VICTORIA PARADE PEDESTRIANISED ZONE – Member Highway Fund Scheme RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

To: Thanet Joint Transportation Board, 12th June 2014

Main Portfolio Area: KCC – Enterprise and Environment

By: Director of Highways and Transportation, Kent County Council

Classification: Unrestricted

Ward: Viking Division: Broadstairs and Sir Moses Montefiore

Summary: The report summarises the results of the public consultation for a

new pedestrian zone and associated footway widening with block

paving in Victoria Parade, Broadstairs.

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Kent County Council (KCC) is proposing the introduction of a new pedestrianized zone in Victoria Parade, Broadstairs.
- 1.2 Residents and businesses in Victoria Parade and nearby area have previously requested that a pedestrianized zone be installed in the Victoria Parade cul-de-sac. This scheme was requested by the previous County Member for the area, but budgets were insufficient at the time to pay for the scheme. The request has since been supported by a petition which was submitted in March 2014, the document contained approximately 150 signatures. A copy of the petition can be seen upon request.
- 1.3 The principal scheme aim is to improve the amenity of the area, and encourage walking and pedestrian use within the cul-de-sac. The scheme also aims to reduce obstructive parking that can impede access to properties and businesses in the road.
- 1.4 A crash analysis was carried out in Victoria Parade and John Street for their entire lengths to ascertain if a crash record is present. In the last three years no injury related crashes were reported.
- 1.5 The proposed scheme does not remove any dedicated on street parking provision, but will remove the ability for blue badge holders to park in Victoria Parade on the existing double yellow lines.

2.0 Summary of consultation response

- 2.1 A scheme proposal was prepared and put forward for public consultation. The scheme proposal may be seen in Annex 1.
- 2.2 The consultation period ran for just over 3 weeks from 21st February to 17th March 2014. Information leaflets and plans were distributed to 20 immediately affected residents and businesses and 4 notification posters were placed along Victoria Parade and the promenade.

- 2.3 All of the consultation information was made available on the www.kent.gov.uk website, which included the opportunity to comment via email, post or telephone. Other consultees directly contacted included Thanet District Council, the local District and County Councillors, the emergency services and bus companies.
- 2.4 Consultees were asked whether they supported the proposals, and to provide any additional comments/thoughts that were relevant to the scheme. A summary of the responses received can be seen in Annex 2. Detailed copies of the consultation responses can be viewed upon request. The results were as follows:-

Do you support the proposed pedestrianization in Victoria Parade?		
Yes	No	
20% (3)	80% (12)	

3.0 Financial

3.1 The scheme will cost £12,710 to implement. This will include block paving the road and footpath where there is currently black top surfacing, and the costs associated with widening the footway on the western side of the road. Kent County Councillor Zita Wiltshire has chosen to use some of her Member Highway Fund allocation to progress and construct this scheme.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 All funding is to be delivered by the local County Council Member, who has reviewed the results of the consultation and confirmed that she would like the scheme to proceed. Based on the petition for a pedestrianized zone, and that funding for the works has been secured, it is proposed that the scheme proceed as outlined.

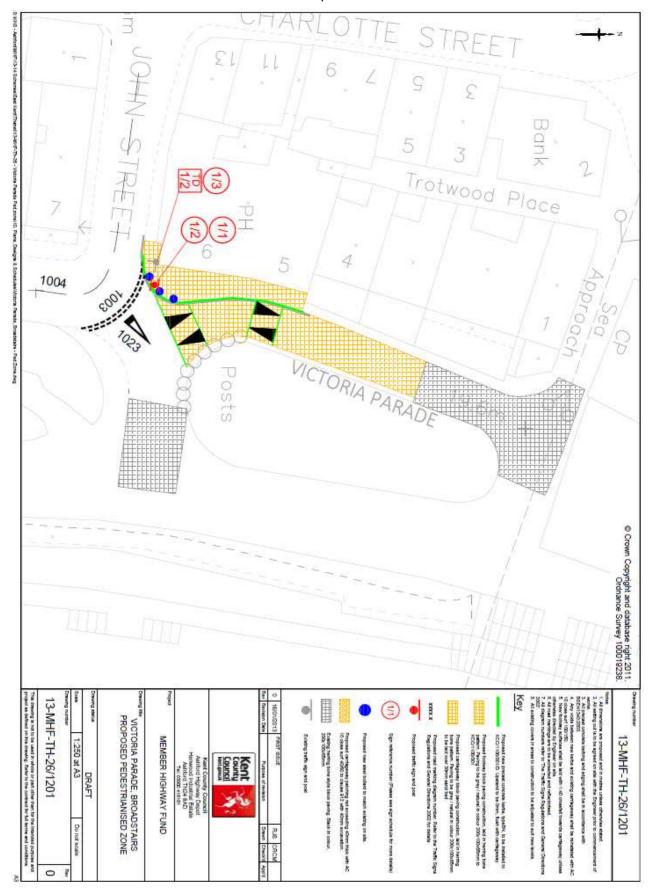
Future Meeting if applicable: N/A	Date: 12/06/2014

