

Decision Record – Objection to proposed raised zebra crossing on Willes Road near Leam Terrace, Leamington Spa.

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning
Date of decision	16 April 2021
	Signed

Decision taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves the implementation of a raised zebra crossing as advertised in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1980 Section 90A on Willes Road near Leam Terrace, Leamington Spa.

Reasons for decisions

Where objections have been received to advertised traffic orders it is necessary for the Portfolio Holder to decide on the orders.

Background Information

As a result of concerns expressed to the Local Member by parents of children attending Clapham Terrace Community School Primary School, and disabled road users regarding speeding on Willes Road near Leam Terrace, and vehicles failing to stop to let pedestrians cross at the Zebra crossing. We have proposed to make the existing zebra crossing a raised crossing as shown in Appendix 1.

The proposed traffic orders were advertised on 15th October 2020 to the 5th November 2020. The only objection we have received is from a resident who hasn't supplied their address but has made comments in reference to this.

County Councillor Helen Adkins who is in support of this crossing commented that many residents had come to her over the years concerned about pedestrian safety when crossing at the zebra crossing especially parents of children who use this crossing to get to the local school, the main concern was that that motorists were travelling too fast. She feels that this scheme will help to protect vulnerable pedestrians, cyclists and road users when crossing at the raised zebra crossing.

Residents Objection – Resident No address

I am writing to object at the proposed speed humps at the zebra crossing on the Willes rd. Leamington spa. the reason I'm objecting is because this is a main through road from various villages etc that surround Leamington, thus speed humps will cause vehicles to have to slow down from the legal 30mph to cross the crossing only to have to increase back to 30mph after. this in turn would contribute to adding more pollution into the air, I've lived in Leamington all my life & seen many changes, but this district seems to have an obsession with causing vehicles to slow down only to have to speed up again by installing speed humps, road chicanes & or

narrowing lanes...only to make statements later, as to the sudden rise in pollution levels.

I can't really see how this proposed scheme will make the crossing any safer, as there is an crossing point only 20 yards away from the zebra crossing, so 2 crossing points within 20 yards ...and still see people crossing that road in unsuitable places. maybe something on the lines of awareness might be a better option as they used too (e.g. something painted on the road to inform drivers of the oncoming crossing.

Officers Response: Willes Road is a local distributor road from Leamington Town Centre out towards the Radford Road to Radford Semele and beyond. The Zebra crossing on Willes Road is located approximately 12 metres southwest of Leam Terrace, it is the desire line for local parents with children to cross the road to get backwards and forwards to the local schools south of the Radford Road. Willes Road which is approximately 11 metres wide with a separate right turn lane, forms a crossroad junction with Leam Terrace which is 12 metres wide. There is a pedestrian refuge north west of the junction for pedestrians to cross, and the zebra crossing on the south side. The accident analysis for this junction including the zebra crossing reveals 5 injury accidents of which one of these accidents occurred at the zebra crossing. This involved an elderly pedestrian attempting to cross Willes Road at the zebra crossing when a vehicle on the main road failed to stop at the crossing and an accident occurred.

Average vehicle speeds along Willes Road which is a 30mph speed limit are on average 29.10 miles in free flow conditions, on either approach, there are a small number of vehicles who exceed that speed. Vehicle speeds on Willes Road are not excessive due to vehicles manoeuvring in the centre of the junction and the two crossings either side of the junction on Willes Road. The design of the raised zebra crossing will allow parents with children and people with disabled wheel chairs to cross at surface level, vehicles approaching the zebra crossing will have a user friendly ramp on the approaches as we have extended it to 1.35 metres, so that Buses can straddle the crossing and there is no discomfort for pedestrians. Vehicles will be able to travel at the same speed along Willes Road without having to slow down when attempting to use the raised zebra crossing. Whilst there is no data to provide specific base levels before and after the proposals, it is anticipated that any increase in emissions would be negligible due to the bus friendly raised table design which will allow buses and heavier vehicles to ride the raised table in a smoother manner due to the lower incline. Willes Road, a 30mph Speed limit road, carries various modes of transport including, Buses and Heavy Goods Vehicles. These vehicles will be able maintain vehicle speeds on approaching the new raised zebra crossing as all other traffic will do. The scheme will have improved signing and lining to make drivers more aware as they approach the crossing facility. Pedestrians will also be able to cross the road more safely as the raised crossing will be at level with the existing pavement, and so their presence in the sight line of drivers will be increased.

Financial Implications

The scheme will be fully funded from the Member`s delegated budget funding for 2020/2021.

Environmental Implications

The environmental impacts of delegated Budget highway schemes are considered as part of the process.

The contractors on the Council's Framework Contract for the Provision of Engineering and Construction Works (WCC 6012) have all demonstrated that they hold a certificate of compliance with BS EN ISO 140001 (or equivalent) or have otherwise satisfactorily demonstrated their policies and arrangements for the management of construction-related environmental issues.

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Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Transport & Planning
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Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

Lists of reports considered
Not Applicable

List of background papers
Residents Letter redacted, Appendix 1 Proposed raised zebra crossing plan, Statement of Reasons & Notice.

Members and officers consulted and informed
Portfolio Holder – Councillor Redford Corporate Board Legal – Ian Marriott Finance – Andrew Felton Equality – Democratic Services – Isabelle Moorhouse/Helen Barnsley Councillors – Local Member(s): Cllr Adkins (Willes)