

To: Ashford Joint Transportation Board
By: KCC Highways, Transportation & Waste
Date: 13 June 2017
Subject: A2070 Kennington Road Widening – Conningbrook Bends
Classification: Information only

Summary:

This report updates the Board on progress relating to Kennington Road widening. The narrowness of the road near Blackwall Road North has caused congestion for many years and with funding made available through the Local Transport Plan, Kent Lane Rental funds and S106 developer contributions, the project is now planned to start on 20 June 2017 and be completed by 3 September 2017.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 KCC is planning to undertake localised road widening works to A2070 Kennington Road. This work will address the local pinch point, which presents both congestion and highway safety issues. A plan of the widening scheme can be seen in Appendix A.
- 1.2 KCC has been in discussions with the landowners affected as the widening of the road requires additional land on the east side of Kennington Road. Those discussions have led to an agreement between all affected parties and a licence to construct, which requires the work to be completed by the end of the summer holiday period. KCC already owns land to the west side of Kennington Road which is required for the widening scheme and previous vegetation removal was undertaken in February 2017.
- 1.3 In order to prepare the site for a summer construction, it was necessary to remove a large tree and hedgerow on both sides of Kennington Road before the bird nesting season. This was undertaken on 25/26 February through a weekend road closure.
- 1.4 It will be necessary to close part of Kennington Road in both directions between the junction with Blackwall Road North and the factories for approximately 11 weeks.
- 1.5 The planned road closure will commence on 20 June 2017 with an anticipated finish date of Sunday 3 September. It is not possible to open the road to any traffic during this period. Emergency services coming from A28 will be directed to Junction 9 of M20 and head to Junction 10.

- 1.6 The diversion route for motorway traffic and non-motorway traffic is shown in Appendix B. The official non motorway diversion is via A2070 Willesborough Road, Kennington to Spearpoint Corner, A28 Canterbury Road, Simone Weil Avenue, Drovers Roundabout, Templar Way, Chart Road, B2229 Brookfield Road, Leacon Road, Victoria Road, A2042 Avenue Jacques Faucheux, A2042 Romney Marsh Road, A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road and Willesborough Interchange back to A2070 Kennington Road, Willesborough.
- 1.7 KCC officers have contacted all the large businesses directly, including the William Harvey Hospital, Julie Rose Stadium, Premier Foods, Givaudan, emergency services, schools and Highways England. Meetings have taken place with businesses to understand their requirements and to agree mitigation measures. KCC is aware that the start of works overlaps the school exam period and has been in contact with schools affected to make sure pupils give extra time for travel. Stagecoach and other bus services have also been contacted and are advising their customers on alternative arrangements. Taxi firms will also be made aware in advance. KCC started communications with affected parties in January 2017 anticipating the affect the closure will have on local businesses.
- 1.8 All traffic from A28 Canterbury side of Willesborough Road, Kennington that wishes to get to William Harvey Hospital will be required to follow the diversion route. A manned closure will be in operation during working hours. William Harvey Hospital will be directing all staff that are being transferred from Canterbury Hospital starting on 19 June to use Stone Street and the M20 which although is slightly longer in distance, is no longer in time. A further mitigation is to allow hospital staff to exit via their emergency exit on Hinxhill Road to access the M20 junction 10 via The Street, Willesborough and the A20. A temporary 30mph speed limit will apply on Hinxhill Road by the emergency exit for the duration of the works.
- 1.9 It is anticipated that the work will take place between 7.00am and 5.00pm on weekdays and 7.00am and 3.00pm Saturdays, however this will be reviewed to ensure that the work is undertaken as efficiently as possible. There is one week contingency within the programme and so if possible the road will be reopened as soon as possible.
- 1.10 Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the works, as will road access for residents.
- 1.11 The Julie Rose activities will be accommodated with 2 large events known. All competitors will be required to use the diversion route to gain access to the Stadium. The diversion routes will be signed and advance notice of the closure will take place through the organisers' contacts and via KCC's normal roadworks channels such as Twitter and Facebook. There will also be 2 large variable message signs either end of the closure on the A28 and near the William Harvey Hospital entrance for 2 weeks prior to the closure and 1 week into the closure.

1.12 KCC officers have also been working closely with Ashford Borough Council officers to make sure all as many people are aware of the closure as possible.

2. Finances

2.1 The project budget is £800,000 made up of £250,000 of Kent Lane Rental Funding, £250,000 S106 developer funding and £300,000 KCC Local Transport Plan Funding. There has been expenditure in previous years on designs and land acquisitions and the remaining budget will be spent this financial year.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Board note the contents of the Report and the relevant progress to date.

