Agenda No

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee	Stratford Area Committee
Date of Committee	15th March 2006
Report Title	Proposed Zebra Crossing at Rushbrook Road near Wordsworth Avenue, Bridgetown, Stratford-upon-Avon
Summary	The Zebra Crossing has been proposed as part of a traffic management scheme for Bridgetown, funded through the Trinity Mead development. The crossing forms part of the Safer Routes to School initiative, local safety schemes and a facility for Quality Pedestrian Corridors.
For further information please contact	Jerry Birkbeck Environmental Design Tel. 01926 412640 jerrybirkbeck@warwickshire.gov.uk
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?	No
Background Papers	7 letters supporting/not objecting to the scheme. 5 letters objecting to the scheme.

CONSULTATION ALREADY	INDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified
Other Committees	
Local Member(s) (With brief comments, if appropriate)	X Councillor R. Hyde – Supports the zebra crossing
Other Elected Members	X Councillor M. Perry – for information
Cabinet Member (Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)	
Chief Executive	
Legal	X I Marriott – comments incorporated

Finance	
Other Chief Officers	·····
District Councils	X No objections
Health Authority	·····
Police	X No objections
Other Bodies/Individuals	X School Governors (Bridgetown Primary) - Support the zebra crossing.
	Residents Association – support the zebra crossing.
FINAL DECISION	YES/NO (If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps)
SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :	
SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :	Details to be specified
SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS : Further consideration by this Committee	Details to be specified
Further consideration by	
Further consideration by this Committee	
Further consideration by this Committee To Council	
Further consideration by this Committee To Council To Cabinet	



Stratford on Avon Area Committee

Proposed Zebra Crossing at Rushbrook Road near Wordsworth Avenue, Bridgetown, Stratford-upon-Avon

Report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy

Recommendation

That the installation of a zebra crossing at Rushbrook Road near Wordsworth Avenue, Bridgetown, Stratford-upon-Avon be supported.

1. Background

- 1.1 In October 2001 the developers of the Trinity Mead development adjacent to the Bridgetown estate agreed to a S106 payment of £90,000 for traffic management proposals. Extensive consultation was carried out in November 2004. A number of proposals were suggested and investigated, but some rejected as being unfeasible.
- 1.2 The Zebra Crossing forms part of the overall traffic management proposals for Bridgetown. The proposal will provide a safe crossing point for children attending Bridgetown Primary School and also benefit the wider community. The location of the crossing has been agreed through discussions with the School Governors and our Safer Routes to School staff. (See Appendix A, and Appendix B which is attached for Members of the Committee only).

2. Consultations

- 2.1 Details of the proposals were delivered to the eight properties which would be most affected by the zebra crossing. Six responses were received, five of which raised objections, one supported the scheme.
- 2.2 Details of the proposals were sent to the Warwickshire Police and Stratford on Avon District Council. Neither raise objections.
- 2.3 Councillor Hyde, The Residents Association and School Governors support the crossing proposal.



3. Responses to Consultation

Residents Association

3.1 Believes the crossing will encourage and make safer the walk to school.

School Governors

3.2 Fully in support of both the need and proposed siting of the zebra crossing. The crossing is in the most natural place for children, walking and cycling.

Resident in support

- 3.3 Definitely a positive safety measure, sensible location.
- 3.4 Received objections:-
 - (i) Concern that there aren't enough children and parents crossing to warrant a crossing.

Response - The crossing has the support of the Governors of Bridgetown Primary School and the location has been agreed through discussions with them and our Safer Routes to Schools staff. The Police have raised no objections.

(ii) The crossing would be better placed further down Rushbrook Road.

Response - The crossing point has been confirmed as appropriate in a Stage 1 Safety Audit.

(iii) The beacons/flood lights of the zebra crossing will disrupt the sleep of their child and cause the child stress.

Response – A cowling would be fitted to the rear of the beacon to reduce glare to surrounding properties.

(iv) Concern about the flashing of the beacons day and night.

Response – A cowling would be fitted to the rear of the beacon to reduce glare to surrounding properties.

(v) Loss of visitor parking.

Response - The scheme would result in the loss of visitor parking space. However, it is important to consider the scheme in the wider context of pedestrian safety.



(vi) Concern that the crossing isn't enough to slow speeds along Rushbrook Road.

Response - A zebra crossing would help to slow speeds down. Our Safety Engineers have found from experience that most drivers are very cautious when approaching a zebra crossing, so that it would assist in slowing down vehicles exiting from Wordsworth Avenue.

(vii) Concern that it will affect the ease/safety in which they can reverse out of their drive.

Response - The presence of a crossing would slow vehicles down. However, it is recognised that it could affect any individual reversing out of their drive.

(viii) That its an "exaggeration" and not in keeping with the area, prefers the option of road humps and narrowing.

Response - Other options have been considered. Road humps have been considered but there were objections raised by residents at the Public Exhibition in November 2004 due to the noise and need for additional signage. The use of narrowings has been looked at, but to work effectively there would need to be a steady two-way traffic flow. If it is quiet, which it is most of the time they would have little effect on traffic speeds.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 (i) Safer Routes to School to encourage a model shift more children walking.
 - (ii) Local safety schemes likely casualty savings.
 - (iii) Developer funded schemes to mitigate anticipated traffic impact of development /pedestrian flow.
 - (v) Quality Pedestrian Corridors part of a package of measures on strategic walking corridors.

5. Conclusion

5.1 It is concluded that the wider benefits of the zebra crossing are overriding in this case. The promotion of the Walking Agenda and Safer Routes to School Imitative will benefit from the installation of this crossing. The nature of the crossing is also likely to alert drivers to drive with more caution and reduce a speeding issue that is perceived by some residents.

JOHN DEEGAN Strategic Director of Environment and Economy Shire Hall, Warwick 1st March 2006





