

<b>Report to</b>	Norwich highways agency committee	<b>Item</b>
	17 March 2016	
<b>Report of</b>	Head of city development services	<b>8</b>
<b>Subject</b>	Britannia Road area traffic and parking management scheme (CIL neighbourhood fund)	

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## **Purpose**

To agree to consult upon a proposed traffic and parking management scheme for the Britannia Road area.

## **Recommendation**

That the committee:

- (1) notes the proposed scheme objectives and associated measures
- (2) asks the head of city development services to advertise for statutory public consultation the necessary traffic regulation order to provide waiting restrictions and road hump notice for traffic calming measures as detailed in this report.
- (3) notes that any objections received will be considered by the committee in future.

## **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority to provide a safe, clean and low carbon city and the service plan priority to implement the Transport for Norwich Strategy

## **Financial implications**

Community Infrastructure Levy funding of £20,000

**Ward/s:** Crome/Thorpe Hamlet

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Bremner – Environment and sustainable development

## **Contact officers**

Kieran Yates, Transport Planner 01603 212471

Gwyn Jones, City Growth & Development Manager 01603 212364

## **Background documents**

None

## Background

1. The community of Britannia Road and Vincent Road has approached Norwich City Council to voice concerns about excess traffic speed and anti-social behaviour associated with use of the Mousehold Heath car park on Britannia Road.
2. As a result Norwich City Council prioritised Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to tackle these issues with a parking and traffic management scheme.
3. A public consultation meeting was held in November 2014 that informed the development of a scheme that includes traffic calming and waiting restrictions to better manage on street parking.
4. It is the intention of the project to achieve the following objectives:
  - (a) Improved compliance with the existing 20mph speed limit
  - (b) Deter anti-social driving, in particular driving by 'boy racers' at night
  - (c) Better management of on-street parking on the part of Britannia Road adjacent to Mousehold Heath so that there is space for the tourist bus to stop and turn around, and to deter verge parking in front of the Britannia Café.
  - (d) Improve pedestrian safety and access along the part of Britannia Road that does not have a footway and to provide a safer pedestrian crossing from the Heath towards Britannia Café gate where the footpath ends.
  - (e) Promote cycling on Britannia Road as a consequence of this package of measures.
5. Both Britannia Road and Vincent Roads have recently been re-designated as a 20mph speed zone as part of Pedalway funding with the requisite traffic calming feature being at the junction of Britannia Road with Gurney Road. This scheme will reinforce compliance with the extant 20mph zone restriction with new traffic calming.
6. Recent traffic calming has already been installed on Gurney Road as part of the Pedalway scheme and currently underway is a 20mph speed limit on Ketts Hill funded as part of a local safety scheme. Together these measures will improve road safety.
7. A time limit for parking on the Britannia Road car park can be considered in future should parking demands require it, however it is not part of this current project due to resource constraints. The Mousehold Heath Conservators have previously been consulted.
8. The Britannia Café is a social enterprise that rehabilitates offenders through work placements. It has become a popular destination and attracts a significant number of customers by car that at times leads to parking pressures in the local area. However as the café is regarded by the planning authority as ancillary to the prison it has not yet been possible for the city council as the planning or highway authority to formally levy any funding from the café to contribute towards this highway scheme or to control its operations that may impact upon parking nearby. The operator of the café have been co-operative in the provision of their venue as a meeting place for the community consultation held in late 2014, and will be included in the consultation.

## **Community consultation**

9. A public meeting was convened in November 2014 by Norwich City Council and attended by the local police community support officer (PCSO) team from Norfolk Constabulary and Councillors Nobbs and Maxwell for Crome ward. The meeting comprises of questions and answers, and a self-completion survey was circulated by the transportation officer.
10. Community concerns were wide ranging and predominantly focussed on road safety issues arising from anti-social driving particularly at night associated with 'boy racers' congregating on the Mousehold Heath car park. This meeting was held prior to traffic calming work on Gurney Road and 20mph speed limit on local roads when the speed limit was the default 30mph for urban roads.
11. PCSOs have been able to conduct targeted policing exercises, however due to limited resources this was not possible at all times. The consensus from the meeting was that changes were needed to the way traffic and parking was managed on Britannia and Vincent Roads.
12. Residents and members also asked if customers to the Britannia Café could be encouraged to use the large prison car parking area to the rear accessed via Knox Road. Whilst visitors to the prison may use this car park, we have been advised by the Britannia Café that the prison governor does not wish to encourage café parking.
13. Using feedback from the community, and in discussion with stakeholders including the Mousehold Heath Conservators and the Norwich sightseeing bus, the following transportation scheme has been devised within the available budget.

