

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 16 APRIL 2019

PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING, KEPTIE STREET, ARBROATH: SITE VISIT UPDATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report seeks to update Committee on the outcome of the site visit held in Keptie Street, Arbroath on 7 February 2019.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the concerns raised at the site meeting by directly affected businesses and the subsequent officer actions/proposals to address said concerns;
- (ii) determines whether or not a pedestrian crossing shall be provided between Helen Street and Garden Street or between Garden Street and Lochlands Street in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
- (iii) determines whether or not a loading bay shall be provided on the north side of Keptie Street, directly opposite No's 55-57 and the Chemist shop or Helen Street, opposite properties 2 - 6.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

- 2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

ECONOMY

- An inclusive and sustainable economy;

PEOPLE

- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being;

PLACE

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The provision of a pedestrian crossing at Keptie Street Arbroath has been the subject of a number of reports over an extended period. The latest reports are referenced at the end of this report.

- 3.2 The minutes of Communities Committee on 14 November 2017 which considered Report 385/17 records:

...the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the site meeting which had been held at Keptie Street on 7 October 2017;*
- (ii) to note previous investigations and consultations undertaken following the request for a signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Keptie Street, Arbroath;*
- (iii) to note the current difficulties which pedestrians, particularly the elderly, encountered when crossing Keptie Street;*

(iv) to note the results of the most recent site surveys carried out following the request to reinvestigate the possibility of installing a signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Keptie Street; and

(v) to approve the installation of a pedestrian crossing in terms of option 1 as set out in Report No 264/17, between Helen Street and Garden Street, Arbroath.

- 3.3 Subsequent to the Committee decision to approve the installation of a pedestrian crossing in terms of option 1, between Helen Street and Garden Street, concerns raised by local businesses were discussed at a site meeting held on 27 July 2018 with the directly affected businesses. As a result of the issues raised the crossing works were put on hold pending approval for further consultation and to delay the installation of the crossing pending the outcome of the further consultation was agreed by Communities Committee on 25 September 2018 in Report 291/18 as follows:

The Committee agreed:-

(i) to note the contents of the Report;

(ii) to consult further on the proposals and to delay the installation of the crossing pending the outcome of the further consultation;

(iii) to note that a further Report would be brought back to the Committee following completion of the proposed consultation in due course, reporting on the results of that consultation; including costings of the options proposed;

(iv) that officers also consult with Northeast Sensory Services and the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association;

(v) that all members be invited to attend a further site visit; and

(vi) that businesses on Keptie Street be made aware of the site visit in order that they too could have their views taken into account.

- 3.4 Report 291/18 considered by the Communities Committee on 25 September 2018, detailed the format and timescale for public consultation regarding the proposal to install a signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Keptie Street, Arbroath. The proposals are re-presented on the plans appended to this report (**Appendices 1 & 2**).
- 3.5 The consultation documents associated with these proposals were issued on 26 October 2018 to approximately 430 residential and business addresses within the surrounding area of the proposed installation. Consultation documents were also sent to all affected groups listed in the proposed list of consultees and were made available at Arbroath Access Office for the general public who might wish to comment on the proposals.
- 3.6 The consultation questionnaire was also available for completion online via the council's website.
- 3.7 An on-street survey was also carried out between 8.00am and 5.00pm on Friday 2 November and Saturday 3 November 2018.
- 3.8 Report 9/19 considered by the Communities Committee on 15 January 2019, asked Committee to note the results of the consultation process regarding the proposed pedestrian crossing installation on Keptie Street, Arbroath.
- 3.9 The number of responses to the consultation was relatively high as set out below, however the majority of returned questionnaires expressed a desire for the proposals at Location 1 (Keptie Street: between Helen Street and Garden Street) to proceed.
- 3.10 395 completed responses were received from individuals by the closing date of 9 November 2018. Of these responses 253 (64%) agreed with Location 1, 99 (25%) agreed with Location 2, 9 (2%) agreed with either Location 1 or Location 2 and 34 (9%) disagreed with the installation of a pedestrian crossing.
- 3.11 Report 9/19 considered by the Communities Committee on 15 January 2019, also requested that Committee instruct the Director of Infrastructure to arrange a site visit along with a further report to Committee on the outcome of the site visit.

4 DETAILS

- 4.1 The site visit to Keptie Street, Arbroath took place on 7 February 2019. Members of the Communities Committee, Local Arbroath Members, Angus Council Officers and directly affected businesses were in attendance.

