns. Further concerns are that traffic turning left into Pleasant Place can do so at speed by cutting the corner of the marked junction layout, using the parking area.

- 1.8 Surrey Highways undertook feasibility studies, including site visits. This led to an outline design for proposed improvements, comprising:
- A new pedestrian island at the mouth of the Burwood Road/Pleasant Place junction, to improve crossing facilities as well as slow traffic turning left into Pleasant Place. The existing western and eastern kerblines would be realigned to increase pedestrian space and provide visibility for the crossing.
 - Restrictions on vehicles permitted to enter the parking area directly from Burwood Road, to reduce speeds and stop vehicles cutting the corner into Pleasant Place. The parking bays would be accommodated and cars would access/egress on Pleasant Place. Buses and delivery vehicles and larger vehicles such as refuse collection would be permitted to access directly from Burwood Road and would exit onto Pleasant Place.
 - The existing uncontrolled crossing on the Burwood Road arm of the mini-roundabout junction would be upgraded to include a raised table, to reduce the speeds of vehicles exiting the roundabout to Burwood Road.
 - The western footway on Pleasant Place would be widened, from the junction with Burwood Road to the junction with Avondale Close, to improve pedestrian facilities. A new uncontrolled pedestrian crossing would be provided with dropped kerbs and tactile paving. Two options for Pleasant Place were presented for public consultation:
 - Option 1 – road narrowed on the east side to create a priority give way feature, with priority for vehicles northbound on Pleasant Place
 - Option 2 – no priority give way feature
 - Minor amendments to yellow line parking controls to maintain clear space and visibility
- 1.9 A consultation letter and a drawing of the proposed measures were delivered in May 2016 to residents and businesses in the immediate area. A questionnaire was also included to invite feedback.
- 1.10 Further copies of the consultation material were deposited at Hersham Library. Elmbridge Borough Councillors for the area and Hersham Residents' Association were also consulted.
- 1.11 Copies of the consultation drawing and letter plus questionnaire are attached as **Annexes 2 and 3** respectively. A plan showing the consultation area and details of additional consultees are attached as **Annex 4**.
- 1.12 This report presents the results of the public consultation.

2. ANALYSIS:

Responses

- 2.1 Letters, the consultation drawing and questionnaire were delivered to residents and business addresses in the area shown in Annex 4. This

included properties in Burwood Road, Pleasant Place, New Berry Lane, Avondale Close, Faulkners Road, Queens Road and Molesey Road. In total, the consultation material was sent by post to 260 addresses.

- 2.2 There was a total of 76 responses received from residents and businesses, plus a response from Surrey Police.
- 2.3 Further details on the responses received are attached as **Annex 5**.

Summary of responses and comments made

- 2.4 The view expressed by respondents is that they support the proposed improvement measures (78%).
- 2.5 The view expressed by residents is that the majority support the proposed improvement measures (75%).
- 2.6 The view expressed by business respondents is that the majority support the proposed improvement measures (92%).
- 2.7 The view expressed by respondents is that they prefer Option 2 to Option 1 (47% versus 36%).
- 2.8 Of the responses received, a number of common issues emerged, which are summarised below, along with officer comments:

- Concerns regarding access for emergency services
- Concerns regarding access for buses

Comment: The detailed design would include surveys and modelling to ensure that access would not be restricted by the scheme.

- Concerns at the level of parking in Pleasant Place
- Concern over parking in Avondale Close
- Concern over parking in Faulkners Rd for the private nursery

Comment: The detailed design would include assessment of the likely impact on parking. The council's highways and parking teams will work closely to address concerns.

- Concerns that Option 1 would cause more disruption and congestion

Comment: Option 1 would require southbound traffic on Pleasant Place having to give way to northbound traffic. At busy times this could result in a queue of southbound traffic, potentially back to the junction with Burwood Road.

- Concerns that the options presented do not show proposals for the bus stop area and bus shelter, potentially affecting the entrance for the shopping centre

Comment: The proposals presented were of a preliminary nature to gauge the level of support on the principles of changes in road layout and permitted traffic movements. Detailed design will consider the comments and feedback, including liaison with the bus operators to investigate improvements to the bus stop area and bus shelter.

Other consultees

2.9 Additional individuals and organisations were also consulted (see Annex 4).

Emergency services

2.10 Surrey Police responded to state they support the proposals.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 A number of options, together with officer comments, are given below, based on the results of the consultation.
- 3.2 **Option A:** Proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures, based on the proposals presented for public consultation.

Comment: There is strong support for the proposals presented for public consultation. The preference is for the option without a priority give way feature on Pleasant Place (i.e. Option 2 as presented).

- 3.3 **Option B:** Do not proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures or further investigation and assessment, i.e. 'do nothing'.

Comment: The existing road layout would remain.

- 3.4 As there is strong support for the proposals presented for public consultation, Option A as outlined above (para 3.2) will be progressed, i.e. **proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures, based on the proposals presented for public consultation**. The comments and feedback from the public consultation will be considered in the detailed design of the scheme. Further consultation will also be undertaken with stakeholders including Surrey Police and the bus operators.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Proposals to provide improvements at, and in the vicinity of, the junction of Burwood Road and Pleasant Place have been the subject of public consultation, the results of which are presented in this report.
- 4.2 Elmbridge Borough Councillors for the area and the emergency services have also been consulted.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 There is funding allocated from Elmbridge Local Committee’s Divisional Programmes budget this financial year for measures in Burwood Road and Pleasant Place.
- 5.2 There is additional funding from planning contributions collected from developers.

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 Highway Service is mindful of the localism agenda and engages with the local community as appropriate before proceeding with the construction of any highway scheme.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	Set out below
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report

- 8.1 Crime and Disorder implications
A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder.
- 8.2 Sustainability implications
The use of sustainable materials and the recycling of materials is carried out wherever possible and appropriate.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 There is strong support for the proposals presented for public consultation. The preference is for the option without a priority give way feature on Pleasant Place.
- 9.2 Concerns have been raised regarding access, parking and potential congestion.
- 9.3 The Local Committee is asked to note the results of the public consultation as set out in this report.

9.4 The proposals presented for public consultation will be progressed, thus proceeding with detailed design and implementation of measures. The comments and feedback from the public consultation will be considered in the detailed design of the scheme.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Detailed design of the scheme will be progressed, leading to implementation.
- 10.2 It is anticipated that implementation will be in stages over the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18.
- 10.3 Works to progress the more straightforward elements, such as widening the footway and installing the raised table, will be progressed first. Further design works are required to ensure that the pedestrian island and parking area consider access for buses and larger vehicles and pedestrian facilities. The detailed design process will consider how best to address these issues, which may include temporary markings or kerbs to provide the optimum layout.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

As detailed in the report

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Location plan
- Annex 2: Plan of proposals
- Annex 3: Consultation letter and questionnaire
- Annex 4: Consultation delivery area and consultees
- Annex 5: Responses received

Sources/background papers:

- Responses to public consultation
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