

**MINUTES OF THE HARLOW LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL
HELD ON**

16 June 2015

7.00 - 8.40 pm

PRESENT

Committee Members

Councillor Eddie Johnson, Essex County Council (Chairman)
Councillor Mike Danvers, Essex County Council (Vice-Chair)
Councillor David Carter, Harlow District Council
Councillor Karen Clempner, Essex County Council
Councillor Tony Durcan, Essex County Council
Councillor Muriel Jolles, Harlow District Council

Officers

Rissa Long, Highways Liaison Officer, Essex County Council
David Sprunt, Principal Area Transportation Co-ordinator, Essex County Council
Sonia Church, Highways Liaison Manager, Essex County Council
Lisa Purse, Corporate and Governance Support Officer, Harlow Council

Other Members

Councillor Simon Carter, Harlow District Council
Councillor Joel Charles, Harlow District Council
Councillor Danny Purton, Harlow District Council

100. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence were received from Officer Joe McGill.

The Panel noted that the Chairman and the Vice Chairman for 2015/16 will be elected at the next Harlow Local Highways Panel meeting, as the 2015/16 membership will be set at 23 July meeting of Harlow Council's Cabinet.

101. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

102. **MINUTES OF 26 MARCH 2015 MEETING**

RESOLVED that the minutes held on 26 March 2015 are agreed as a correct record.

103. **MATTERS ARISING**

Further to minute 89(a) 8 January - Councillor Simon Carter on behalf of Councillor Tony Hall requested an update on what physical measure could be put in place to prevent right hand turns at the Aldi supermarket. The

Chairman advised that Joe McGill would provide an update on the matter to Panel members shortly.

Councillor Danny Purton raised general concern regarding Harlow's main roads. He explained that they were built in the 1940s and 1950s using inappropriate concrete. Danny asked whether the opportunity to resurface the roads is taken when a major works project is planned. The Chairman advised that the issue does not fall within the remit of the Panel and other methods of enquiry should be used.

104. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Two members of the public had submitted written questions (attached) and were in attendance to address the Panel. The following responses were provided:

a) Vic Potter, for Priory Avenue Group

David Sprunt explained plans to improve the current situation in the area including the proposed M11 7a mitigation measures between Mulberry Green and the Harlow Mill Railway Station. Also as part of the new housing development a right turn is planned along Gilden Way in the Sheering direction. A ban on lorries is also proposed along Gilden Way. David advised that works are expected to start 12-18 months from now, mainly due to the Traffic Regulation Order that is required.

It was confirmed that a speed survey had previously been carried out on Priory Avenue and there was not sufficient reasons for the Police to support a speed restriction, therefore a temporary speed restriction is unlikely to be considered.

Problems concerning parking on Priory Avenue were discussed, particularly the effect that commuter parking and recent parking provisions on Hart Road have had on parking in Priory Avenue. It was reported that buses have difficulty entering Priory Avenue due to parked vehicles.

b) Paul McLintic

David Sprunt explained that it has been agreed in principle that should the proposed M11 junction 7a go ahead, the speed limit on Gilden Way would be reduced permanently from 60mph to 40mph.

The national criteria for speed limits were discussed.

105. **UPDATE ON SCHEMES 2013/14 - 2015/16**

The Panel received a report from Essex County Council on the status of minor schemes previously approved by the Panel for 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.

The Panel discussed the following schemes:

LHAR142009 – Church Langley Way VAS sign - one has been installed and the other will be installed in the immediate vicinity.

LHAR142015 – Feasibility study for relining the approaches to Church Langley - Rissa to advise the Panel of when scheme can be expected to commence.

LHAR132014 - Mulberry Green/Gilden Way - Rissa to advise the Panel of when the scheme to amend confusing signage can be expected to commence.

LHAR142001 – Southern Way junction with Tawneys Road - this scheme is on course subject to potential delays outside of Essex Highways control.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

106. **POTENTIAL SCHEME LIST**

The Panel received a report on potential 2015/16 schemes from Essex County Council. Comment was offered on the following schemes:

LHAR152001 – Howard Way at the junction with Altham Grove - the Panel agreed that, having considered the findings of the feasibility study, circulated previously, the decision concerning a possible introduction of a mini roundabout at Howard Way at the junction with Altham Grove be made by the Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Highways.

