

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Stratford on Avon Area Committee**

Date of Committee **27th July 2005**

Report Title **Toucan Crossing on Shipston Road and
Pedestrian and Cycleway Link,
Stratford-upon-Avon**

Summary It is proposed to install a Toucan crossing on Shipston Road, Stratford and improve the pedestrian and cycleway link from the Bridgetown development to the town centre. This report details the investigation into the location of the Toucan crossing and presents the results of the consultation.

**For further information
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**Would the recommended
decision be contrary to the
Budget and Policy
Framework?** Yes/No

Background Papers Location Plan
Objection Letters

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- *Details to be specified*

Other Committees

Local Member(s)
(With brief comments, if appropriate) Councillor R O Hyde – I am glad a compromise location has been agreed for this much needed crossing that will result in the sycamore tree not having to be cut down. It is important that this crossing is built as soon as possible as many children cross the busy Shipston Road at this point. I also want the process of reducing the speed to 30mph to be started now. It will also be important to rectify the "ponding" that occurs on the existing footpath link to Kipling Road when the crossing is installed.
Councillor M Perry

- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)
- Chief Executive
- Legal I Marriott – comments incorporated.
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils Stratford on Avon District Council – **objection** to proximity of crossing to tree.
- Health Authority
- Police Warwickshire Police – concerned about the proximity of the crossing to the brow of the hill.
- Other Bodies/Individuals Local residents – various **objections**.
Stratford Town Council – **objected** to the removal of the tree but supported the principle of a crossing.

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** (If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps)

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Stratford on Avon Area Committee – 27th July 2005

Toucan Crossing on Shipston Road and Pedestrian and Cycleway Link, Stratford-upon-Avon

Report of the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy

Recommendation

That approval be given to the proposed Toucan Crossing and pedestrian and cycleway link.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed Toucan Crossing is part of a pedestrian and cycleway link from the Bridgetown development and has been secured through a S106 Agreement forming part of the Planning Permission for the development.
- 1.2 The Toucan Crossing was originally to be located in the middle of the verge outside No.96 Shipston Road which would have required the removal of a mature tree.
- 1.3 Following consultation with local residents, County Councillors and other groups, who have objected to the removal of the tree, the design has been amended.
- 1.4 This report seeks the approval of Committee to implement the Toucan Crossing on Shipston Road and the pedestrian and cycleway link from the Bridgetown Development.

2. Description

- 2.1 This project involves extending the new cycleway running from the Recreation ground adjacent to the River Avon in Stratford-upon-Avon to Kipling Road. The cycleway currently terminates at the Shipston Road and the project involves the construction of a Toucan crossing on the A3400 Shipston Road and the construction of a pedestrian and cycleway link to Kipling Road.
- 2.2 The revised location for the Toucan Crossing on the southern part of the verge outside No.96, allows for a 3 metre radius to be maintained around the tree (Drawing No.7A shown in **Appendix A**). This has been determined by the County Council's forester to be adequate to safeguard the tree given the lack of alternatives. This assumes that careful excavation work is carried out on one

side of the tree only and that an arboriculturist is present whilst the works are excavated.

- 2.3 The crossing has been positioned to best fit into the desire line between the footway to the Development and the route into the Recreation Ground. Locating the crossing further to the south would not be acceptable on safety grounds due to the lack of visibility over the crest of the hill. Locating the crossing to the north would require pedestrians and cyclists to make a significant detour from their route. In this situation the crossing is likely to be poorly used as the shortest route will still be preferred.
- 2.4 The proposal for the Toucan Crossing on Shipston Road has undergone a Stage 1 Safety Audit, which confirmed that this is a suitable location for a crossing.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 Stratford District Council has been consulted, the arboriculture officer has expressed concern about the potential loss of the tree. Since the alternative design has been produced which maintains the tree they have stated that they would **object** to any construction within 8 to 12 metres of the tree. This position is based on the recommendation of the British Standard BS5837 but does not take into account the site specific constraints.
- 3.2 Warwickshire Police have been consulted regarding the proposed layout. They have a concern about the proximity of the proposed crossing to the brow of the hill. The distance to the brow of the hill and the associated visibility has been checked and was confirmed in the Safety Audit to be acceptable.
- 3.3 Information about the scheme was also sent to 60 local residents in the vicinity of the proposed crossing on Shipston Road. A number of comments have been made, which are listed below with the dated responses.
- 3.4 This information was also posted on site.

Objection 1 Objection to the felling of the tree.

Response The design has been amended to allow the tree to remain.

Objection 2 The provision of a Toucan Crossing within a 40mph speed limit

Response The Toucan Crossing has been designed for a 40mph speed limit, however the reduction of the speed limit to 30mph will be investigated and included as part of the scheme. Installing the Toucan Crossing would also have the effect of reducing the traffic speeds in the area.

Objection 3 The impact of the traffic signal equipment proposed.

Response The standard signal equipment including four poles with primary and secondary heads has been proposed. The audible indicators have a variable noise level and on completion the Signal Engineer will be able to agree their level with the adjacent residents.

Objection 4 The number of new street lighting columns on the foot/cycleway approaching the crossing.

Response Following discussion with the Street Lighting Engineer the number of proposed lights has been reduced from three to two.

Objection 5 Safety of the connection between the Kipling Road end of the pedestrian and cycleway link and the existing cycleway at the Bridgetown Development.

