

Agenda Item No. 4(b)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

14 September 2017

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities

**PETITION – REQUEST FOR A CONTROLLED CROSSING OUTSIDE
NORTH WINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHESTERFIELD ROAD, NORTH
WINGFIELD**

- (1) **Purpose of Report** To consider a petition requesting a controlled crossing on Chesterfield Road outside North Wingfield Primary School.
- (2) **Information and Analysis** At the meeting on 17 January 2017, the Cabinet Member acknowledged receipt of a petition requesting a controlled crossing outside North Wingfield Primary School (Minute No. 1/17 refers). The statement detailed in the petition reads as follows:

“Derbyshire County Council has rejected the request for a controlled crossing outside our School. As a very concerned parent I have started this petition for them to reinvestigate and undertake a further survey at the school on Chesterfield Road, North Wingfield.

The safety of our children should be a priority and this should have been taken into account when building the new school that opened in 2015.

The following petitioners ask the council to provide North Wingfield Primary School with a controlled crossing outside the school. The road is currently an accident waiting to happen.”

On 8 June 2015, North Wingfield Primary School moved to new premises on the site of the old Deincourt School on Chesterfield Road. For location details of the new site See Appendix 1.

Since the new Primary School opened on 8 June 2015, the County Council has received representations for the introduction of a controlled crossing point on Chesterfield Road outside the School.

Officers carried out a survey on 22 October 2015, to assess the pedestrian demand at this location and to help formulate a response to these representations.

Local Member Comment

Councillor Barker has been consulted and made the following comments:

“As the newly elected Councillor for the Sutton Division which includes the Primary School at North Wingfield. I am aware that a petition has been submitted signed by 766 people requesting a controlled crossing on Chesterfield Road adjacent to the NEW primary School.

I am also on the School Governors and the Parish Council and as such I am fully aware of the issues and concerns raised by this crossing.

Hence I would like to submit the following comments.

Whilst I would support the sentiments of the petition and if possible get a controlled crossing near the school, I also understand the issue of the local residents and the loss of parking on Chesterfield Road if this goes ahead. My understanding is that when plans for the new school were drawn up this issue was raised and it was proposed to have a Zebra crossing on the end of Alices View to encourage people to cross here and walk up the path behind the houses away from the main road.

I am also aware that some surveys have been done and where people cross at the moment may not support a crossing here.

Whilst this may be the case I would argue quite strongly that if a controlled crossing isn't practicable outside the school gates, at least a marked Zebra crossing should be installed in the area of Alices View to allow those that do want to use it the opportunity and encourage others to do so as well, whilst also encouraging more to walk to school and alleviate the traffic chaos outside the school gates that is occurring at the moment.

To conclude, if it isn't practicable to install a controlled crossing near the school gates, I believe it would be in the best interest of the Council to install a Zebra crossing as near to the school as possible probably on the end of Alices View, thus at least providing a safe place to cross should an accident happen elsewhere in that area.

I hope these comments will be looked on favourably to appease the parents who have signed the petition and first and foremost the safety of the children attending the school.”

Officer Comment

Officers received representations from North Wingfield Primary School, following its relocation further up Chesterfield Road, requesting a new crossing outside its new gates. Officers considered at the time whether to reposition the existing Zebra Crossing which is situated outside the former school. However, when that Zebra Crossing was installed it was provided not only for the school, but also for the residents who use the Medical Centre, Working Men's Club and other facilities in the area.

The measure used to determine whether a pedestrian crossing is viable or not is known as the PV^2 test. This formula considers the numbers of pedestrians against the numbers of vehicles so that the Authority can decide on where the demand for a crossing is greatest. The PV^2 is a well-known and understood measure, and for a pedestrian crossing, whether it be a zebra crossing or puffin crossing to be considered, a figure of 1.0 or a value close to this is required. This seeks to balance needs of pedestrians and traffic. Where a crossing count is carried out at a school, the PV^2 figures are generally low as the majority of pedestrian movements are greatest at school opening and closing times and during term times only. This was evident in the PV^2 crossing count carried out in October 2015 where the PV^2 value was 0.07. This count was carried out opposite the school. Even so, this location would prove problematic for a controlled crossing due to the double height of the kerb and loss of parking for the terraced properties due to the zig zag road markings.

Some parents choose to cross at the end of Alice's View and use the cut through path to a rear access into the school grounds. Officers again carried out a PV^2 count at this location; this too failed to meet any sort of criteria with a reading of 0.19.

However, it is acknowledged that there is potential for pedestrian numbers to increase at this site in the future. While this is unlikely to trigger the criteria for a pedestrian crossing, given the figures outlined in the report, it may, at some point, be appropriate to install a zebra crossing similar to those elsewhere on Chesterfield Road.

Officers have worked with the Primary School to look at existing travel arrangements and the public right of way, which runs along the back of the properties from Torrani Way to the school, was identified as a well-used but often muddy route to school. Officers agreed to resurface this path which is currently being undertaken. Parents and pupils from the White Leas Avenue area can still use the existing Zebra Crossings and walk up the eastern footpath and those pupils from the south can use the newly resurfaced path.

