



NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION

THURSDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 4.00 PM

THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM - THIRD FLOOR, THE GUILDHALL

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith, Democratic Services Tel: 9283 4057
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If any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting has access requirements, please notify the contact named above.

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION

Councillor Simon Boshier (Conservative)

Group Spokespersons

Councillor Lynne Stagg, Liberal Democrat
Councillor Yahiya Chowdhury, Labour

(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

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AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies**
- 2 **Declarations of Members' Interests**
- 3 **Westover Road - School Crossing Improvements (Pages 3 - 10)**

The report by the Director of Regeneration is to consider responses to the public consultation on proposal to implement improvements to the Westover Primary School (Westover Road) school crossing patrol site.

RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation

approves the implementation of two 3m wide dropped kerbs on each side of Westover Road, outside number 63 Westover Road and next to the junction with Northover Road.

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Agenda Item 3

Title of meeting:	Cabinet Meeting for Traffic and Transportation Decision Meeting
Date of meeting:	22 nd February 2018
Subject:	Westover Road - School Crossing Improvements
Report by:	Director of Regeneration
Wards affected:	Baffins
Key decision:	No
Full Council decision:	No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To consider responses to the public consultation on proposal to implement improvements to the Westover Primary School (Westover Road) school crossing patrol site.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation:
 - (1) approves the implementation of two 3m wide dropped kerbs on each side of Westover Road, outside number 63 Westover Road and next to the junction with Northover Road.

3. Background

- 3.1. Following requests from the Westover School community regarding pedestrian safety and with the support of local ward councillors, a consultation was undertaken with residents on the introduction of improvements to the school crossing patrol site in Westover Road.
- 3.2. The existing crossing site does not have drop kerb provision - resulting in drivers routinely parking within the unrestricted parking opposite, causing an obstruction. In addition, those using pushchairs and wheelchairs have difficulty accessing the crossing point.
- 3.3. Although reducing since 2012, child pedestrian casualties in Portsmouth remain a priority group for the delivery of improvements for safety and accessibility. During the five year period 2012 to 2016 there has been an average of 26 injury collisions per year (6 serious) in the City. Drivers failing to look, pedestrians

failing to look and crossing from behind parked vehicles are the key contributory trends.

- 3.4. Ensuring school crossing patrol sites are clear of parked vehicles and provide good accessibility is key to ensuring maximum utilisation and safety of the service provided. Establishing dropped kerbs will prevent parked vehicles and maximise accessibility.

4. Reasons for recommendations

- 4.1. Implementing drop kerbs within Westover Road received the majority of votes from those residents that participated within the consultation.

- 4.2. The combination of the dropped kerbs will:

- Reduce the risk of road traffic collisions by providing a clear place to cross
- Increase pedestrian confidence in the infrastructure - potentially encouraging more walking to school.
- Improve accessibility for all pedestrians

5. Consultation

- 5.1 A postal consultation was carried out with residents within the affected area during December 2017.

From the 87 households consulted, 14 responses were received (a return of 16%). The breakdown of the results is as follows:

Yes, I would support proposed accessibility improvements - 10 responses (71%)

No, I would not support proposed accessibility improvements - 4 responses (29%)

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1. The recommendations do not have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics as described in the Equality Act 2010. No parking is being taken away for disabled people and the scheme will improve accessibility for all pedestrians, including those using wheelchairs and pushchairs.

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 It is the duty of a local authority to manage their road network with a view to achieving, so far as may be reasonably practicable having regard to their other obligations, policies and objectives, the following objectives:

(a) securing the expeditious movement of traffic on the authority's road network; and

(b) facilitating the expeditious movement of traffic on road networks for which another authority is the traffic authority."

- 7.2. Local authorities have a duty to take account of the needs of all road users, take action to minimise, prevent or deal with congestion problems, and consider the implications of decisions for both their network and those of others.
- 7.3. The installation of a dropped kerb does not fall within the definition of traffic calming works and does not have to be implemented via a traffic regulation order for the reasons set out below
- 7.4. In view of this, there is no formal right to consult on the proposals but it is always good practice to do so and informs the council of the public opinion on the matter.
- 7.5. A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is not considered necessary in this instance on the following basis:
 - (a) there will be no change to the speed limit; and
 - (b) there will be no change to the direction of the traffic.

