

Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Supporting Document to agenda item 7 of the meeting on Monday 18 December 2023

7. **Designated Safe Crossing Place - To receive information from NYC Highways in response to the request that other options for a safe crossing be explored, both in the town centre and on the A170, pursuant to Minute 23142**

Minute 23142 of the Ordinary Town Council meeting dated Monday 20 November 2023, Agenda item 13. Designated Safe Crossing on Market Place

- a. The responses to the consultation for installation of a raised crossing on Market Place were **received**.
- b. It was **noted** that the result of the public consultation does not demonstrate unanimous support of the proposal.
- c. Cllr Dowie commented that whilst the result of the consultation does not support a raised crossing there is a clear demonstration of need for a safe crossing in the town. Cllr Dowie proposed that the responses to the consultation should be submitted to North Yorkshire Council with the accompanying request that other options for a safe crossing be explored, both in the town centre and on the A170. The request would also invite Highways Officers to carry out a site visit in order to assess potential crossing locations. **Agreed**.

Response from NYC Highways to the request that other options for a safe crossing be explored, both in the town centre and on the A170:

In terms of the Market Place, we have exchanged correspondence on this matter a number of times over the past couple of years. Based on the fact that there is no history of collisions involving pedestrians crossing the road and pedestrians appear to cross without difficulty at various locations, there is no rationale for providing any form of facility over and above what is there at present. I note from the objections to the raised crossing that many people do not consider there to be an issue in the Market Place. Also, the situation for pedestrians will have improved through the introduction of the 20mph speed limit. I also note from the objections that there were suggestions of a formal zebra crossing painted on the road rather than the raised table. However, in order to introduce a zebra crossing accompanying zig zag markings would need to be provided which would result in a large amount of car parking spaces being lost. I am sorry but I am unable to divert any further officer time to this matter at the present time.

With regard to the introduction of a crossing facility on the A170 in the proximity of the Co-Op. As part of the detailed design of the site layout the Highway Team at County Hall ensured that the proposed off-site highway works were subject to Road Safety Audits undertaken by a team of independent Road Safety professional engineers. The Audit included an assessment of pedestrian facilities. A Road Safety Audit (RSA) was undertaken at design stage and a second RSA was undertaken after works were completed and the supermarket had opened, this was undertaken in February this year. The RSA did not identify and pedestrian safety issues associated with crossing the A170 at this location and did not recommend that a controlled crossing facility was required. The local Highway Office does not consider that there is reason to disregard the findings of the RSA, particularly as there is no identified evidence of a pedestrian road safety issue at this location.

I am sorry that this may not be the response the Town Council were looking for but I hope you understand that our budgets and resource are finite and we have to target these resources at sites where we can make the biggest difference based on the evidence of a problem rather than the perception of an issue.

Kind regards

Tim Coyne, I.Eng, FIHE.
Improvement Manager
North Yorkshire Council
Area 4 Highways Office