Background documents:

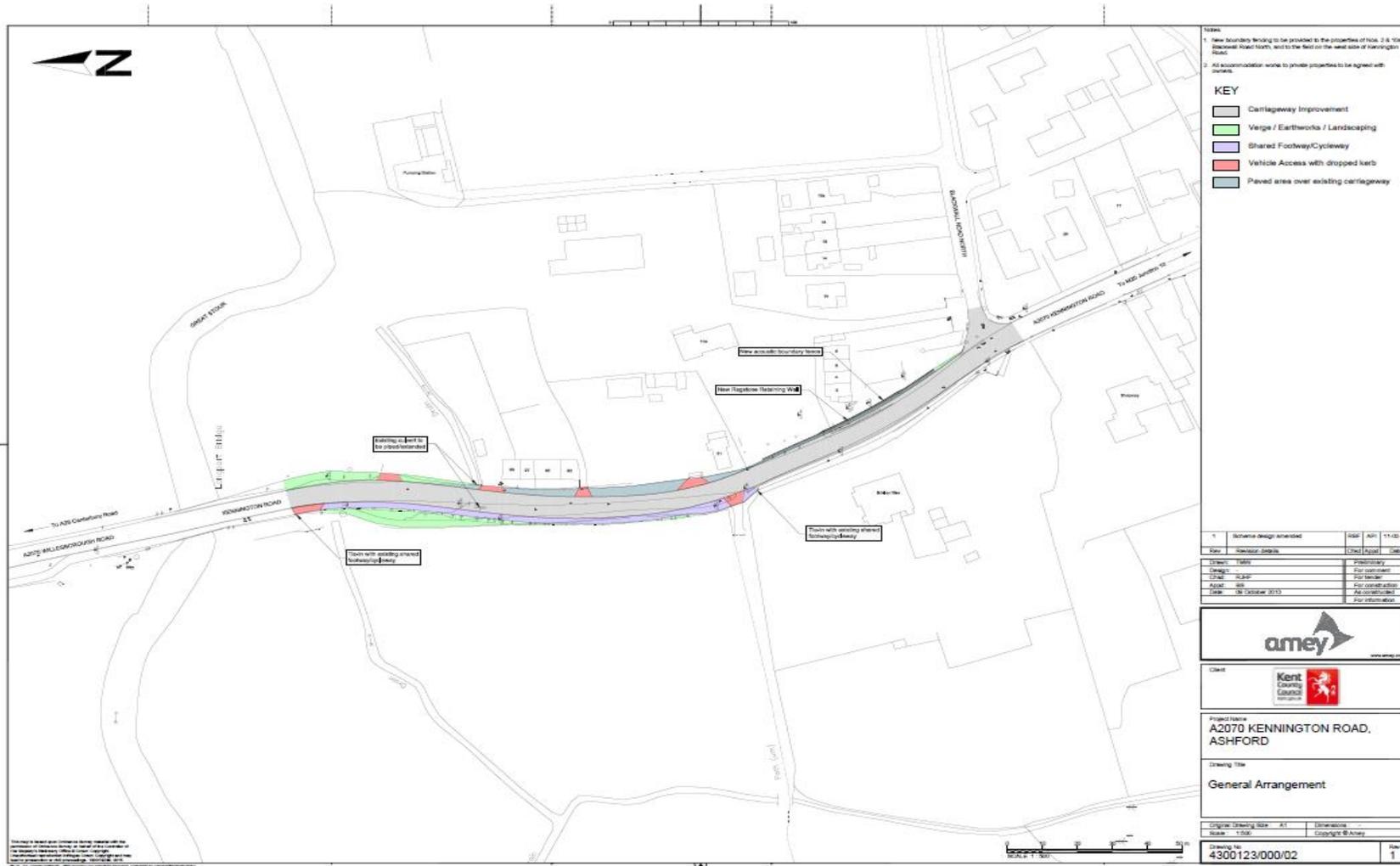
Appendix A: Site Plan

Appendix B: Advance Notification of works & Diversion routes

Contact officer:

Jamie Watson – Kent County Council
03000 413854

APPENDIX A: SITE PLAN





Proposed Highway Works in your Area

A2070 KENNINGTON ROAD, WILLESBOROUGH

Carriageway Widening Works

What are we planning to do?

It is Kent County Councils intention to undertake widening works to increase carriageway widths at Kennington Road, Willesborough north of its junction with Blackwall Road North.

Why do we want to do this work?

The carriageway width at this location narrows significantly creating a localised pinch point. Therefore, works are necessary to improve localised traffic congestion and remove the current potential safety issue.

How will we carry out the works and how will it affect you?

In order to carry out these works safely, it will be necessary to close part of the A2070 Kennington Road, from Blackwall Road heading north. Local diversions will be in place and access to residents will be maintained at all times, up to the point of closure.

Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout these works.

A copy of the diversion route is on the reverse.

When will the work start and how long will it take?

Works are due to take place on Tuesday 20 June 2017 and is expected to take approximately 11 weeks. We anticipate completion of the works on Friday 1 September.

