

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET MEMBER MEETING - JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

12 November 2013

Report of the Acting Strategic Director - Environmental Services

**NORTH WINGFIELD, A6175 ST LAWRENCE ROAD –
PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITY**

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To inform the Cabinet Member of investigations undertaken following the receipt of a petition requesting the provision of a pedestrian crossing on St Lawrence Road, North Wingfield and also to consider the objections received following public consultation on the provision of such a pedestrian crossing facility.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The meeting of the Cabinet Member on 10 September 2013 acknowledged receipt of a petition requesting a pedestrian crossing facility on St Lawrence Road, North Wingfield (Minute No.43/13 refers). The petition contains 38 signatures on paper and 20 signatures on an e-petition and reads as follows:

“St Lawrence Road, North Wingfield between The White hart Inn and the Gate Inn needs a pedestrian crossing (Zebra, Pelican or Puffin) to allow safe crossing of pedestrians of all ages at all times. A school crossing patrol warden during school times is not enough. This is a busy road and is extremely difficult and time consuming to cross safely during high traffic flow, it will benefit the community’s safety to have a pedestrian crossing on this part of the road.”

Councillor Kevin Gillott has supported the content of the petition and expressed a desire to see a crossing facility on St Lawrence Road. Officers identified a number of locations along this stretch of road where a crossing facility could be accommodated. Following local discussions by Councillor Gillott, a preferred location has been agreed that is considered to be the least intrusive for the residents whilst still being in a convenient position to tie in with the pedestrian desire line.

Consultations have been carried out including a letter drop to residents and letters to the Emergency Services, Parish Council, North East Derbyshire

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District Council and other relevant consultees. Following this process, an objection has been received from a resident who lives in close proximity to where the crossing is proposed.

The issues raised by the objector are as follows:

- We can only see this benefitting parents and children crossing and as there is already a crossing “lollipop lady” cannot see the need. Anyone coming from Little Morton Road will stay on this side and cross further down where there is a central island.
- Feel it will cause traffic hold ups – mainly due to bus stop and crossing being so close. It will cause frustration for motorists trying to get into traffic from Bright Street, cul-de-sac, doctors and garage and this will lead to them taking risks/road rage.
- Being outside a public house which stays open till the early hours at weekends – the noise will be a major problem when people press for fun and cause disruption and disturbed sleep.
- If it is still felt a crossing is needed in this particular place, then surely a zebra crossing would still serve the same purpose, but not cause so many problems and be cheaper to install.
- We think a crossing is needed more near the “Green”, once St Lawrence Road is crossed.

Some other comments have been received during the consultation. One resident does not like the way the bus stop is no longer in a lay-by opposite the Bright Street junction and claims that this causes congestion and would like to see it returned to a lay-by. Another resident would like to see parking prohibited between the White Hart public house and the junction with The Green due to the presence of parked vehicles making it dangerous when accessing driveways.

St Lawrence Road Surgery fully supports the proposal in the interests of the safety of their patients as does the Authority’s School Crossing Patrol Supervisor.

The Secretary of State for Transport has been informed of the proposal.

Officer Comment

It is considered that a pedestrian crossing facility will be a valuable contribution to road safety and will help to assist those pedestrians wishing to cross this busy road. This will aid pedestrians attending the surgery and pedestrians originating from the Little Morton Road area utilising the village facilities (schools, pub, shops, etc). Other pedestrian crossings along this route demonstrate the need to assist pedestrians crossing this principal road (A6175).

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With regard to the effect of a crossing on the adjacent side roads, the presence of a crossing could also aid egress from these if the flow of traffic has been interrupted by a red light.

The volume of the audible warning from a pedestrian crossing can be adjusted to suit the circumstances. Where residential properties are in close proximity to a crossing, the volume is set so as not to disturb the residents. This would be the case in this instance.

Zebra crossings do still have their uses in certain environments but the Authority does receive complaints about motorists not stopping at some of its existing zebra crossing sites. On a road of this nature, which carries a high volume of traffic, it is considered that a Puffin crossing would be more appropriate and safer for pedestrians to use.

In general, bus lay-bys are no longer considered practical. It can often be difficult for bus drivers to pull back out into the traffic flow and stationary buses can help to act as traffic calming measures. Therefore, there are no proposals to reinstate the bus stop lay-by on St Lawrence Road at this time.

Whilst there are no proposals to implement any parking restrictions at the moment, there would be zig-zag markings associated with a pedestrian crossing. These would prevent parking each side of the crossing.

In view of the fact that the position of the crossing has been carefully assessed and the issues raised taken into consideration, it is considered that the proposal, as shown on drawing TA308/1/N012/3, be implemented.

Local Member Comment

Councillor Kevin Gillott has been formally consulted on this proposal and made aware of the comments received following the consultation. Councillor Gillott has confirmed that he fully supports the proposal.