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Reporting to:	Andy Corcoran, Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager	

Annex List

Annex 1	Scheme Proposal / Plan
Annex 2	Consultation Responses

VICTORIA PARADE, BROADSTAIRS PEDESTRIANISED ZONE – Member Highway Fund Scheme Annex 1 – Scheme Proposal / Plan



VICTORIA PARADE, BROADSTAIRS PEDESTRIANISED ZONE – Member Highway Fund Scheme Annex 2 – Consultation Responses

Item	Comment received	KCC response
1.	The installation of a pedestrianized zone will impede access for deliveries in Victoria Parade.	The prohibition of motor vehicles will be restricted to the hours of 10am and 4pm, and will remain open for access. No signage, tables or chairs can be placed in the vehicular carriageway without ensuring access is maintained at all times and the appropriate licence agreement in place.
2.	The proposed scheme will greatly enhance the area and continue the improvements previously made outside the Dickens Museum which appeared somewhat unfinished.	The scheme will ensure that the block paving extends for the whole length of the Victoria Parade cul-de-sac, tying in with the paving already present at the turning point.
3.	There is no justification for the high cost associated with block paving when the existing road surface is in very good condition. Furthermore the proposals specify a different colour paving to that which is already present elsewhere in the road.	Comment noted. We will amend the proposals to include block paving to match that already existing on site.
4.	There is already a pedestrianized area nearby i.e. the promenade. Victoria Parade receives very little use by pedestrians except when coming to visit the Dickens Museum.	The scheme aims to make Victoria Parade more user friendly for pedestrians by reducing vehicle movements in the road and improving the amenity of the area.
5.	Whilst works are being carried out there will be a great deal of disruption, noise and filth.	There will inevitably be some noise and traffic disruption to both vehicles and pedestrians whilst any works take place. Traffic management and fencing will be in place for the full duration of construction to ensure access is maintained, and any rubbish will be cleared away upon completion of works.
6.	A negative impact of pedestrianisation is that the public house will have tables and chairs across the public highway, people drinking and smoking in the street and excess litter on the road.	Please see item 1. If pedestrians are seen to be dropping litter then this is an enforcement issue and Thanet District Council (TDC) should be notified.
7.	I am disabled and regularly park in Victoria Parade on the double yellow lines and display my blue badge. If this proposal goes ahead I will no longer be able to park in the cul-desac.	Comment noted. As detailed earlier in this report, the scheme does not remove any on street parking provision, but would stop blue badge holders from parking in the pedestrianized area.
8.	I regularly walk in this area with my family, and find it very dangerous when delivery vehicles turn in the restricted space especially during the day when the road can get quite busy. I think that the prohibition should be extended until 7pm.	Comment noted. The scheme does aim to reduce the amount of vehicles using the cul-desac during the busiest periods of the day. However, we do need to make provision for deliveries to the local businesses so would not recommend extending the prohibition.
9.	The ongoing maintenance costs of the block paving are expensive, and the site will end up looking a mess with black top patching.	As this is a cul-de-sac the road surface is less trafficked and thus requiring less future maintenance. All utilities companies should return the road surface to its previous state before leaving site.