

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
HIGHWAYS FORUM FOR HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH

26TH JANUARY 2017

RESPONSE TO PETITION: REQUEST FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
A NEW BUS SHELTER

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT

Purpose of Report

1. To report on the outcome of investigations following the presentation of a petition requesting the re-installation of a bus shelter on Coventry Road, Hinckley.

Background

2. A petition containing 40 signatures was presented by the lead petitioner, Mr J. R. Pells, on the 8th June 2016 for the re-installation of a new bus shelter to be considered at the bus stop on Coventry Road, located outside house number 230.
3. A vehicular access was requested by the residents of house number 230 in 2012, which was agreed by Leicestershire County Council because of the limited parking for residents available on Coventry Road.
4. However, to enable the installation of the vehicular access without relocating the bus stop in question, it was agreed to reduce the raised access kerbs at the bus stop from 8metres to 5metres. This enabled the bus stop to remain and the vehicular access to be provided for house number 230.
5. The original 4 bay bus shelter belonged to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and was in poor condition with rust on the base and weathered polycarbonate panels. To enable the vehicular access to go ahead Leicestershire County Council asked Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council to consider the removal of the shelter or to replace the shelter for a more suitable smaller style to accommodate the vehicular access request
6. Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council agreed that the shelter was in poor condition and decided to fully remove the shelter which was owned and maintained by them. The bus stop still remains outside number 230 Coventry Road comprising pole, flag, 5metre run of raised access kerbs and a layby with bus stop clearway.

Outcome of Investigations

7. A site assessment was carried out on Monday 11th July 2016 to look at the feasibility of a new shelter.

8. It was concluded that it would not be safe or suitable to install a bus shelter in the original location outside house number 230 Coventry Road as it would impact theirs and the neighbouring properties 228e forward visibility when driving into and out of both driveways.
9. The bus shelter would also need to be positioned at the back of the footway to ensure the raised access kerbs are accessible. The added difficulties in placing a shelter at such locations where driveways are uncluttered with no walls or hedges to protect bus patrons waiting.
10. Our assessment showed that the nearby grass verge to the west of the bus stop (outside no. 234 Coventry Road) may be a suitable location for a new shelter.
11. To relocate a bus shelter to this location would require construction works to extend the layby, install raised access kerbs, relocate an existing lamp column and consultation with affected residents. This would incur costs in the region of £10,000. For the location to have the standard replacement 2 bay bus shelter this would incur an additional cost of £5,000.
12. Due to the current economic climate the County Council have a limited budget for bus stop infrastructure, which is prioritised on maintenance of existing assets. Therefore, while the County Council would support requests for new bus shelters, it is simply unable to fund requests of this nature. The County Council would welcome provision of such infrastructure, however look for opportunities to fund improvements where it can be funded by other sources, such as district/parish councils or the private sector.

Conclusion

13. A new bus shelter on Coventry Road could be accommodated and would require a minor relocation of the bus stop and associated physical works. The full cost for consultation and new shelter however would require third party funding, which is currently not available

Recommendation

14. Members are asked to note the content of this report and should third party funding become available, note that the County Council would be happy to arrange the necessary works.

Officer to Contact

Fiona Blockley Tel: 0116 305 0932
Email: fiona.blockley@leics.gov.uk

Background Papers

The petition containing 40 signatures is held on the Chief Executive's Department petition file.

Pictures

- 2011 location of bus shelter on Coventry Road



- 2016 current arrangement of Bus stop on Coventry Road



This page is intentionally left blank