
A2500 Lower Road / Barton Hill Road

To: **Swale Joint Transportation Board - 19 December 2016**

Main Portfolio Area: **Growth, Environment & Transport**

By: **Roger Wilkin, Director of Highways & Transportation**

Classification: **For Information**

Ward: **Sheppey Central**

Division: **Sheppey**

Summary: Update on proposals for a Junction Improvement at Lower Road / Barton Hill Road - Minster

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Kent County Council and Swale Borough Council are working to put together a scheme to support improvements to the junction between Barton Hill Drive and Lower Road, on the Isle of Sheppey.

2.0 Current Situation

2.1 Initial design work has been undertaken a copy of the current proposals detailed on drawing no. 4300505/000/05 rev 0 are shown in Appendix A

2.2 A bid had been submitted to the South East LEP for part funding of the proposals from the Local Growth Fund (LGF3). At the time of preparing this report the South East LEP is still to confirm if the project will be allocated funding subject to acceptance of a business case. This is expected to be confirmed during December 2016. A verbal update on funding will be given at the JTB meeting

3.0 Programme

3.1 Subject to confirmation of funding, KCC would then need to complete the following processes;

- public engagement and consultation
- prepare Business Case and other approvals
- submit Business Case to SELEP to secure LGF3 funding
- complete acquisition of land and s106 contributions
- finalise detailed design and procurement process

3.2 The earliest start date on site would be summer 2018 but if the above approvals are delayed there is a risk that this may be delayed to spring 2019.

3.3 Consideration will be given to ensure that construction works have minimal impact during the main tourist season.

4.0 Communications

4.1 The current proposals shown in appendix A were reported to the Minster Parish Council on 20 October 2016.

4.2 On confirmation of funding a Communications Plan will be developed. This will involve consultation with residents, road users and key organisations.

5.0 Financial

5.1 The latest cost estimate of the junction stands at £1.8m and assumes a land contribution from the relevant landowner as part of any condition for developing the adjacent land. Contributions of c£540,000 are being sought from the proposed developments at Plover Road and Harps Farm, with the balance of £1,260,000 being sought via the current round of LGF3.

5.2 If the contribution of the land is not forthcoming then a CPO will be required and the cost of the scheme will rise. Further match funding would need to be found.

5.3 Should the bid for LGF3 funding be successful, a Business Case will need to be produced and submitted to SELEP for approval before the funding is confirmed.

5.4 The current cost estimate is a robust estimate, based on outline proposals, that has been reviewed by external cost consultants and includes;

- construction costs
- budget estimates from the Utilities
- an allowance for preparation of a business case in support of the SELEP funding.
- project management costs
- contingencies and risk allowance

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 This Report is for information only and hence there are no legal implications for the Board.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 Confirmation of LGF funding, land acquisition and match funding from s106 agreements are required to enable this project to progress.

8.0 Recommendations

For Information

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| Future Meeting if applicable: As necessary but none planned at present | Date: TBA |
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Appendices

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| Appendix A | Scheme Plan – Drawing no. 4300505/000/05 rev 0 |
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