Response Connecting the two parts of the cycleway was not a part of the original scheme and the provision of an off road link would require land purchase.

Objection 6 Location of the crossing.

Response As described in paragraph 2.3, the proposed location for the Toucan Crossing is the best fit for the desire line between the Bridgetown Development and the Recreation Ground.

Objection 7 The possibility of conflict between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles on the pedestrian and cycleway link.

Response Warning signs will be provided on the link and the vehicles are likely to be slow moving.

4. Conclusion

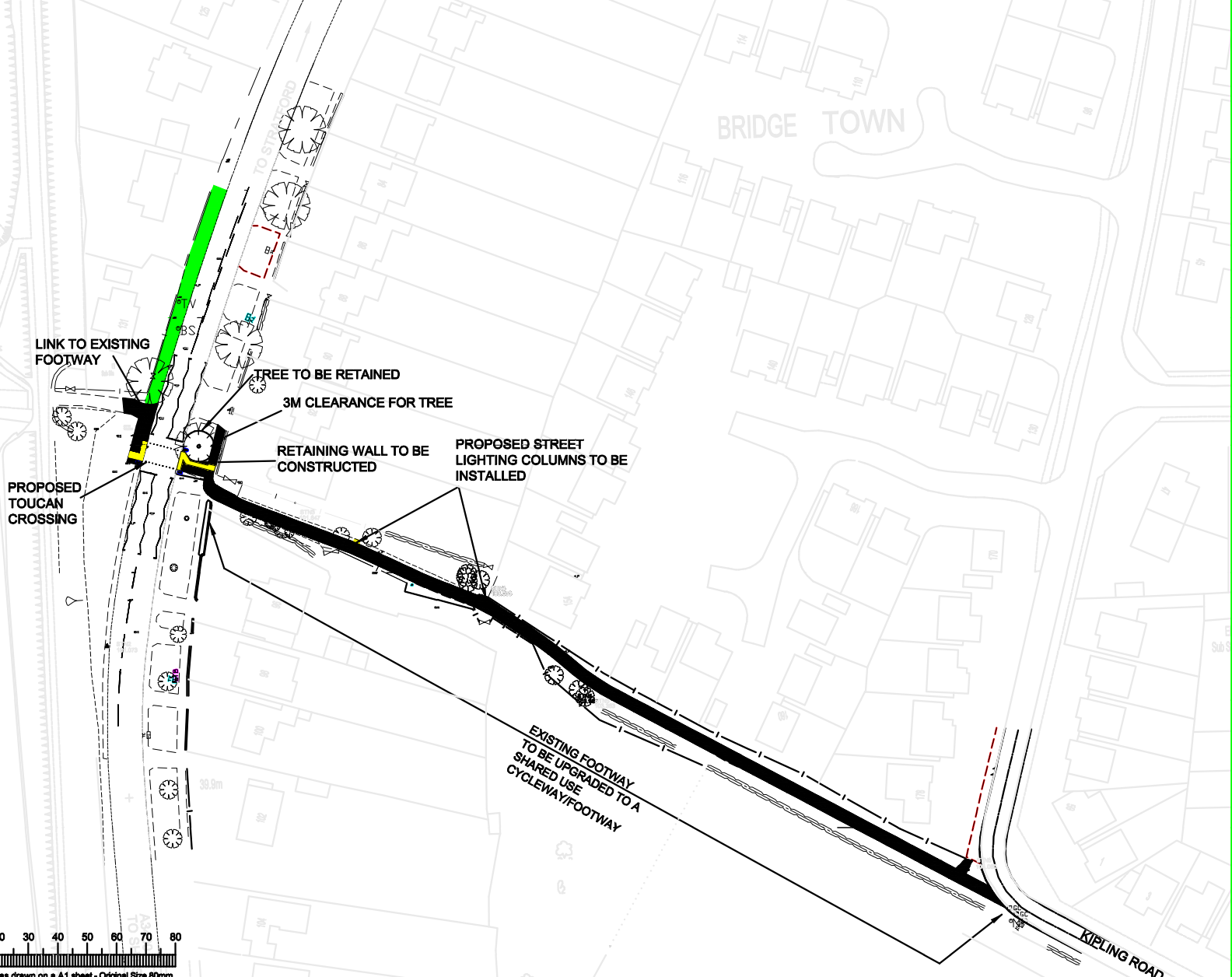
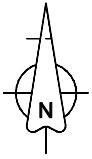
4.1 The provision of a Toucan Crossing on Shipston Road would act as a traffic calming feature and would make it easier and safer for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road. The crossing will include audible and tactile units for the use of the visually and hearing impaired pedestrians.

5. Environmental Implications

5.1 The crossing will help improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists and could encourage more people to walk and cycle in the area.

JOHN DEEGAN
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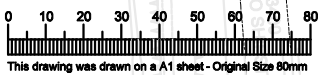
12th July 2005



Key

- : Toucan Crossing Tactile Paving
- : Proposed Footway
- : Verge

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Scale: 1:1250	Ref. No. Stratford - on - Avon Area Committee 27th July 2005	Drawn: TN	Checked: NvdH	June 2005
Subject:		Plan No.: H/A3400-16/7A		John Deegan B.A., M.Sc., Dip.T.P. M.C.I.T., M.R.T.P.I. Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4SX

Appendix A Toucan Crossing on Shipston Road, Stratford - upon - Avon



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