## **The way forward**

14. In order to effectively manage traffic and parking issues on Britannia and Vincent Roads the following measures are considered necessary. See Appendix 1 and 2 documents for details.
  - (a) Retain and reinforce the existing 20mph zone signage with 20mph roundal road markings at intervals on Britannia Road and Vincent Road.
  - (b) Install four new full width road humps on Britannia Road (along the section from Gurney Road to Ketts Hill/Plumstead Road and its branch down towards Gurney Road) to ensure average traffic speeds are compliant with the 20mph limit.
  - (c) Install one courtesy pedestrian crossing point (flat top road hump with road narrowed to a single lane) where the Britannia Road footway ends and where the pedestrian gate to the Britannia Café is sited. This will moderate traffic speed, discourage access by buses and coaches into the residential part of the roads and encourage more consideration of pedestrians who wish to cross Britannia Road.
  - (d) waiting restrictions installed on Britannia Road:
    - (i) coach parking bay; 15 minutes maximum waiting
    - (ii) on-street parking bay; no restriction on time, (no charge).iii) double yellow lines; on the east side from Gurney Road to HMP Norwich, excluding the above parking bays, and on the west side (opposite HMP Norwich).

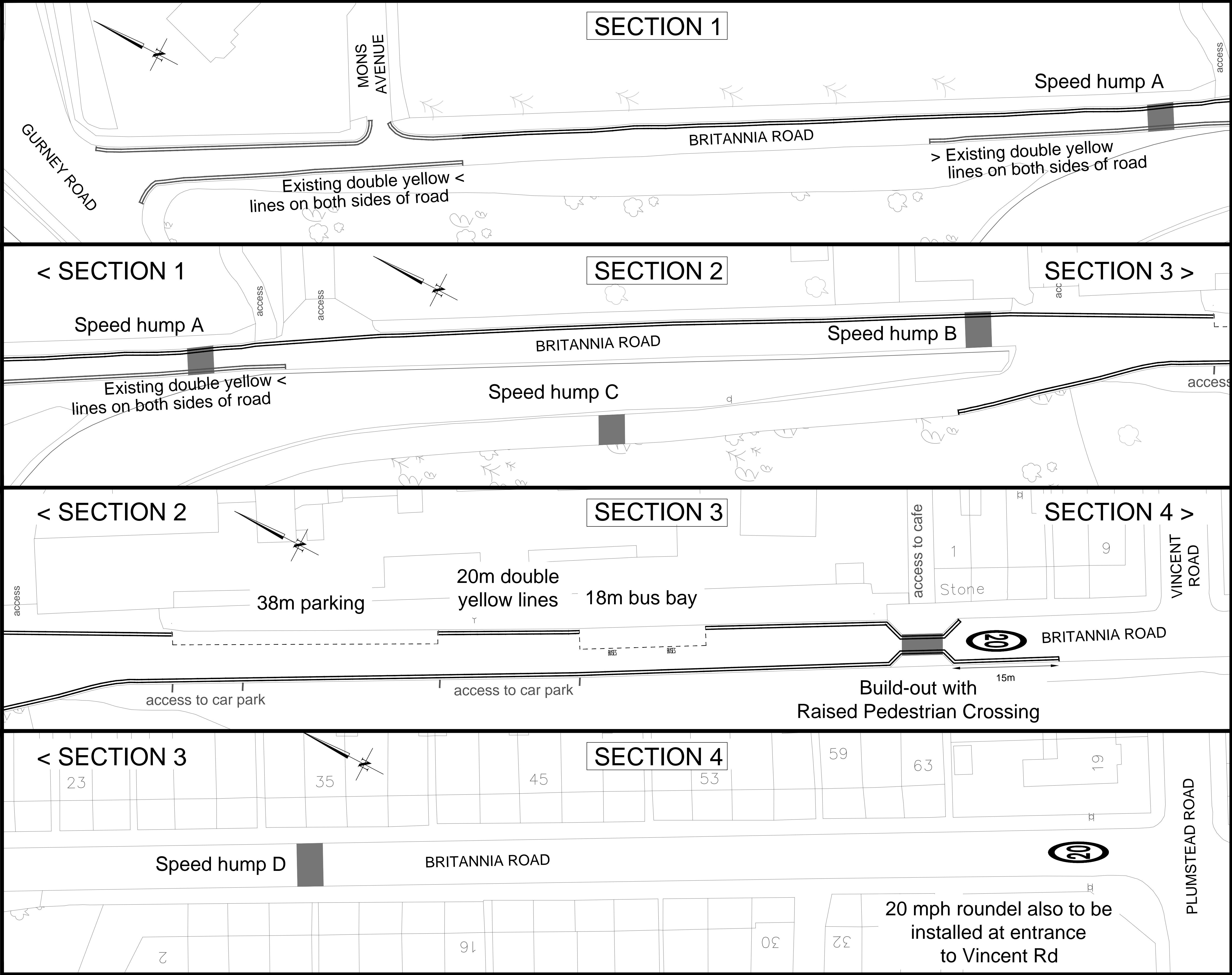
- (e) should resources allow, cycle parking may be provided on the grass verge near to the entrance of the Britannia Café to encourage visits by bike to Mousehold Heath and the cafe.

