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Owner/Occupier

Contact: Gurdeep Ahdhi
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Date: 22.06.12
Our reference: LIP 12/13 – Russell Lane

Dear Sir/Madam

Russell Lane – Pedestrian and Traffic Improvement Scheme

The Council has been asked to investigate pedestrian and traffic issues on Russell Lane in the vicinity of the shopping parade. The purpose of this letter is to seek your views on the proposals detailed below and on the accompanying plan.

Your feedback would help the Council decide whether the proposals should be progressed and it is therefore important that you let us know your views on the proposed measures.

Current Issues:

The central reservation in Russell Lane between Beresford Avenue and Dene Road does not provide adequate crossing opportunities for pedestrians wishing to access the local parade of shops on the northern side of the road. Pedestrians visiting the shops from the southern side of Russell Lane currently have to walk over the grassed area or use the breaks in the central reserve intended for vehicular traffic. As well as causing a safety concern, the lack of crossing opportunities reduces the accessibility of the parade of shops for the more vulnerable pedestrians.

Visibility to the right when coming out of Hereford Avenue is also limited. The combination of a downhill gradient, high volume of traffic and obstructive parking makes coming out of this road an unpleasant experience.

Finally obstructive parking around the junction of Gallants Farm Road with Russell Lane restricts the turning movement of vehicles causing them to mount and damage the central verge.

Proposals:

To address the above it is proposed to introduce three pedestrian access points across the existing central verge. Waiting restrictions on the approach to these access points and at the junctions of Gallants Farm Road and Hereford Avenue with Russell Lane to ensure sufficient visibility for traffic and pedestrians.

The measures which are shown on enclosed drawing number 60622_C_001 REV D would provide:

- three safe places to cross the central reserve with suitable visibility to improve accessibility to the parade of shops;

- improved access to the bus stops located near the Cavalier Pub for both buses and pedestrians;
- improved turning movement out of Gallants Farm Road; and
- improved visibility for vehicles turning out of Hereford Avenue.

The access points across the verge will be block paved to maintain the amenity of the area. There would be a loss in available kerb side spaces as a result of the waiting restrictions, which is indicated on the attached drawing. However, there would be no loss of parking outside the parade of shop. Site observations indicate that the spare parking capacity in the area could accommodate the proposed reduction with minimal impact to local residents and businesses.

Two existing small trees (as shown on drawing no. 60662_C_001 REV D) would be removed to provide a sufficient visibility at pedestrian access point 1. These would be replaced with two new trees planted in the vicinity the following winter.

Next step:

Please send your comments to us using the details above by Friday 6 July. If you have any queries please contact me and I would be pleased to assist.

Yours faithfully

**GURDEEP AHDHI
PROJECT ENGINEER
TRAFFIC AND DEVELOPMENT
ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND REGENERATION**