Details of the new path, existing Zebra Crossing facilities and position of the new school are shown on Appendix 1.

- (3) **Financial Considerations** There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

Other Considerations

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, social value and transport considerations.

- (4) **Key Decision** No.

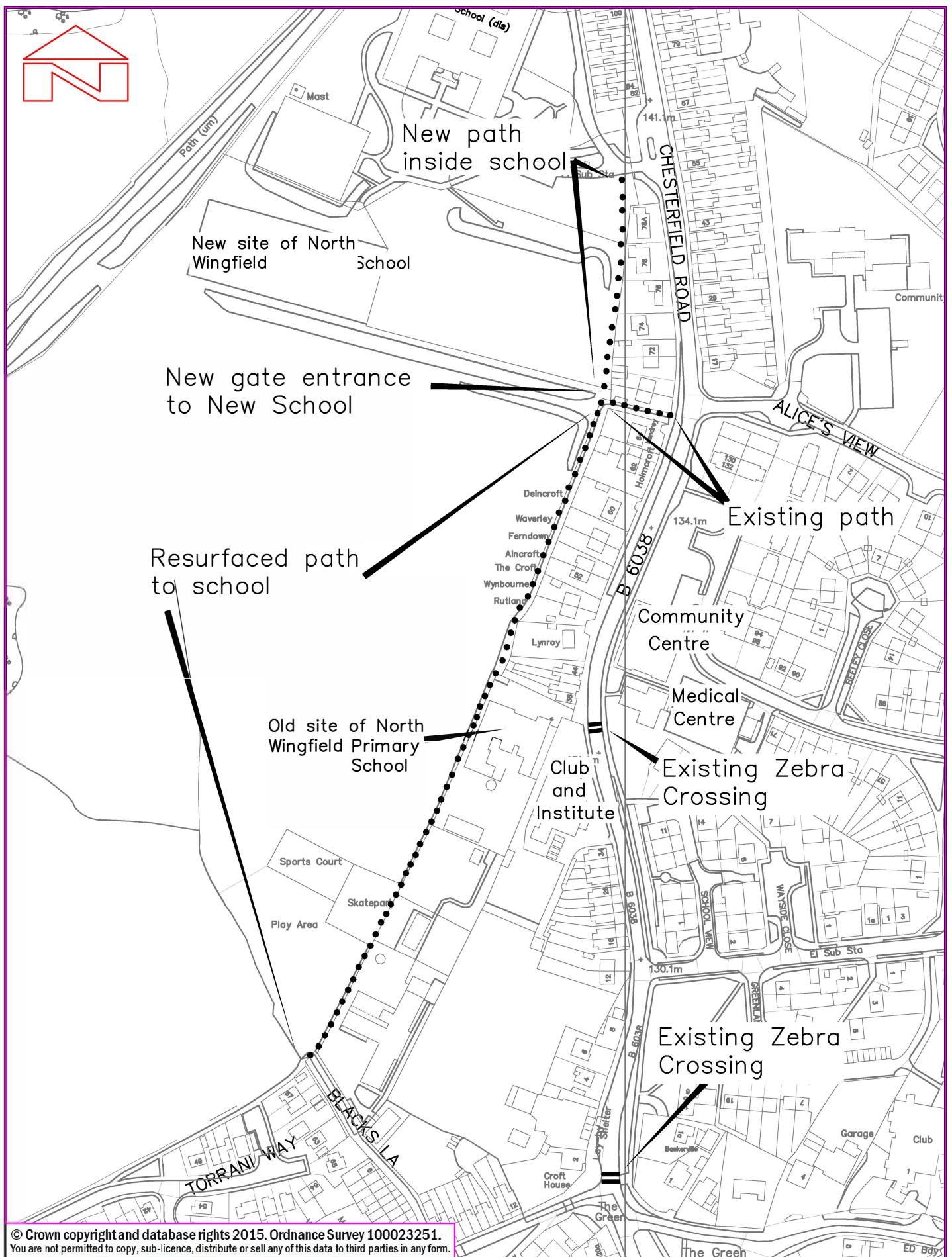
- (5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

- (6) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Communities Department. Officer contact details – Lee Wright, extension 38674.

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

- 7.1 The Authority does not proceed with the introduction of the proposed controlled crossing point, including a Zebra crossing, on Chesterfield Road, outside North Wingfield Primary School.
- 7.2 The Local Member and objectors be notified accordingly.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities



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<div>MIKE ASHWORTH</div> <div>Strategic Director</div> <div>Economy, Transport and Communities</div>	PROJECT TITLE	DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED
	B 6038 CHESTERFIELD ROAD, NORTH WINGFIELD	B.GOULD	S.TRANTER	S.TRANTER
		Date	Date	Date
		JULY.2017	JULY.2017	JULY.2017
	DRAWING TITLE	Project / Confirm Reference No.		
APPENDIX 1	Drawing Number			N.T.S.
	ORIGINAL DRAWING SIZE 210 x 297 (A4)			

File Created: Thu 16-Apr-2015 - 10:19AM
 Last Saved: Mon 10-Jul-2017 - 05:11PM
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