Rural Communities
Warwickshire County Council

Sustrans Kenilworth Greenway - Connect2Kenilworth
A429 Bridge, Coventry Road, Kenilworth

Design and Access Statement

November 2009

Introduction
This Design and Access Statement (DAS) accompanies the planning application for a new pedestrian and cycleway bridge crossing over the A429 in Crackley, Kenilworth submitted by Warwickshire County Council.

The DAS explains and justifies the proposed development in the context of the application site. The County’s Principal Planner has recommended that a DAS be submitted to validate this application.

The guidance set out in Planning Policy Statement No.1 – Delivering Sustainable Development advises that the DAS should cover both issues of design and access in the one statement.

This DAS should be read in conjunction with the Planning Application and Planning Statement that identifies the aspects of the proposal considered to be in general conformity with current guidance and the relevant planning policies.

Design Content

Location
The proposed site for the bridge crossing will physically link Berkwell Greenway to Kenilworth Common and into the town centre. The bridge is located in the same position as the former railway bridge, (see enclosed plan and photomontages).

Proximity to residential development
The site is located on the urban edge of Kenilworth, in Crackley. The boundary of the nearest privately owned residential property is approximately 20m away from the proposed location for the bridge.

Scale and appearance
The development comprises a bridge crossing with associated abutments. The bridge will be an olive green colour, to a recognised RAL number and to British Standard 5252, which will help to blend the structure in with the backdrop of trees.
in both directions towards Kenilworth and towards Gibbet Hill. No additional lighting is proposed but there are two existing street lamps within close proximity to the bridge’s location.

Visual Impact and Surrounding Land Uses
The site and surrounding area has a long history of informal recreational use. The Greenway and 'Coventry Way' are popular with walkers, runners and dog walkers. The route is also becoming increasingly popular with cyclists. Although the bridge is designed to have minimal visual impact it will be visible to nearby residential properties, particularly during the winter months after leaf fall. Views of the bridge will be slightly oblique but will be at close distances approximately 20m or more away from properties.

Mitigation
Mitigation will comprise careful selection of colour to help the bridge blend in with the background at the location. The bridge will be an olive green colour to a British Standard colour. A small section of existing vegetation will need to be removed to necessitate the construction works. This is likely to comprise the removal of three trees and the pruning back of one tree as indicated on the plan. This section will be reinstated where appropriate once the bridge has been installed.

Public consultation
There has been extended public consultation regarding this development.

Access Content
There is an existing access track which we intend the contractor to use for vehicles during the construction works. Once the bridge is installed the access track will be retained for maintenance works to the bridge and to control vegetation.

The actual installation of the bridge will be carried out overnight. The bridge will arrive on site prefabricated and be craned into position. This operation will require a road closure. It should be noted that all craning operations are subject to weather conditions. If it is windy on site, the craning will need to be delayed until later in the day, or possibly to another day altogether.

Since the pedestrian crossing is directly underneath the bridge, it is likely that it will need to be relocated on a temporary basis during the works. This is also true for the bus stop.

After construction, vehicular access to the bridge should only be required for routine maintenance. Access will be via the existing access track.

Rights of Way
There are Rights of Way within the immediate area, e.g., the recreational 40 mile
'Coventry Way' runs along the Greenway across the Coventry Road then runs south following the Coventry Road before continuing along Common Lane. The bridge will affect access to these routes on a temporary basis during the works.

CC/12/09