

## READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	14 SEPTEMBER 2016	AGENDA ITEM:	15
TITLE:	PETITION FOR A ZEBRA CROSSING ON GOSBROOK ROAD - UPDATE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	CAVERSHAM
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#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the results of the statutory consultation for the proposed alterations to parking restrictions, which will be required for the future installation of this crossing facility.
- 1.2 This report also provides the outline design for the proposed crossing facility.

#### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the objections noted in Appendix 1 are considered, but to implement the restrictions as per Item 4.6.
- 2.3 That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to seal the Traffic Regulation Order and no public inquiry be held into the proposals.
- 2.4 That the objectors be informed of the decision of the Sub-Committee accordingly.

2.5 That the proposed crossing proceeds to detailed design and implementation, once funding has been identified.

2.6 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

### 3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1 The provision of pedestrian crossing facilities and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

### 4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 At the June 2016 meeting of the Sub-Committee, it was agreed that Officers proceed to statutory consultation for the changes that will be required to the parking bays at the desired location for the zebra crossing.

4.2 The alterations to the existing parking bays will be required to accommodate a proposed footway build-out into the carriageway and to provide the required visibility of oncoming traffic for waiting pedestrians.

4.3 Officers included these proposed parking restriction alterations in the statutory consultation for the 2016A Waiting Restriction Review Programme, to minimise the cost of this element of work.

4.4 Appendix 1 shows the results of the consultation and an illustration of the changes to the parking bays that were proposed in the statutory consultation.

4.5 The Council has received 5 objections to the proposed parking bay changes. 4 of these objections relate to concerns about reducing parking space for parents to drop off/pick up school children at the temporary site of The Heights Primary School. The remaining objection relates to the proposed crossing and a reduction in parking for Christchurch Meadows.

4.6 The crossing cannot be delivered without a reduction in the length of the parking bays on either side. The installation of the crossing is still subject to funding being available and Officers would not propose altering the existing bays until funding for the crossing has been identified and the crossing is considered to be deliverable. Depending on the final design of the crossing, it may be possible to reduce the length of bays that are affected. It is hoped that the installation of this crossing facility could remove one of the barriers to some parents

allowing their children to walk or cycle to school and will have a wide catchment area for destinations on both sides of the River Thames. Therefore, Officers recommend that the Sub-Committee agrees to implement the changes to the parking restrictions.

4.7 Appendix 2 shows an outline design for the crossing. The final design will be subject to utility and highway drainage issues that are discovered, once trial excavations are conducted ahead of implementation.

## 5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 This proposal supports the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan and contributes to the Council's strategic aims, as set out below:

- Keeping the town clean, green and active.
- Providing infrastructure to support the economy.
- Remaining financially sustainable to deliver these service priorities.

## 6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 The lead petitioner will be informed of the findings of the Sub-Committee.

6.2 Objectors to the proposed alterations to the parking bays will be informed of the decision of the Sub-Committee.

6.3 A legal Notice will be served, stating the intension to establish a new pedestrian crossing, once funding for the facility is identified.

## 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Sealing of Traffic Regulation Orders will require advertisement under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

7.2 There is a requirement to serve a Notice of Intention to establish a new pedestrian crossing, in accordance with Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

## 8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

## 9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 It is estimated that the total installation costs for the proposed crossing will be £30,000. The scheme will be implemented once funding has been identified.

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Traffic Management Sub-committee minutes - June 2016.

