

Cross City Cycling Fen Ditton

Following initial public consultation, public and FDPC feedback, the original plans have been updated. Vince Farrar & Jennie Conroy met with Vanessa Kelly, Project Officer and Grant Weller, Project Manager to discuss reviewed plans in October 2016, these were accepted in principle by FDPC at the December 2016 meeting (12/155) on the basis of revised FDPC recommendations being fulfilled (attached).

A further meeting took place with Vanessa Kelly and Grant Weller on site 17th March to review progress to-date:

- Works for Fen Ditton could be underway late summer, possibly as early as July 2017. Once dates have been finalised with the relevant contractors we will be informed, anticipated time period for works will also be available at a later date. Works will only take place during off peak hours (9.30-15.30) signage warning of congestion etc. will extend beyond village boundaries to include A14 and Newmarket Rd. publication will include use of existing electronic boards.
- The Rowan Trees on Ditton Lane Bank will be removed in advance of works and a few areas of vegetation extending over County Council boundary where widening of the footpath will take place will also be cleared. Residents who will be directly affected by the vegetation clearance will be notified by the Cross City Cycle Team with a letter drop. Clearance of thick vegetation where there is a risk of nesting birds will not take place until late summer.
- As reported previously a grass bank on Ditton Lane will be maintained. This will necessarily be much steeper and shallow than currently, ruling out any planting of replacement trees or shrubbery. Sowing wild flower mix on the bank is not recommended due to problems in establishing and accessibility to maintain. The landscape officer for SCDC (Carol Newman) has advised spring flowering bulbs (non-poisonous to horses) are really the only option. It has been agreed however to wait to see the end result before finalising these details. The Cross City Cycle Team will have responsibility for maintenance in the first year, so concerns as to 'what if the new grass fails' on the steep shallow bank have been put to rest (as reasonably as they can). CGM have advised Vanessa they will be able to maintain the new bank with a tractor and flail at the same expense as current method of strimming; on this basis access to the paddock on a regular basis will not be required.
- The concrete and wire fencing running along the paddock and new engineered grass bank will be replaced with a post and rail fence to be maintained by Cambs. County Council or the Parish Council (to be clarified). Access to the Paddock will be needed to undertake maintenance.
- The widened foot/cycle path on the corner of the crossroads and High Ditch Rd containing the Copper Beach Trees will be achieved by moving the kerb lines out, there may be a small element of no-dig construction on the verges, but in essence these will remain as they are. Cross City Cycle Team will liaise with Ian Lorman (SCDC Tree officer) and keep the PC informed about what measures will be taken to protect the Copper Beeches during works.
- The cycle/footway across the village green at the crossroads will be re-routed to join directly with the new raised platform crossing point on the High Street, this will pass to the right of the wooden village sign. The existing footpath that crosses the village green and existing path around the radius will be removed and returned to grass. Re-siting of the notice board

and or bench, flagstones to join the new path, new planting and decorative low level posts to limit cars riding the new grassed corner can be considered and included in the scheme (JC will put a proposal to FDPC forward).

- As previously reported County Highways have recommended this years FDPC LHI application for DYL's on High Ditch Rd and High Street in the vicinity of the crossroads on account of the new foot/cycle way (to manage congestion on crossroads and safety at crossing points) and request for DYL's along High Ditch Rd to create 2 passing places be managed together by the Cross City Cycle Team. Vanessa had not had any contact from County Highways on this, but is now following this up.
- The request to renovate damaged verges created by parent parking and extend the low level post and rail fencing to inhibit verge parking in the vicinity of the new crossing point was discussed. Vanessa will follow this up with Highways; John Williams has been asked to facilitate Highways and Cross City cycling to work together on this objective.
- Designers are reviewing the new Fisson Rd turning and accommodation of buses. Vanessa reports they are improving this a little.
- The revised plans FDPC commented on in Dec 2016 and on which the above is based are not yet available in electronic form. Vanessa has advised they are waiting for the second Road Safety Audit for the scheme to be sent to them which may determine further amendments to the design. As soon as the engineering drawings have been finalised, they will be put on the website and FDPC will be notified. Sarah has the paper copies of revised plans to-date.

J Conroy : March 2017.