The Panel discussed a number of other possible schemes that could be pursued in 2015/16:

Councillor Mike Danvers noted that, due to the bus cages on Momples Road and Maddox Road residents have difficulty parking in the area. Rissa to advise the Panel whether it would be possible for the parking restrictions to be amended from 6am – 8pm to 9am to 5pm.

The Panel discussed the traffic lights on Second Avenue which had been switched off as part of a three month trial. The general impression is that switching the traffic lights off appears to have relieved traffic congestion; however the Panel agreed that quantifiable evidence would be required in order for the traffic lights to be permanently switched off. Therefore £10,000 was allocated to a study at this location.

RESOLVED that:

A The safer roads and traffic management schemes as detailed in the report submitted, totalling £203,244, are progressed for 2015/16.

B The additionally suggested schemes identified above are progressed for 2015/16.

107. **MAJOR CAPITAL SCHEMES**

David Sprunt made a presentation on the following major highways schemes:

The Clocktower Roundabout

This scheme is due for completion at the end of July 2015. The scheme will provide a slip road from the A414 towards the town centre and reduce queues and delays at the location.

The Enterprise Zone

Tree clearance took place in the winter to prevent birds from nesting at the location. Utility works are taking place this summer. The project will see the banks removed outside Mark Hall School to allow London Road to be widened to four lanes. New traffic signals will be installed at the junction of the Enterprise Zone, London Road and New Hall.

The Gates Roundabout

This scheme will see the approach to the roundabout from the south widened to four lanes, Gilden Way to River Way will be dualled and there will be two lanes along Cambridge Road. This works will improve traffic flow.

Templefields/Riverway

It is planned that there will be a left turn in (from the north) and a right out (to the south) system in place. These works are planned to take place at the same time as Gates Roundabout works.

The Proposed M11 7a

The scheme is in the Public information stage and information will be available on various dates and locations over a four week period commencing 7 July 2015.

Details and illustrations are appended to these minutes for information.

108. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

109. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Panel will meet in September 2015, date to be confirmed with new members.

Meeting dates from September onwards will be agreed at the next meeting of the Panel.

CHAIRMAN OF THE PANEL

HARLOW LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL – 16 JUNE 2016 – WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Question from Vic Potter, for Priory Avenue Group

We have been trying for several years to get something done about the damage being inflicted on our local environment we have approached the Council via the Highways Panel the Police via Nap, Nepp and Essex CC but to no avail. We must therefore make a personal plea for the health and safety of our residents, many of whom are elderly (as you can see), being threatened by an ever increasing dangerous scenario with speed, volume, and type of vehicle as well as commuter parking adding to the mayhem.

The building of the Gilden Way estate and the possibility of Junction 7A on the M11 appears untenable with the present configuration.

Our Question: is the Highways Panel (or others) developing a plan to cope with the current situation as a starter for the future? We have in the past offered our services to ensure that the plans reflect as far as possible an agreement and the Council and the residents – much in the way outlined in the Community Engagement Strategy Report 2013/14 – 2015/16.

Question from Paul McLintic

For the reasons set out in the letter, of 8 April 2015, from Harlow Civic Society to Ms Rissa Long, Highways Liaison Officer at Essex County Council, would the Highways Panel please support a reduction of the speed limit on Gilden Way from the present national speed limit of 60mph to 40mph?

The letter referred to above is attached as Appendix A.



HARLOW CIVIC SOCIETY

Chair: Stan Newens
Vice-chair: John Curry

Secretary: Paul McLintic
Treasurer: Tony Evans

*Please reply to: Paul McLintic, 5 Cowlins Yard, Old Harlow, Essex, CM17 0FZ
E mail: paul@mclintic.com*

8 April 2015

Ms Rissa Long
Highways Liaison Officer
Essex County Council
County Hall
Market Road
Chelmsford
Essex, CM1 1QH

Cc Councillor Eddie Johnson
Councillor Mike Danvers
Councillor Joel Charles
Councillor Muriel Jollies
Councillor Sue Livings

Dear Ms Long

Speed limit on Gilden Way

I am writing on behalf of Harlow Civic Society to ask for the speed limit on the B183, Gilden Way, Harlow, between the roundabout at London Road and the Town boundary at Marsh Lane, to be reduced from the present national speed limit of 60mph to 40mph.