- 4.2 Concerns raised by those present, representing affected businesses focussed on two main issues; the difficulties with servicing and deliveries to their properties if Option 1 were pursued and the speed of traffic travelling on Keptie Street.
- 4.3 Following the site visit on 7 February 2019, Council Officers arranged for speed surveys to be undertaken in Keptie Street. Two surveys were carried out over a 7-day period from the 13 to 20 February. "Black Box" radar devices were placed in Keptie Street as close to the proposed crossing location for Option 1 as practicable, to measure the speed of traffic on either approach.
- 4.4 The radar device recording the speed of traffic travelling in a westbound direction, uphill towards the college, recorded an average speed over the 7-day period of 23.5 mph and recorded an 85th percentile speed (speed that 85% of vehicles travelled at or under) of 28.7mph.
- 4.5 The radar device recording the speed of traffic travelling in an eastbound direction, downhill towards the rail station, recorded an average speed over 7 days of 22.8mph and an 85th percentile speed of 27.9mph respectively.
- 4.6 Detailed analysis of the survey data highlighted that there were several, isolated instances of high or inappropriate speed recorded during the 7-day period, as is the norm with most surveys of this type. The results of the survey however did not show any evidence of significant speeding at the locus.
- 4.7 Discussion took place at the site visit regards the feasibility of introducing a 20mph speed limit on Keptie Street to address road safety concerns. It was pointed out that the Scottish Government are currently in the process of consulting on a proposal for a Bill to replace the current 30mph default speed limit on restricted roads with a 20mph limit and that therefore no consideration would be given to introducing a reduced speed limit on Keptie Street until such times as the outcome of the proposed Bill is clear.
- 4.8 Concerns were raised at the site visit by businesses on the south side of Keptie Street regards perceived difficulties with deliveries and servicing of their properties if Option 1 were pursued. A potential solution is the provision of a dedicated loading bay on the north side of Keptie Street, directly opposite No's 55-57 and the Chemist shop (**Appendix 3**). A further alternative for a dedicated loading bay was suggested for Helen Street, opposite properties 2 – 6 (**Appendix 4**). A loading bay(s) would be subject to a legal order that would restrict access to non-servicing vehicles over a specified timeframe. It was suggested at the site visit that the restricted timeframe could be 08:00 – 17:00. It was also stated that any final timeframe would be subject to further consultation, so as to assess the requirements of the affected businesses. At times outwith the legal order, a loading bay(s) would be available for parking for any vehicle.
- 4.9 Both loading bay options would result in the loss of existing on-street limited waiting parking. The number of bays lost would depend upon the size of loading-bay required and it was confirmed at the site visit that the size of the bay(s) would also be decided upon following further consultation with affected businesses, in regards to their requirements.
- 4.10 In comparison there is no current loading area and the frontagers are subject to either double yellow lines or 30 minute restricted parking.

5. PROPOSAL

- 5.1 Committee are asked to note that 64% of the returned consultation forms are in favour of the introduction of a "puffin" style signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Keptie Street, between Helen Street and Garden Street; with 25% in favour of location between Garden Street and Lochlands Street.
- 5.2 As per Item 7 of the minutes of the Communities Committee meeting of 25 September 2018, the Committee are asked to note the outcome of the site visit held on 7 February 2019 and in particular the concerns raised regards traffic speeds and servicing arrangements.
- 5.3 Committee are asked to note the outcome of speed surveys carried out in Keptie Road and the proposals for servicing and deliveries to affected businesses.

- 5.4 Committee are asked to determine whether or not a light-controlled pedestrian crossing shall be provided in Keptie Street in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
- 5.5 Subject to 5.4 Committee are asked to determine if a loading bay should also be provided as per **Appendix 3** or **4**.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The estimated cost to install a “puffin” style signal controlled pedestrian crossing, including associated works between Helen Street and Garden Street is £45,000 and is £35,000 for the location between Garden Street and Lochlands Street, which could be funded from the 2019/20 Traffic Signals Capital Budget.
- 6.2 The estimated costs associated with installing a loading bay at either location is estimated at £750 for the Order and road marking.
- 6.3 There will also be ongoing maintenance costs associated with the establishment of a signal controlled pedestrian crossing, of approximately £400 per annum, which would require to be met from the Revenue Budget for Traffic Signals Maintenance, within the overall Roads Revenue Budget.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 This report details the outcome of the site visit held at Keptie Street, Arbroath on 7 February 2019, highlights concerns raised by local businesses, details actions and proposals to allay the concerns and requests that Committee determines whether or not a pedestrian crossing shall be provided in Keptie Street, Arbroath.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Service Leader - Legal and Democratic and the local Police Commander for Tayside Division, have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No. 264/17 Keptie Street, Arbroath – Pedestrian Crossing, 15 August 2017
- Report No. 385/17 Keptie Street, Arbroath – pedestrian Crossing, 14 November 2017
- Report No. 291/18: Keptie Street, Arbroath – Pedestrian Crossing – Update, 25 September 2018
- Report No. 9/19 Proposed Pedestrian Crossing, Keptie Street, Arbroath: Response to Public Consultation – 15 January 2019.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Location 1: Keptie Street, Arbroath between Helen Street & Garden Street General Layout

Appendix 2 – Location 2: Keptie Street, Arbroath between garden Street & Lochlands Street General Layout

Appendix 3 – Dedicated Loading Bay – Keptie Street

Appendix 4 – Dedicated Loading Bay – Helen Street







