TOTHILL ST	– Member Higl	ROAD, MINSTER – INTERACTIVE SIGNS nway Fund Scheme <sup>F</sup> CONSULTATION
То:	Thanet Joint Transpo	rtation Board, 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2012
Main Portfolio Area:	KCC – Enterprise and	Environment
By:	Director of Highways	Kent County Council
Classification:	Unrestricted	
Ward:	Thanet Villages	Division: Birchington and Villages
Summary:	The report summaris	es the results of the consultation for propose

# Summary: The report summarises the results of the consultation for proposed interactive signs in Tothill Street and Monkton Road, Minster.

## For Decision

#### 1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Kent County Council (KCC) is proposing the introduction of interactive signs in Tothill Street, twenty metres north of its junction with Hill House Drive and Monkton Road, twenty four metres west of the western boundary of number 137.
- 1.2 Residents in Minster have raised concerns regarding vehicle speeds in the area. Interactive signs have therefore been recommended to inform drivers who are travelling too quickly that they are entering the built up area of Minster, and should adjust their speed accordingly.
- 1.3 The principal scheme aim is to improve safety by advising drivers that they are entering the village, and should, therefore, slow down.
- 1.4 A crash analysis was carried out in Monkton Road and Tothill Street to ascertain if a crash record is present. Monkton Road was surveyed from its junction with Sheriff's Court Lane to its junction with Tothill Street (a distance of 1,500 metres) and Tothill Street was surveyed from the access to Minster cemetery to its junction with Monkton Road (a distance of 870 metres). In the last three years one slight injury crash was reported in Monkton Road (near the junction with Prospect Road) and two slight injury crashes were reported in Tothill Street, however this does not represent a crash pattern within either road.

#### 2.0 Summary of consultation response

- 2.1 Scheme proposals were prepared and scheme consultations were carried out at the beginning of February. The scheme proposals may be seen in Annex 1.
- 2.2 The consultation period ran for 2 weeks, from 1<sup>st</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012. Letters were delivered to all residents in the immediate area. Additionally the Parish Council, County and District councillors were sent consultation packs via post.
- 2.3 Several residents responded to the consultation to register their support for the scheme, however we have also received many comments about the proposed sign location in Monkton Road. The two main concerns were making sure that the interactive sign was

not sited directly in front of resident's properties, and secondly moving the sign closer to Monkton village in the vicinity of Hoo Farm.

- 2.4 Residents in the Hoo Farm area were worried that they would not receive any benefit from the new sign if it was to be sited near 137 Monkton Road as proposed. Our consultants at Jacobs who designed the scheme advised that there are limited places to locate the sign near the dwellings of Hoo Farm. Additionally, this would involve placing the sign at least 330 metres further away from the proposed site, this would likely reduce the signs effectiveness for the more urban part of Monkton Road, as drivers would have already passed the sign.
- 2.5 A copy of the consultation responses will be available at the JTB meeting.

# 3.0 Financial

3.1 The scheme will cost £7,544 to implement. This will include the cost of the signs themselves and electrical connections. Kent County Councillor Charles Hibberd has chosen to use some of his Member Highway Fund allocation to progress and construct this scheme.

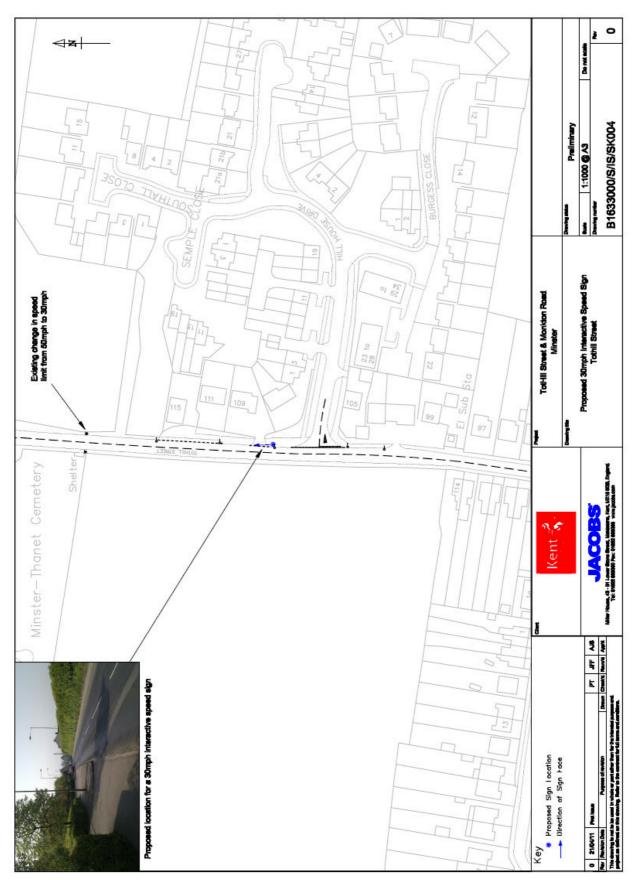
## 4.0 Recommendation

4.1 Funding is to be fully delivered by Charles Hibberd and based on the results of the consultation it is recommended that the scheme proceed. A decision needs to be agreed with the board to either locate the sign as proposed in Monkton Road or place it closer to Monkton as outlined in item 2.5 of this report.

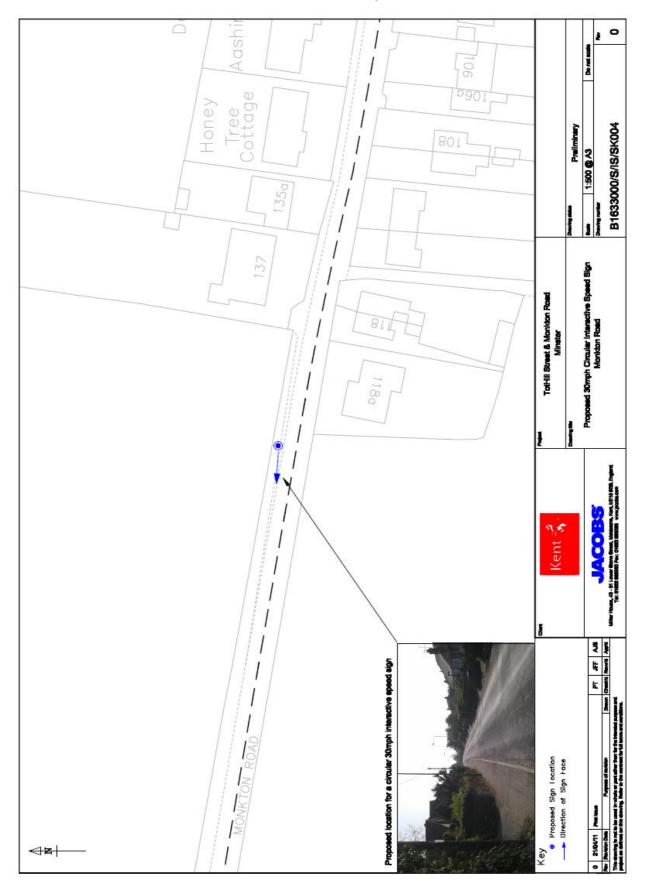
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# Annex List

Annex 1	Scheme Proposals / Plans



Annex 1 – Scheme Proposals / Plans



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