Please would you see the attached map which shows the location and various features of the route that make the case, we believe, for a speed reduction on this busy road. These features are:

- Four (in future five) nearby schools with children walking home across and along Gilden Way
- A hazardous junction at Mulberry green with a right turn lane from the east and a pedestrian crossing to the east
- Access to shops and doctors for Churchgate Street residents involves crossing Gilden Way at this Mulberry Green junction
- Further major housing development both north and south of the road with increased traffic and pedestrian flows
- The bend in the road at the point where traffic is fastest obscures views so that it is dangerous here for both pedestrians to cross and for vehicles to overtake, though many try to
- A proposed pedestrian crossing near this bend, though needed for those who cross, could present new hazards if traffic were travelling at 60mph.

Gilden Way is very busy at peak midweek times and this naturally slows the traffic. However, outside peak times, though the road runs through the middle of the ward of Old Harlow, and because perhaps it looks deceptively rural, many car drivers and motorcyclists appear to treat it as a country road and the national speed limit signs as an invitation to open up the throttle.

We understand that a review of speed limits has quite recently been done. However, having consulted with local residents' associations, our ward HDC councillors and a local cyclist group, we know we have their support in urging you to revise your conclusion in the light of the information in this letter and to reduce the Gilden Way speed limit to 40mph.

