

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	12 JANUARY 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	7
TITLE:	RESULTS OF STATUTORY CONSULTATIONS: WELLS HALL - UPPER REDLANDS ROAD		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	REDLANDS
LEAD OFFICER:	DARREN COOK	TEL:	0118 937 2612
JOB TITLE:	TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL MANAGER	E-MAIL:	Darren.cook@reading.gov.uk

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Following the meeting of the Sub-Committee meeting in September 2016, Officers have conducted a statutory consultation. This report provides the result of the statutory consultation and Officer recommendation for the scheme.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 provides the objections report that relates to the proposed raised table.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the raised table at the junction of Upper Redlands Road / New Road / Wells Hall access road be implemented, as advertised.
- 2.3 That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to seal the resultant Traffic Regulation Orders and no public inquiry be held into the proposals.
- 2.4 That the objectors be informed of the decision of the Sub-Committee accordingly.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The proposals are in line with current Transport and Planning Policy.
- 3.2 Under the 1988 Road Traffic Act, the Highway Authority has a duty to take steps to both reduce and prevent collisions on the road network. In addition under the Traffic Management Act 2004 the authority has a duty to maintain and manage the road network and secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic. (Traffic is defined to include pedestrians). It is therefore imperative that the authority continues to strive to reduce road casualties to ensure the network is safe for all users.

4. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

- 4.1 On 22nd February 2013 Planning Applications Committee permitted the Outline application (access only) for the demolition of all existing buildings, halls of residence and associated buildings and the redevelopment of the site to provide 34 dwellings, open space, landscaping, accesses to Upper Redlands Road and all associated works. Application reference 121820.
- 4.2 The reserved matters planning application has since been permitted (application reference 140428) and works are currently commencing on site.
- 4.3 The main access for the development will be from a new access road located directly opposite New Road. A crossroads will be created and a raised table installed on Upper Redlands Road to reduce vehicle speeds.
- 4.4 The design of the junction and the creation of the crossroads are all in accordance with the criteria within the Department for Transport Document, The Manual for Streets, 2007, which is the national design guide for Residential / Urban Roads.
- 4.5 The Council has received 3 objections to the proposed introduction of raised table.
- 4.6 The objectors were opposed to the raised table as they do not believe it would cause any further slowing of the traffic following the recent introduction of the 20mph speed limit, increased vibration / disturbance from heavy vehicles and the creation of unnecessary visual pollution.
- 4.7 In accordance with the Traffic Signs Regulation and General Directions Order (TSRGD) physical / vertical traffic calming measures

are required on a carriageway with a 20mph speed limit. Speed cushions already exist on Upper Redlands Road and the proposed raised table would be a replacement of existing cushions. The existing cushions are located 5m west of the proposed raised table. The raised table would therefore have a negligible impact on vibration and visual pollution.

- 4.8 As a result it is recommended that the raised table be implemented as advertised.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 These proposals support the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan and contribute to the Council's strategic aims, as set out below:

- Keeping the town clean, safe, green and active.
- Providing infrastructure to support the economy.
- Remaining financially sustainable to deliver these service priorities.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Statutory Consultation will be carried out in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The sealed Traffic Regulation Orders will require advertisement, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

- 7.2 Necessary changes to Highway signing and lining will need to be implemented in accordance with the Traffic Signs, Regulations and General Directions 2016.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The raised table junction is to be constructed by the developer as part of their agreed planning permission and the design has been agreed as part of their S278 / 38 Agreement for Highway Works. Funding for the legal order has been paid by the developer through the S278 / 38 Agreement process.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Wells Hall - Raised Table Junction (Traffic Management Sub-Committee, September 2016).

WELLS HALL RAISED TABLE - OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

APPENDIX 1 - Summary of letters of support and objections received to Traffic Regulation Order

No.	Objections/support/comments received.
1	<p>I am writing about the proposal to create a raised table at the junction of Upper Redlands Road and New Road. I live in [REMOVED] Upper Redlands Road, [REMOVED].</p> <p>I am objecting to this proposal on the grounds that</p> <p>1: It is unnecessary: the speed limit in Upper Redlands Road has recently been reduced to 20mph, which is a significant contribution to calming traffic (at least, it will be once enforcement begins), and the platform will not further slow traffic.</p> <p>2: It will increase disturbance from heavy vehicles passing over the platform. Vibration from heavy vehicles in Upper Redlands Road is already a problem which is felt in my house and those of my neighbours.</p> <p>3: It will add to the visual pollution from traffic signs, parking signs, and road markings which is already excessive.</p>
2	<p>I am writing to object to this proposal for the following reasons</p> <p>1 As the speed limit in Upper Redlands Road has only recently been reduced to 20mph, which is likely to be significant as a traffic calming measure when it is enforced. I do not believe that the platform would cause any further slowing of the traffic.</p> <p>2: There would be increased disturbance from heavy vehicles going over the platform. Vibration from heavy vehicles in Upper Redlands Road is already a problem.</p> <p>3: Traffic signs, parking signs, and road markings are already excessive in this area creating unnecessary visual pollution. Note the upside down 20mph on the ground in New Road and the second sign on the short arm where it would not be possible to reach 20mph in any event.</p>
3	<p>I strongly object to this proposal for the same reasons as those submitted by [REMOVED - refers to objector 1] recently. Save the money, cut out the visual pollution!</p>
<p><i>Please note: Information that could potentially identify the originator of the comment/objection has been removed from this document.</i></p>	