10.2 Traffic Management Sub-committee minutes - March 2016.

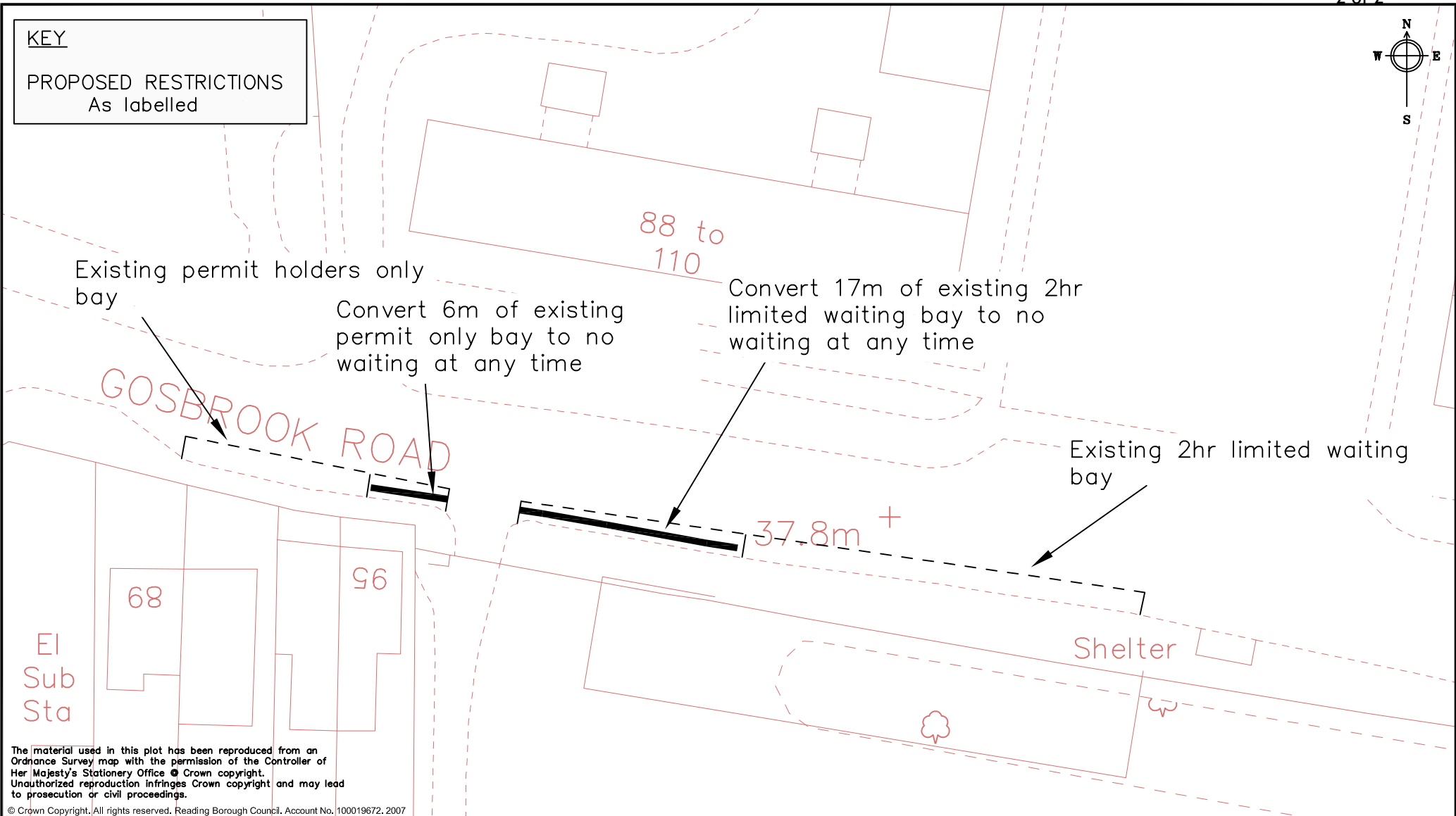
10.3 Traffic Management Sub-committee minutes - January 2016.

## Appendix 1: PETITION FOR A ZEBRA CROSSING ON GOSBROOK ROAD - UPDATE

Type of Comment	Objections/support/comments received.
Objection - resident, who uses The Heights school.	Parking bays are used by parents of The Heights school children who only stop there briefly but these bays are the only parking available. Reducing the bays will force children to walk along busy roads and the dangerous narrow pavement near the Fox & Hound.
Objection - parent, who uses The Heights school.	The bays are the only ones available for people to drop off children to the school. There is a struggle with parking for the school and it is too far for young children to walk to.
Objection - parent, who uses The Heights school.	These are the only bays available for dropping children off at the school. It would take 50mins for their family to walk to the school. Bays are also used for picking up sick children or for appointments as well as before/after school clubs.
Objection - resident of Caversham	These bays and the northern layby are the only ones available for users of the school. The school is growing every year with another 100 children by the end of 2017. The proposals will make it impossible to stop and move traffic towards Falklands Rd/Caversham centre. Please reconsider until the school has moved to its permanent location.
Objection - resident	Objects to the crossing as there are 2 crossings nearby. Not many people seem to want it and much needed parking for Christchurch Meadow users would be lost. Perhaps a 20 limit would work.