With best wishes
Yours sincerely

Paul McLintic
Secretary

Harlow Major Schemes Update

David Sprunt

Transportation Strategy & Engagement



Essex County Council

Clock Tower Roundabout











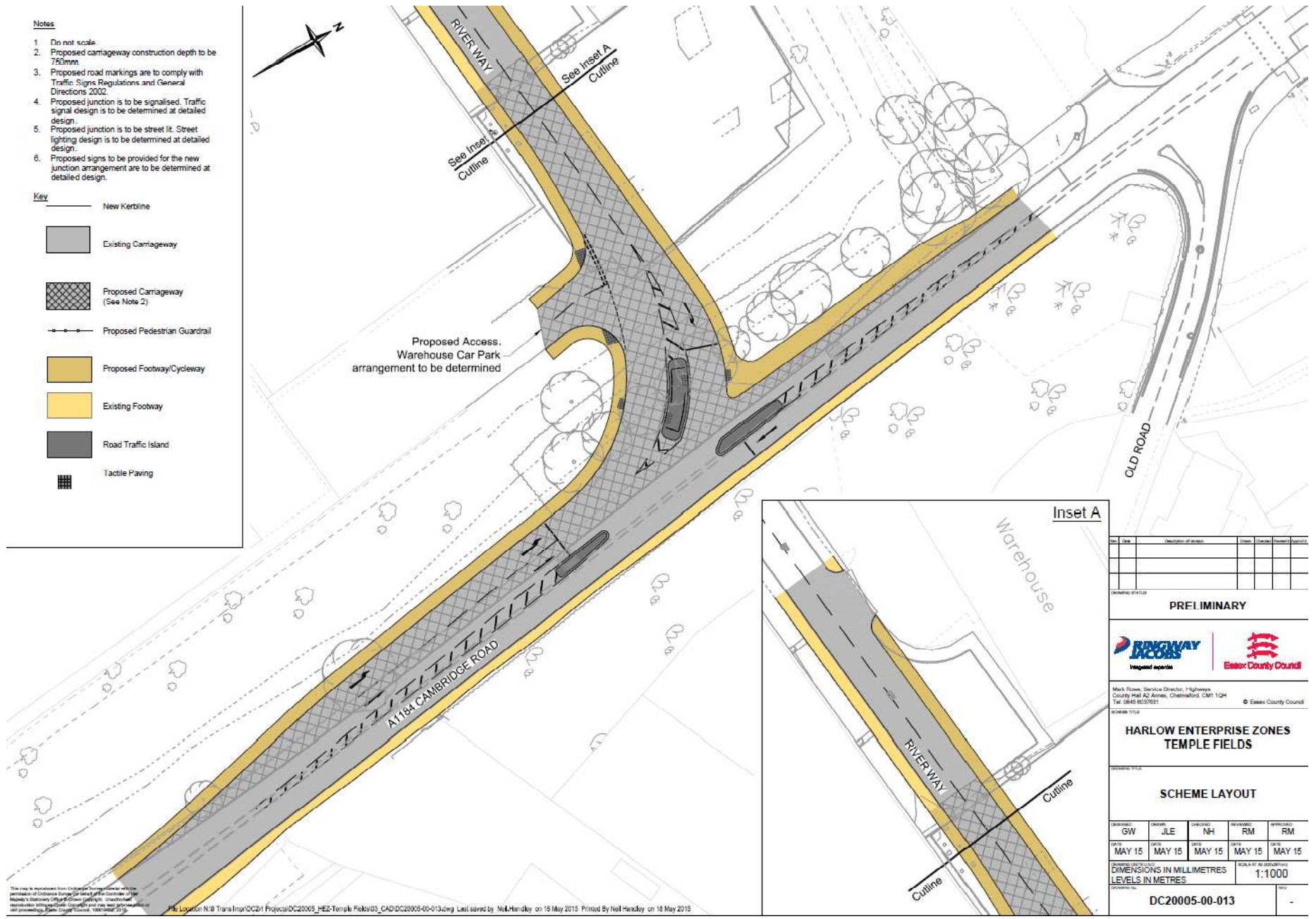
Temple Fields

Notes

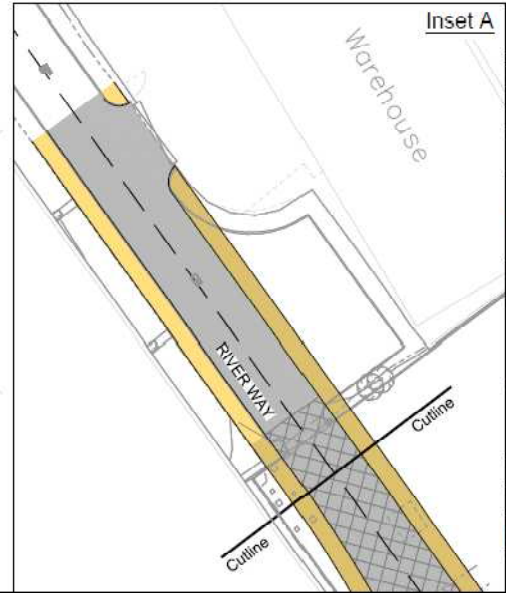
1. Do not scale
2. Proposed carriageway construction depth to be 750mm
3. Proposed road markings are to comply with Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.
4. Proposed junction is to be signalised. Traffic signal design is to be determined at detailed design.
5. Proposed junction is to be street lit. Street lighting design is to be determined at detailed design.
6. Proposed signs to be provided for the new junction arrangement are to be determined at detailed design.



Key

-  New Kerbline
-  Existing Carriageway
-  Proposed Carriageway (See Note 2)
-  Proposed Pedestrian Guardrail
-  Proposed Footway/Cycleway
-  Existing Footway
-  Road Traffic Island
-  Tactile Paving



Inset A



Rev	Date	Description of work	Drawn	Checked	Approved	Project
DRAWING STATUS						
PRELIMINARY						
						
Mark Dixon, Service Director, Highways County Hall A2 Annex, Chelmsford CM1 1QH Tel: 0845 8037621						
© Essex County Council						
DRAWING TITLE						
HARLOW ENTERPRISE ZONES TEMPLE FIELDS						
DRAWING TYPE						
SCHEME LAYOUT						
DRAWN:	GW	CHECKED:	JLE	DESIGNED:	NH	APPROVED:
DATE:	MAY 15	DATE:	MAY 15	DATE:	MAY 15	DATE:
DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES						SCALE BY AS SHOWN
LEVELS IN METRES						1:1000
PROJECT NUMBER						REV
DC20005-00-013						-