8. Director of Finance's comments

- 8.1. This project is under the umbrella of the Local Transport Plan - Safer Routes to School as approved at Full Council 14th February 2017 and the costs are within the 2017/18 detailed budget as approved by the Finance Director.

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 Signed by:
 Tristan Samuels
 Director of Regeneration

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
NIL	

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The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/
rejected by on

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Signed by:
Councillor Simon Boshier
Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Plan of proposed design
Appendix 2: Consultation responses

Appendix 1: Plan of proposed design



Appendix 2: Consultation responses

Yes, I would support school crossing improvements	No, I would not support school crossing improvements	Comments
1		Will make it easier for pushchairs and wheelchairs and safe as well.
	1	It will take away 1-2 parking spaces making the road more congested. I have lived in this road for 15 years already and am not aware of any major issues. I have never heard people complain and quite often talk to the mums. Perhaps make the dropped kerbs on the corners bigger and end-sure that any cars that are parked over lapping or causing obstructions are ticketed. If you put a dropped kerb outside 63 people will still be pushing pushchairs out in between two parked cars straight onto the road and this is more dangerous than not having it.
1		But I think the junction where Silchester Road meets Westover Road is far more dangerous and there is a tragedy waiting to happen. Twice a day there are mums fighting for parking spaces. Stand off arguments. My own car continually being knocked and scratched. Remonstrating with these mums only causes foul mouth abuse.
1		I use a walker for walking and have access to dropped kerbs I find it very valuable. Providing cars are not parked there denying access.
1		For the safety of all pedestrians.
	1	Because the crossing at present is fine, the problem is the parking and the amount of cars at school time installing a dropped kerb will make no difference as people will park in front of it, as they do now. To reduce traffic collisions ect. You need to patrol at the school at peak times. As when you do the traffic is suddenly fine. This is not the answer and I object to council tax money being used in this way

1		As well as supporting accessibility improvements I would like to suggest zig zags in place of the double yellow lines between 28 and 30 Westover Road on the corner of Northover Road as parents dropping off and collecting children totally ignore them which makes it very hazardous for the lollipop man, also delivery vans delivering to the school park on them bumping up onto the pavement causing damage to the paving slabs. From our window we have seen some very hazardous situations and are surprised a bad accident has not already happened.
	1	I do not really understand how a dropped kerb is going to solve this problem as people (parents) park on the zig zag lines, in the middle of the road and cross anywhere randomly opposite the school. I think the lollipop man has a difficult job already and I do not think the kerb will make any difference.
	1	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed dropped kerb outside 63 Westover Road. Westover Road is on the whole, a quiet residential Road. Most, if not all the problems with traffic, noise and congestion are caused by the school, particularly around starting and closing time. We already have one side of the road forbidden to us for most of the day. (although school deliveries, coaches ect seem to be able to park there with impunity) Teachers, staff and school visitors compete for the remaining parking places on our side of the road. A dropped kerb would reduce our parking possibilities further. As these problems are caused by school traffic, surely the school users have a responsibility to do more, rather than inconveniencing the residents further. The children who attend Westover School come from a limited catchment area; why don't more of them arrive on foot? There are already dropped kerbs outside number 41 and opposite. I have never seen a wheelchair user try to cross at the school crossing site (or anywhere else for that matter). Would it be possible to amend the parking restrictions to reflect when the children are arriving and leaving, and the Crossing Patrol is on duty (8:30 - 9:30 and 15:00 - 16:00)?
1		As a very senior resident, I am always concerned for the young peoples safety so there for agree to any improvements.
1		Cars go too fast down this road, anything to slow traffic would be welcomed.
1		Idea good, and due to speed drivers are going down Westover Road a necessary one. Need to do everything possible to get parents to walk their children safely and discourage car use.
1		I use a wheelchair occasionally.
1		Crossing at one point is safe than the random crossing usually between parked cars but please note, there is a dropped kerb outside no.41 unused due to cars parked in front of it. There would need to be some deterrent to parking over the new crossing point.

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