## **Funding**

15. The cost of implementing this scheme will be a maximum of £20,000.

## **Implementation**

16. A highway safety audit has been undertaken by Norfolk County Council and the proposed scheme amended as a result to improve compliance with the 20mph speed limit and to comply with national regulations on 20mph zones. When constructed and one year thereafter further highway safety audits will be undertaken.
17. Following this committee meeting, a statutory consultation period for the Traffic Regulation Order of 21 days will be undertaken and Road Hump notice issued. All local residents, businesses and stakeholders will be consulted by letter. Representations must be made in writing by letter or email before the consultation end date.
18. Transportation officers will be available at City Hall to answer any queries in person.
19. Representations will be submitted to a future meeting of the Norwich Highways Agency committee for consideration.
20. Once agreement has been obtained the scheme will be implemented in the 2016-17 financial year.
21. The project will be one the first community projects to be funded by the community infrastructure levy neighbourhood fund which city growth with local priorities.



NOTES

**KEY**

Proposed double yellow lines

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REVISIONS

No.	Date	Notes	Int.	Ckd.

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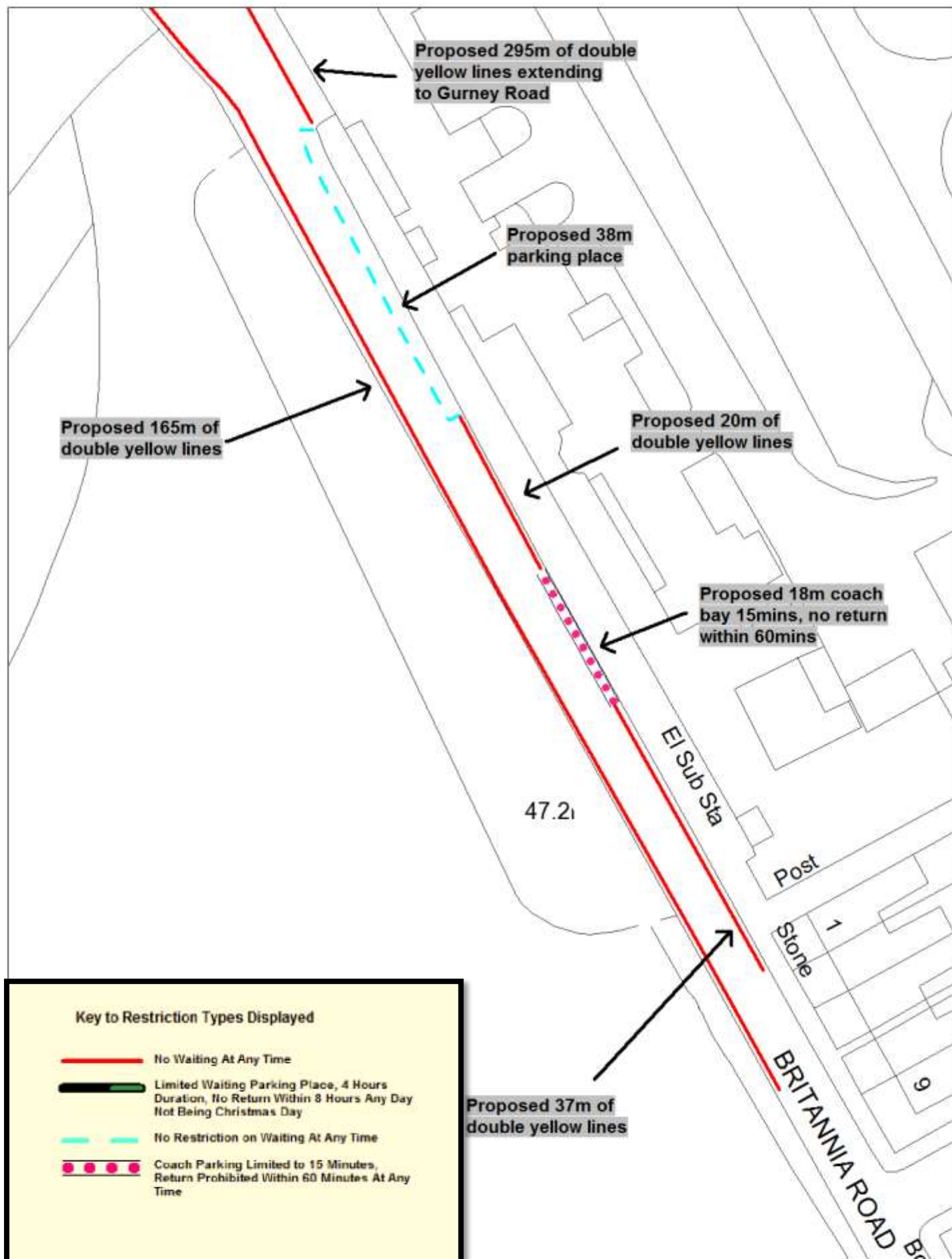
Title  
Britannia Road CIL

Scheme proposals

Scale(s) Not to scale

Date Mar 2016	DWG. No. 15-BR-02
Designed by KY/PW	NEG. No.
Drawn By PW	
Checked By 	

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Britannia Road Cafe: Proposed changes to Britannia Road



**NORWICH**  
City Council

SCALE	1 : 600
DATE	11/01/2016
DRAWING No.	PL/TR/3329/750.2
DRAWN BY	CS