Dear Resident / Business

The purpose of this Newsletter is to update you following the consultation exercise carried out in November 2009 for the Coombe Lane cycle track and to notify you of the Council’s decision regarding these measures.

Representations received along with officers’ recommendations were presented to the Street Management Advisory Sub-Committee on 12th January 2010 and recommendations were subsequently made to the Cabinet Member of Planning and Traffic Management. After careful consideration the Cabinet Member has agreed to proceed with a modified scheme from that shown on the previous consultation document (Nov 2009). The modified scheme is shown on the attached Drg No: Z71-135-25.

These works will form part of the 900km of London wide cycle routes that are designed to make it easier, safer and more convenient for cyclists. The development of the cycle network is intended to increase peoples’ choice of realistic and affordable forms of transport.

This proposal will provide improved cycle access between the existing cycle facilities at the Skew Arch and the existing cycle track to the west of the station entrance. However, there is a dismount section proposed outside the station area itself as shown on the attached plan. The widened footway will also improve conditions for pedestrians.

The key difference from the original proposal will be the omission of the proposed new Toucan crossing just north of the Raynes Park Bridge, in favour of an improved facility along the existing alignment where pedestrians currently cross using the central island. Pedestrian sight lines will be improved and the central island will be widened to accommodate use by cyclists and pedestrians. The existing Pelican crossing opposite the Skew Arch will be converted to a Toucan crossing that permits use by cyclists.

As part of these works the existing traffic signals in Raynes Park will be provided with physical linking which should help improve traffic flow through the area.

What happens next

The construction of these works will be phased and are programmed to commence on 22nd March 2010. Regrettably, it will be necessary to close Raynes Park Bridge. We estimate that the closures will be for 2 separate one week periods from 22nd March 2010, diversion signs will be in place throughout the duration of these closures. The overall duration of the works is estimated at 4 weeks but the actual time will depend on the weather and site conditions when the works commence.

We appreciate that local access will be difficult during this period and every effort will be made to minimise disruption to local and through traffic (vehicular and pedestrian). However, there will inevitably be a level of traffic disruption which is unfortunately unavoidable.

Contact Us

If you require any further information, please contact Pete Thomas / Alistair Macadam on 020-8545 3635 / 3195 or email: pete.thomas@merton.gov.uk or alistair.macadam@merton.gov.uk

Alternatively you can view the plans in Merton Link, Merton Civic Centre, Morden or visit the Merton website by using the following link www.merton.gov.uk/coombelane_lcn