

## Crossing improvement, Clapper Lane, Honiton

### Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

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Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

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#### **1) Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

- (a) Approve the proposed scheme shown on Plan No: 22009/001 at an estimated cost of £48,000; and
- (b) the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport be given delegated powers, in consultation with the Chair of HATOC and the local member, to make minor amendments to the scheme details.

#### **2) Introduction**

Honiton Primary school has increased in size and traffic on Clapper Lane also will increase with the completion of new development. The school, its governors and parents have expressed safety concerns about the volume and speed of traffic, lack of a continuous footway from the High Street and problematic parent parking opposite the school gates.

Although the site does not meet the national criteria for a DCC funded School Crossing Patrol, it should be noted that a significant number of child pedestrians are unaccompanied by adults.

#### **3) Proposal**

The scheme aims to make the current crossing point more visible to motorists through the use of coloured and textured surface. In addition to this, raising the crossing on a table should slow motorists down on the approach and over the crossing point.

Mains powered school flashing 'wig wag' lights are to be installed on both approaches to the school, further alerting motorists of the presence of children crossing at school travel time.

The issue of problematic parent parking opposite the school gates obscuring children at the crossing point, is to be addressed by 'Keep Clear' Zig Zag markings and accompanying TRO and signage enabling enforcement to prevent this issue and providing a deterrent.

This scheme does not seek to offer a solution for the lack of a continuous footway from the High Street to the school as this would be outside the scope of the external funding that is available.

If approved and funds were available, subject to more detailed design and dependent on contractor availability, the aim would be to carry out the works during the school summer holidays of 2023.

#### **4) Options/Alternatives**

The site does not meet the criteria for a funded school crossing patrol, so this is not a feasible option. In addition to this the school have not found any volunteers prepared to operate as a Volunteer School Crossing Marshall.

#### **5) Consultations/Representations/Technical Data**

Consultation has been undertaken with the local County Councillor, the school, governors, Highways, Town Council, and local MP.

#### **6) Strategic Plan**

The scheme will help contribute towards the following Strategic Plan priorities:

- Responding to the climate emergency
- Making a child friendly Devon
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Helping communities be safe, connected and resilient

The Plan aims to be the Best Place to Grow Up and is committed to being a child friendly Devon where all children and young people are safe, healthy, ambitious, and can fulfil their potential. This scheme complements these aims by addressing local concerns and issues raised around safety of children walking to school. In doing so, it also promotes increased active travel enabling improvements in health and wellbeing.

#### **7) Financial Considerations**

It is proposed that the scheme will be externally funded through Honiton Town Council. Estimated costs at this stage of the design process are £33,807. Final cost estimates and funding will be agreed with the Town Council. The report seeks approval for £48,000 to take account of risks and contingencies that may be identified through the detailed design process.

Works will not be committed until the full funding package has been secured.

#### **8) Legal Considerations**

To introduce a new or amended pedestrian crossing a public notice will be required to be advertised in accordance with Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Modifications to existing waiting restrictions will require changes to a Traffic Regulation Order. When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council's responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, to secure the expeditious, convenient, and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities.

The scheme will require a road closure for the works to take place.

## **9) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)**

By promoting sustainable alternatives to travel by car, the proposal will have a minor but positive effect on vehicle emissions and the environment.

The installation of a raised table could see a minor increase in noise levels for neighbouring properties.

## **10) Equality Considerations**

No new polices are being recommended in this report and therefore an individual Equality Impact and Needs Assessment for the scheme is not considered necessary. The proposed scheme helps to enable pedestrians with a wide range of ages and abilities and confidence levels to access school and other local facilities.

## **11) Risk Management Considerations**

School flashing wigwag lights, the raised and textured crossing table and additional zigzag markings will have ongoing maintenance costs for Devon County Council, the implications of which have been discussed and agreed with the highways team.

Lead in times for the supply and installation of flashing wigwag lights are unknown at present and could result in the installation of these items taking place after the crossing table is in use.

## **12) Summary/Conclusions/Reasons for Recommendations**

It is recommended that the scheme be approved to both support school safety and to promote sustainable, healthy, and independent travel choices.

