

To: Ashford Joint Transportation Board
By: Andy Padgham
Date: 10th March 2015
Subject: Ashford Shared Space: Bank Street/Elwick Road
Classification: For information

Summary Bank Street footway remedial action – update

At its December meeting, the board resolved to delegate power to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to agree a solution at a meeting with officers in January 2015.

That meeting took place on 20th January 2015. The KCC Project Manager presented the proposed outline construction details to the board members and ABC officers. The design utilises a standard KCC construction detail appropriate for the road type in this location with increased thickness of sub-base and base course to enhance durability into the future.

The KCC preferred option for the type of stone to be used in the new surface is 'Kobra' Chinese granite, which is the type already in-situ. The benefits of this would be colour matching of the new surface with other paving in the area and the opportunity to recycle undamaged slabs claimed from the site in some areas.

The use of the 'Kobra' granite was agreed by ABC with the condition that KCC takes all reasonable steps to ensure recycled slabs begin their service life in the new construction in as clean condition as possible. At the time of writing, KCC is investigating whether cost-effective means of achieving this are possible; however it is likely that all new granite slabs will be used.

The subject of the possible retention of all or part of the flume feature was discussed. The laminated slabs that were used to produce the feature are the source of the majority of damage leading to the necessary remedial measures. It was therefore agreed the best solution for the future durability of the shared surface in this street is to completely and permanently remove the flume feature from Bank Street/Elwick Road.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were content to accept KCC's recommendations, subject to conditions detailed above, in line with powers delegated to them by the Board.

At the 20th January meeting, ABC offered to assist KCC during preparation of the scheme, particularly with public relations. It was therefore decided to form a joint Project Team utilising specialist officers from both authorities. The first meeting of that team was held on 9th February 2015. The importance of effective public information during the period leading up to the construction phase and beyond was acknowledged by all members present. The team will be working particularly closely with businesses affected by the works and early contact was agreed as essential.

The target construction start date is Tuesday 26th May 2015. Subject to detailed design, the construction phase at the time of writing is expected to be approximately 20 weeks. This would mean completion around the middle of October 2015 and ABC has emphasised the importance of completion before the busy Christmas shopping period commences.

The JTB will be kept informed of further progress.

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