The works will generally be undertaken between the hours of 0700 to 1700 Monday to Friday and 0700 to 1500 hours on Saturdays. However, Please note that if required, it may be necessary to go beyond these times to complete an area of work.

How to contact us?

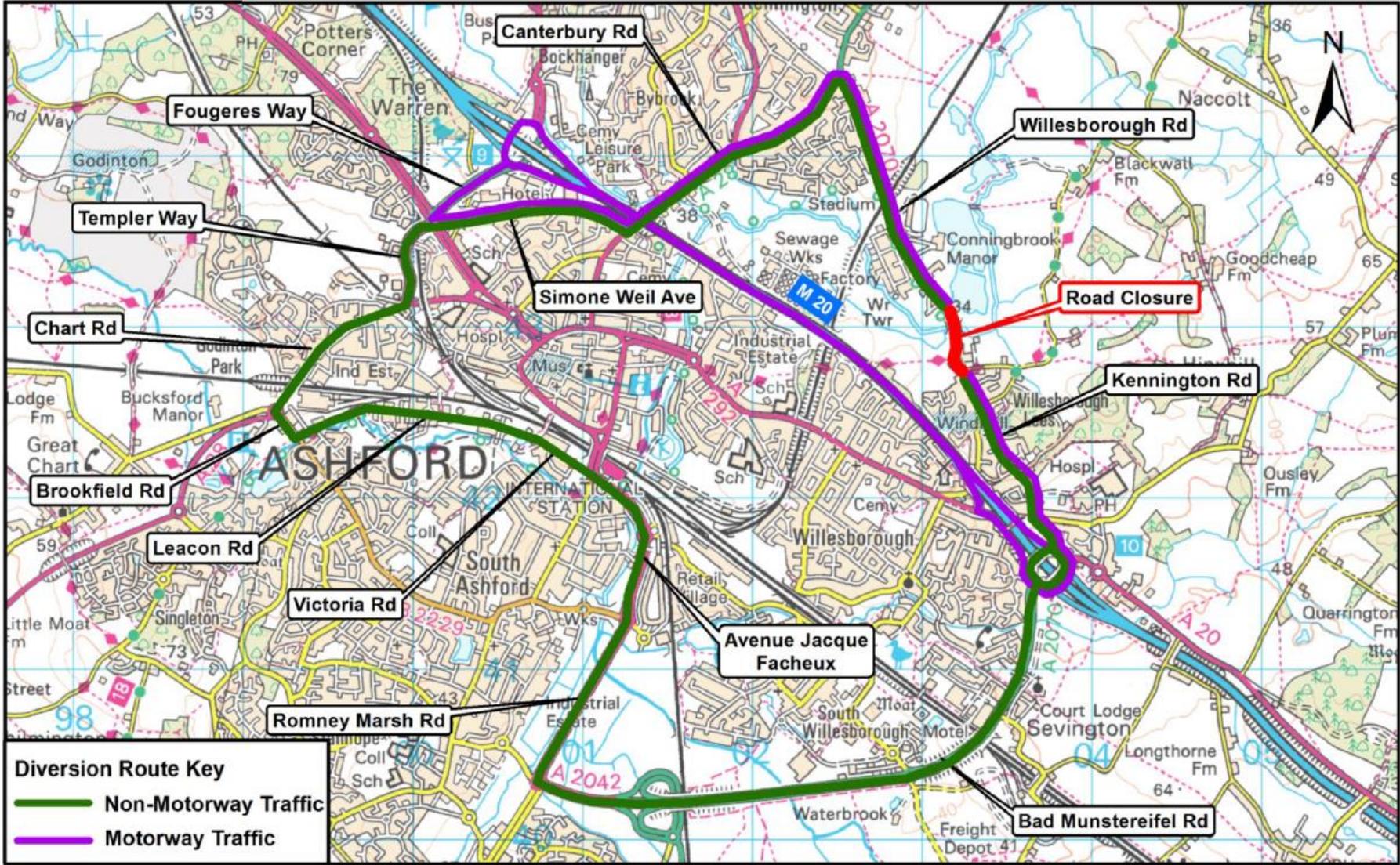
Visit our website www.kent.gov.uk/highways to find out how we look after the roads in Kent.

If you have any concerns about how these road works will affect you please call us on 03000 41 81 81

Please respect our workers space and safety by driving carefully and slowly through the roadworks. Feedback from our workers shows that too many drivers go too fast through roadworks. Everyone is entitled to a safe workplace. Our men and women work next to moving traffic and risk injury every day.

Please keep this in a safe place so you can refer to it if you need to contact us whilst the works are being done – call us on 03000 41 81 81

WARNING – Beware Bogus Callers Kent County Council Highways & Transportation do not allow works to be carried out on private properties. If anyone says they are working for us or our specialist contractors and offer to carry out any work for cash they should be treated with caution and you are advised to contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service Helpline on 03454 04 05 06.



Diversion Route Key
 — Non-Motorway Traffic
 — Motorway Traffic