### **Meg Booth**

Head of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

**Electoral Division: Feniton & Honiton**

### **Local Government Act 1972: List of background papers**

Background Paper Nil

Date

File Reference

### **Contact for enquiries:**

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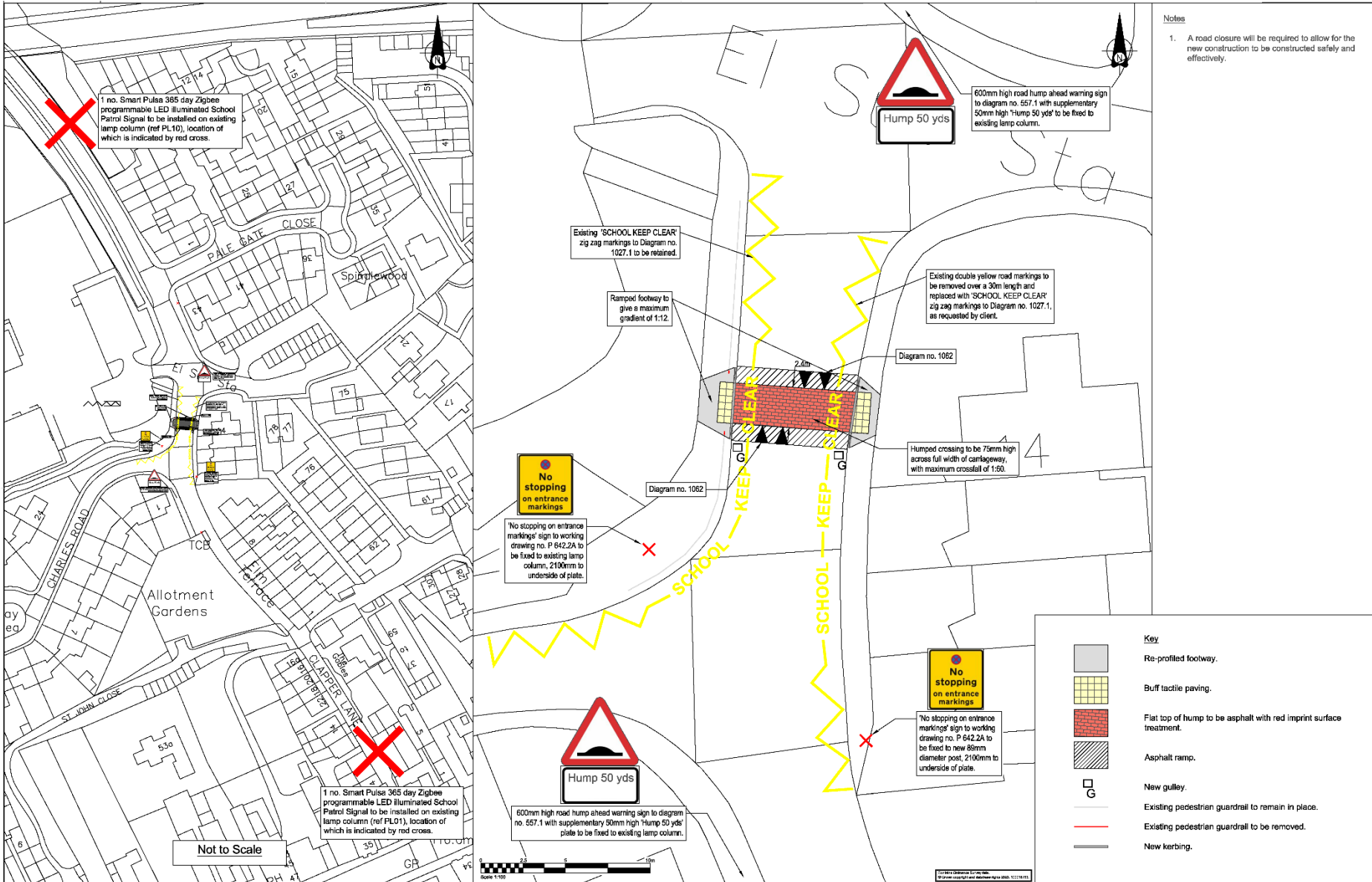
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sc/cr/Crossing improvement Clapper Lane Honiton

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Notes  
 1. A road closure will be required to allow for the new construction to be constructed safely and effectively.

**Key**

	Re-profiled footway.
	Buff tactile paving.
	Flat top of hump to be asphalt with red imprint surface treatment.
	Asphalt ramp.
	New gully.
	Existing pedestrian guardrail to remain in place.
	Existing pedestrian guardrail to be removed.
	New kerbing.