The decision to implement can be influenced by the responses received during this consultation. Please be sure to complete your enclosed prepaid reply card and return it together with any further comments and suggestions you may have by Friday 16 May 2008.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
The results of the consultation exercise will be reported to the Council’s Street Management Advisory Committee along with the views and recommendations of Council officers, after which a final decision will be made by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Management. As soon as a decision has been made you will be informed accordingly via a newsletter.

CONTACT US
If you require further information please contact Pete Thomas on 020 8545 3635 or email pete.thomas@merton.gov.uk. Alternatively you can visit our website using the following link www.merton.gov.uk/coombelane_cycletrack.

EXHIBITION INVITE
You may wish to attend one of our public exhibitions to be held:
Raynes Park Library, Approach Rd, Raynes Park, London, SW20 8BA
at the following times:
Sat 3 May 2008 from 1.30pm to 5pm
Tue 6 May 2008 from 1.30pm to 7pm
Fri 9 May 2008 from 1.30pm to 7pm

Councils for Raynes Park Ward
Cllr Margaret Brierly
Tel: 020 8545 3396
margaret.brierly@merton.gov.uk

Cllr Linda Scott
Tel: 020 8545 3396
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Cllr Rod Scott
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Issue Date : 18 April 2008

The purpose of this leaflet is to inform you that Merton Council is proposing to introduce cycle facilities on Coombe Lane as part of the development of the London Cycle Network (LCN), which can be funded by Transport for London.

This scheme is part of the proposed 900km of London wide cycle routes and is proposed to make it easier, safer and more convenient for cyclists to gain access to the south of the railway line via the existing skew arch. The development of the cycle network is intended to increase peoples’ choice of realistic and affordable forms of transport.

The proposed scheme will provide both pedestrians and cyclists an improved east west route linking Coombe Lane and Kingston Road at the southern end of the Skew Arch thus avoiding the narrow Cattle Arch and the existing traffic signals at Approach Road / Raynes Park Bridge.

The scheme proposal has two key components:
- Two-way segregated cycle track on a widened footway from outside the shops next to Raynes Park Station to the skew arch to the east
- An improved traffic signalled junction north of the Raynes Park Bridge incorporating a pedestrian and cycle crossing facility.

Two way cycle track on a widened footway from outside the shops next to Raynes Park Station to the skew arch to the east.

Cyclists currently use the cattle arch and travel eastwards towards Kingston Road via the signalled junction south of Raynes Park Bridge. The cattle arch is too narrow to accommodate cyclists and they also have difficulty negotiating the traffic signals south of Raynes Park Bridge. A new facility is proposed which will enable cyclists to join a new cycle track outside the shops and travel eastwards via the skew arch. Pedestrians will also benefit with a wider overall footway. At this stage there are no proposals to provide cycle facilities between the end of the existing Coombe Lane cycle track and the new proposals and cyclists will still be required to dismount. The remaining section may be considered at a latter stage.

In order to widen the footway it will be necessary to cut into the railway embankment by building a retaining wall along its length. Network Rail (NR) has agreed in principle to this proposal. Regrettably, it will be necessary to remove the existing trees on the embankment although NR has agreed in principle to allow a landscaping scheme and hoardings at the top of the slope to improve visual amenity and to help mitigate the loss of trees. The existing advertising hoardings will be replaced at the back of the widened footway.

An improved traffic signalled junction north of the Raynes Park Bridge incorporating a pedestrian and cycle crossing facility.

The introduction of traffic signals on the northern side of Raynes Park Bridge will provide pedestrians and cyclists with a dedicated crossing facility. Existing footways will be widened in and around the junction to provide significantly improved visibility for pedestrians and cyclists and promote a much safer movement for all users crossing Raynes Park Bridge (currently it is very difficult to see traffic coming from under the bridge). The proposals will help to reduce traffic speeds, improve visibility, formalise an established crossing point and provide a safer crossing environment for cyclists and pedestrians.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS COUNT
Before proceeding further the Council would like your views on the proposals. Please refer to the plan overleaf for further details of the proposals.
An exhibition will take place at Raynes Park Library located in Approach Road, where you can speak to officers regarding these proposals. See exhibition invite for details.

www.merton.gov.uk