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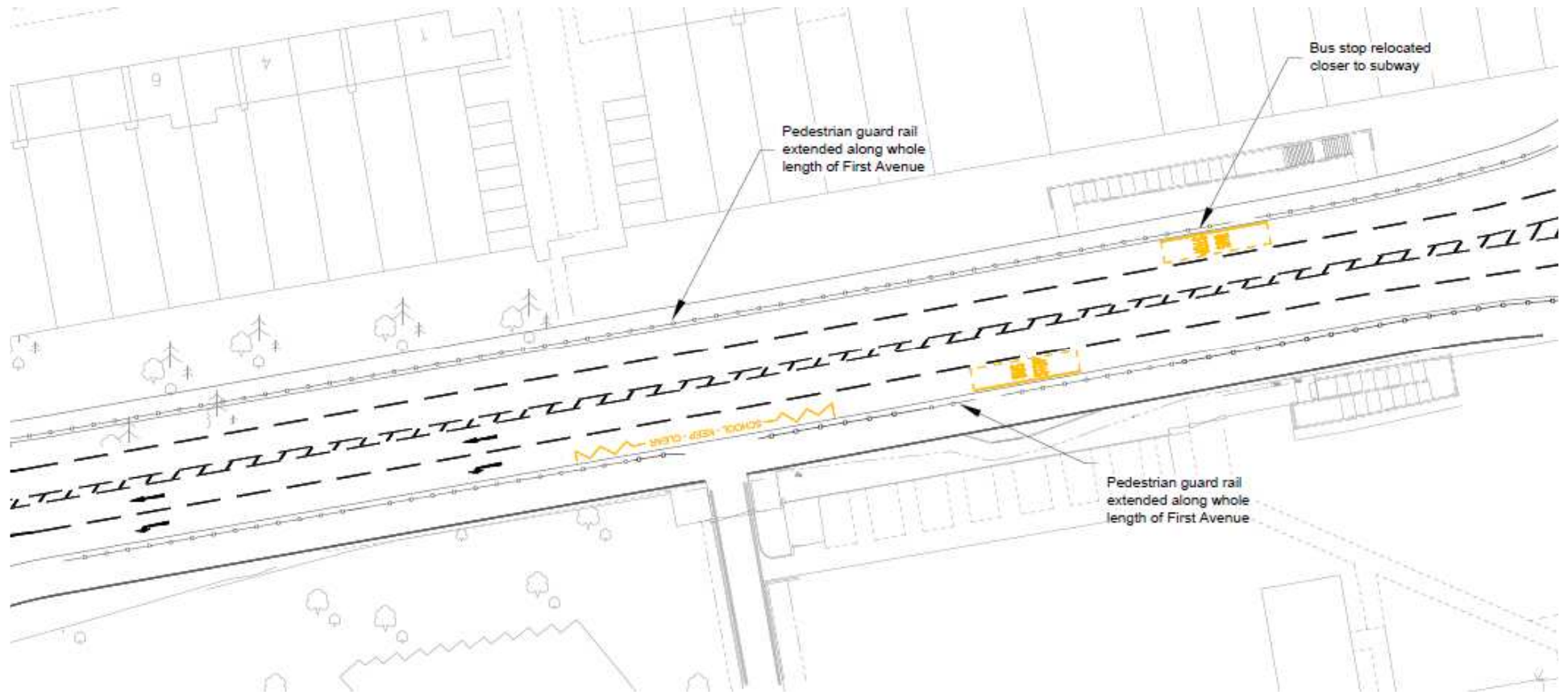
File Location: N:\8 Trains Imp\DC201\Project\DC2005_HEZ-Temple Fields\03_CAD\DC2005-00-013.dwg. Last saved by: N&H\Handley on 18 May 2015. Plotted by: N&H\Handley on 18 May 2015.



