



Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director - Place

Report to:

Planning and Regulation Committee

Date:

6 November 2023

Subject:

Doddington, B1190 – proposed Puffin Crossing facility

Summary:

This report considers objections to a proposed pedestrian crossing facility in the village of Doddington at the location shown at Appendix A.

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee overrules the objections so that the crossing, as advertised, may be introduced.

Background

Members may remember that the proposal for a Puffin Crossing facility in Doddington was reported to this Committee in July 2021, where a recommendation was agreed that the discretionary elements of the policy be applied and that the submission of a funding bid for a feasibility study, design and installation of a Puffin crossing at this location be supported.

Earlier this year, the Executive set aside £1.5 million to improve and provide a number of crossing facilities throughout the county via the Community Crossings Initiative. The site at Doddington has been selected for funding and is now undergoing a feasibility study and design.

As highway authority the Council is required to publicly advertise formal crossing facilities, and this took place in August.

Objection and comments

Two objections to the scheme have been received from a nearby business and resident. Both object on the basis that the funding allocated to the crossing facility could be invested in alternative measures to address ongoing traffic issues within the village. It is suggested that a restriction on HGV traffic is introduced on the B1190, and that traffic calming measures, speed enforcement cameras and a 20mph speed limit are installed,

along with improved footways and cycleways. The objectors believe that the crossing will not be well used as pedestrians cross the road at various points, and that it will introduce an additional hazard by causing traffic to back up thereby increasing noise and pollution in the area. It is also felt that visitor numbers to Doddington Hall will be affected and that the visual appearance of the crossing will not be in keeping with the village aesthetic and Grade 1 listed buildings nearby.

The above comments have been noted. However, the funding provided is specific to the installation of pedestrian crossing facilities and cannot be utilised to introduce the alternative measures suggested. This site has been subject to a pedestrian crossing survey and the criteria set out in our Pedestrian Crossing Policy have been met. During the ten hour survey 670 pedestrians were observed to cross the main road between the car park and Doddington Hall, 50m either side of the proposed crossing location.

No personal injury collisions have been reported within this stretch during the last three years.

Conclusion

The Community Crossing Initiative aims to improve the safety of pedestrians and, given the high numbers accessing the retail offer and attractions at Doddington Hall, will bring benefit to the area.

Consultation

The public advertisement for this proposal was published in the local press on 17 August 2023. Copies were sent to Doddington & Whisby Parish Council and to North Kesteven District Council offices. The proposal was also posted on the County Council’s website. The local Member is in support of the scheme.

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

None carried out

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Site location and detail of proposed location of Puffin crossing

Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Public advertisement documentation and correspondence	Available on request

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