**KEY**  
 PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS  
 As labelled

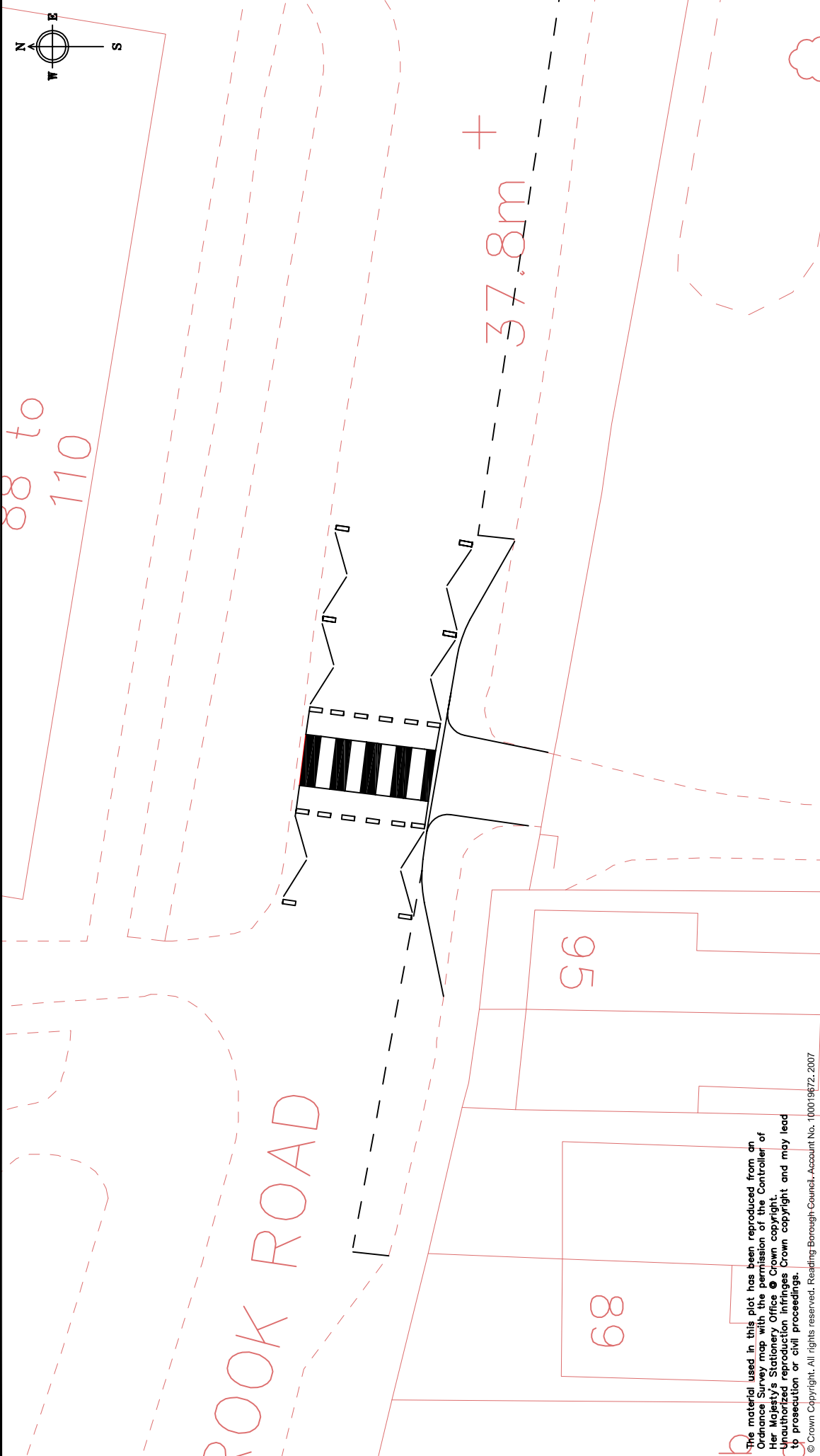


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Directorate of Environment and Neighbourhood Services  
 Civic Centre, Bridge Street  
 Reading  
 RG1 2LU

project ANNUAL PARKING REVIEW - 2016B		CAD Drawing Location: S/NM/SPA11/CllrConsultation	
drawing Gosbrook Road Caversham	scale N.T.S	drawn JT approved JC date JUL 2016	checked JC
	drawing no. WRR/2016A/CA1		



<p>Transportation and Streetcare          Services          Civic Offices, Bridge St          Reading          RG1 2LU</p>		<p>project          Appendix 2 (Gosbrook Road Zebra Crossing)</p>		<p>CAD Drawing Location: S/NM/SPA11/Cllr Consultation</p>	
		<p>drawing          Gosbrook Road – crossing with build out</p>		<p>scale          N.T.S</p>	
				<p>drawn          JT</p>	
				<p>checked          JC</p>	
				<p>approved          JC</p>	
				<p>date          JUL 2016</p>	
				<p>drawing no.          2016B – Gosbrook Road bay amendments</p>	