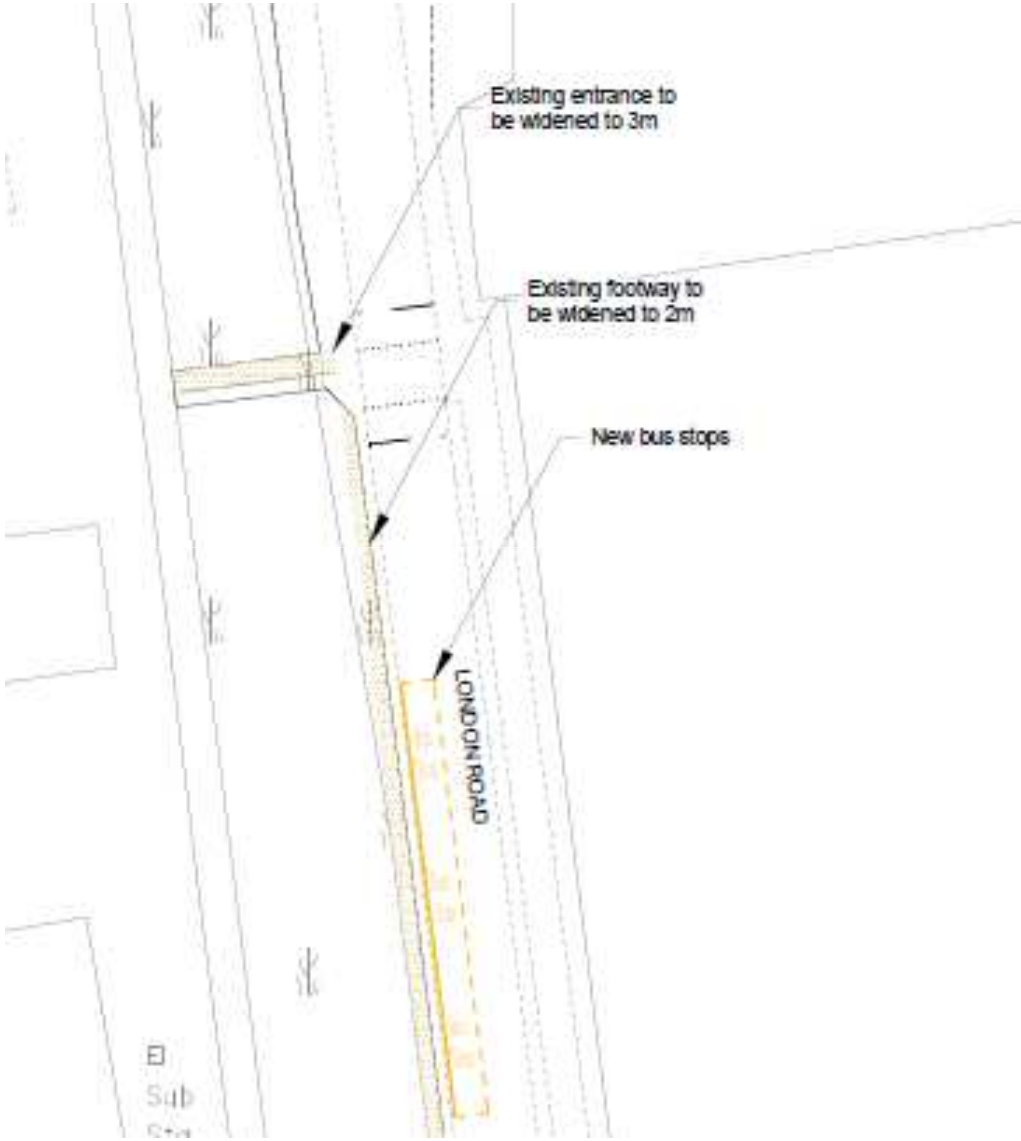
Scheme Overview:

**New Hall
A414
First Avenue
London Road**

First Avenue



London Road



M11 J7a - Public Information Exercise

w/c 6 July for 4 weeks

Staffed Exhibitions 2pm – 8pm:

7 July - Sheering Village Hall

9 July – St Johns Art Centre Old Harlow

15 July - St Johns Art Centre Old Harlow

Small unstaffed exhibition in the Civic Centre

All available online via ECC website