

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>	<b>Item no.</b>
Epping Forest and Commons Committee	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	
<b>Subject:</b> Proposed Pedestrian Crossing at West Wickham Common	<b>Public</b>	
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent of The Commons	<b>For Information</b>	
<b><u>Summary</u></b>		
<p>1. In May 2016 your Committee considered reports and approved a proposal by Transport for London (TfL) to install a signalised pedestrian crossing on the A232 Croydon Road at West Wickham Common on the understanding that the crossing will improve pedestrian/road safety at the junction of Hartfield Crescent and the A232, whilst minimising its impact upon the Open Space as far as is reasonably practicable.</p> <p>Your Committee further authorised the Comptroller &amp; City Solicitor to complete all necessary agreements including deeds of dedication with TfL and the London Borough of Bromley, and a licence with Thames Water to move their infrastructure further on to West Wickham Common, to make way for the construction of the crossing, at no cost to the City.</p> <p>This report provides members with an update of the above and gives notice of the imminent start of full construction by TfL.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members are asked to note the contents of this report.</li> </ul>		

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

2. In March 2016 your Committee approved ‘in principle’ a proposal to install a signalled pedestrian crossing on the A232 Croydon Road at West Wickham Common. This decision concluded a process that had been contemplated by Transport for London (TfL), City Of London and local residents since 2004, and included a positive community response to a detailed TfL public consultation in 2015.

3. In that same report members authorised the Superintendent to liaise with TfL to minimise the impact of the proposal on the Open Space as far as is reasonably practicable.
4. Members also authorised the drawing up of a licence for the relocation of a Thames Water main, further on to West Wickham Common.
5. Finally, members authorised the drawing up of deeds of dedication for the transfer of land at Hartfield Crescent for use as a new pavement and relocated roadway, to Bromley Council, the local highway authority; and land along either side of the A232 Croydon Road for transfer to TfL for use as pavement in the immediate vicinity of the crossing. **Appendix 1.**
6. If in future the dedicated land is no longer required for highway purposes then, under the terms agreed, the highway authorities shall use all reasonable endeavours to secure the stopping up of that land as soon as practicable and return it to the City for use as open space.
7. An illustrative representation of areas of land being used for the crossing is presented - **Appendix 2.**

### **Current situation**

8. Following lengthy further investigations by TfL and Thames Water that delayed the project for many months it was found that the water main and much of its associated underground infrastructure would not impede the relocation of the roadway at Hartfield Crescent, but a District Meter post and its associated underground pressure unit was required to be relocated 3 metres further on to the Common.
9. Following the receipt of drawings and technical details from Thames Water in July 2017, a revised licence for the District Meter post was granted. Thames Water subsequently moved their infrastructure to the agreed new location in September 2017, with all costs being met by Transport for London.
10. A single combined deed of dedication with both TfL and the London Borough of Bromley was agreed in draft form as long ago as September 2016. Following the relocation of the Thames Water infrastructure, the highway dedication has now been completed and sealed by all parties in advance of TfL's planned date for commencing work on site, which is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017.
11. These actions have successfully concluded the City of London Corporation's commitments in preparing for the construction of the signalised pedestrian crossing by Transport for London.

## **Financial Implications**

12. All costs associated with this project are being met in full by Transport for London.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

- This report supports the following Community Strategy Themes:
  - CV3. Working in Partnership
- This report supports the following Open Spaces Business Plan Objectives
  - OSD4. Improve the health and wellbeing of the community through access to greenspace and recreation

## **Conclusion**

13. Lengthy negotiations between Transport for London and Thames Water have caused long delays to this project, but City of London Officers have ensured that the City Corporation's commitments, relating to the new Thames Water licence and the deed of dedication, added no further delay in the build up to construction.
14. It is anticipated that TfL will commence construction of the crossing on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017. TfL have indicated that the works will take up to six weeks to complete with the expectation that the crossing will be operational by mid-December.
15. During construction the Senior Ranger of West Wickham Commons and Spring Park will monitor the scheme to ensure no harm comes to the Open Space or its visitors.

## **Background Papers:**

EFCC report - March 7<sup>th</sup> 2015

EFCC report - May 9<sup>th</sup> 2016

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: TfL – Land dedication map

Appendix 2: TfL – General arrangement drawing

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