(3) **Financial Considerations** Funding for the introduction of a Puffin crossing at this location has been approved from the 2013/14 LTP Capital Programme with a budget of £25,000.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

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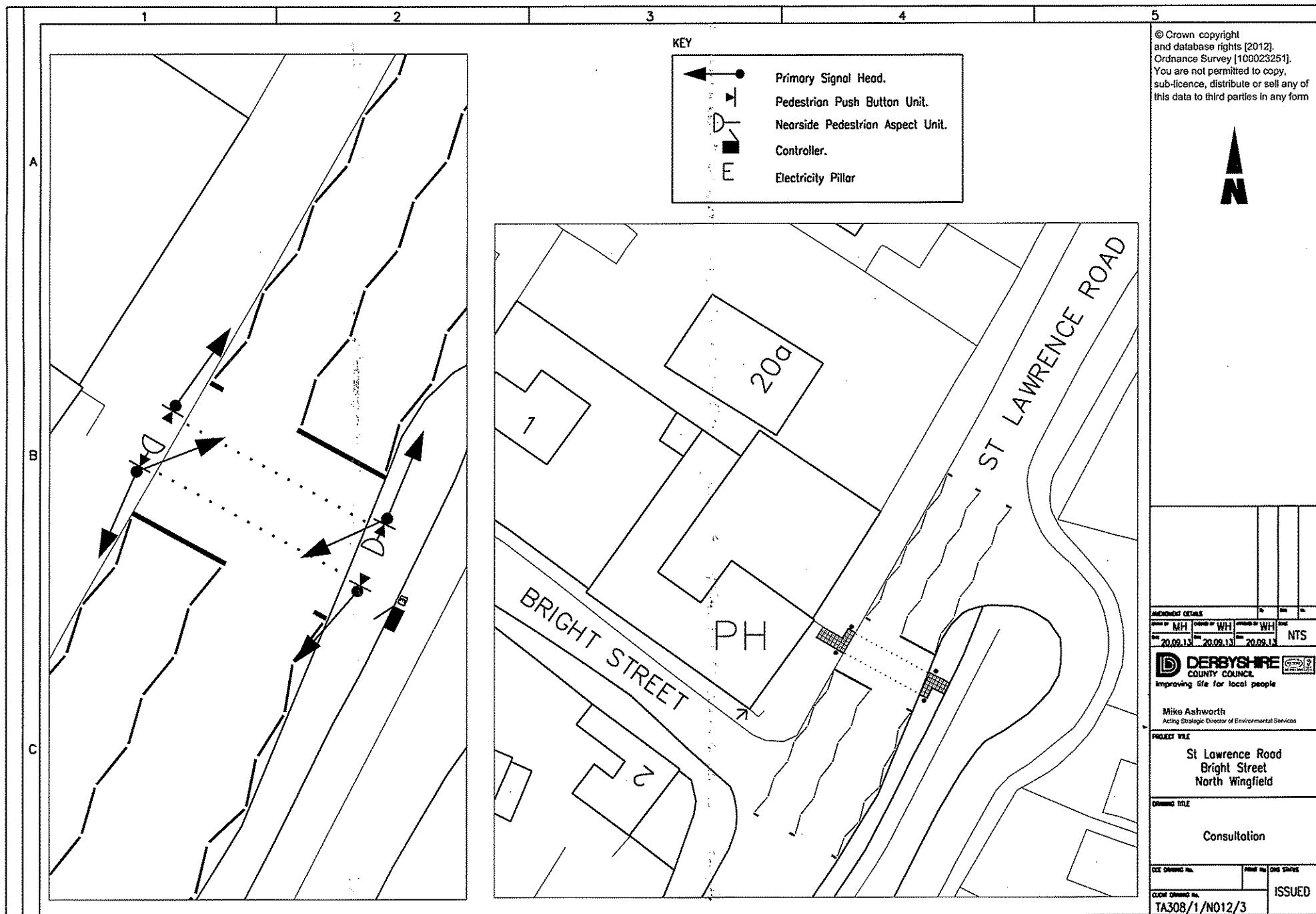
(6) **Background Papers** Held on file in the Traffic and Safety Section of the Environmental Services Department. Officer contact details – Steve Alcock, extension 38176.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That:

7.1 The Puffin crossing proposal on St Lawrence Road (A6175), North Wingfield, shown on drawing TA308/1/N012/3 be implemented.

7.2 The local Member and objectors be notified accordingly.

Mike Ashworth
Acting Strategic Director – Environmental Services



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| AMENDMENT DETAILS | | | |
|-------------------|----|----------|-----|
| DATE | BY | DATE | BY |
| 20.09.13 | MH | 20.09.13 | WH |
| | | | NTS |



Mike Ashworth
Acting Strategic Director of Environmental Services

PROJECT FILE
St Lawrence Road
Bright Street
North Wingfield

ISSUING TITLE
Consultation

| DATE | BY | DATE | BY |
|----------|----|----------|-----|
| 20.09.13 | MH | 20.09.13 | WH |
| | | | NTS |

TA308/1/N012/3

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