
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 December 2024 09:47
To: [REDACTED] - Principal Transportation and Infrastructure Planner
Subject: RE: SW Market Sq
Attachments: LUTT222006 - Market Square, Saffron Walden - Part Pedestrianisation.docx; LHP request - SW market square partial pedestrianisation; RE: SW Market Sq

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your email.

This one has morphed quite a bit from where it was at originally, but I attach the original request and a scheme validation which I wrote after the scheme was commissioned – it ended up on the funded schemes list as a design scheme on the basis of a conversation with the design team rather than following the actual process (caused all sorts of problems) – this occurred before I started in post, so I wrote the scheme validation at some point after that as we did not have one, just in case you wonder about the date of that document.

We met with the Town Council and Cllr Gadd in October because there was another scheme to alter parking restrictions in the same vicinity which could not be aligned with the pedestrianisation scheme because the 2 schemes did not tie together and there would be no point changing restrictions of the intention was to then pedestrianise the same area. Also, we had lots of concerns about the scheme and how it would operate in reality. I attach the notes from that meeting which basically summarises the current position.

I think it would be fair to say that everyone I've spoken to at EH is less than keen on this scheme, and I also feel like there will be strong public objection if we are able to get this to a place where a design can be drafted up for it, I am aware (I came from Customer Services at ECC) that when we advertising for restrictions in Saffron Walden Town Centre during COVID that there were residents who basically said they would object to any change we propose in this area and I don't expect that to change if and when this ever gets advertised, I believe it's been on the funded list since I started as a HLO in 2022 and has always been pushed to the 'too difficult to deal with pile' but I get the sense it's going to come to a head this year.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] | Highway Liaison Officer

Highways – Design Team



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)

[Chat with me on Teams](#)



From: [REDACTED] - Principal Transportation and Infrastructure Planner <[REDACTED]@essex.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 December 2024 09:13
To: [REDACTED]@essexhighways.org>
Subject: RE: SW Market Sq

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Hi [REDACTED]
I'll respond to Cllr Gadd separately, but to be clear – I've never been supportive of the proposed scheme. [REDACTED] has outlined what has been proposed, but I've never actually seen the full details of the scheme! Have you got something to hand that I could look at?
What I have said to Cllr Gadd, is that I will liaise with Essex colleagues and see where the scheme is at and see if I can assist in that regard. This I have done through [REDACTED]

I'll give Cllr Gadd an outline of what we are proposing to do (as far as looking at all of the schemes in the town) and when there will be further opportunity for Member interaction.

All the best

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Principal Transport and Infrastructure Planner (Uttlesford)

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Essex County Council

I currently use hybrid working - from home and also working from Uttlesford District Council offices in Saffron Walden. Uttlesford District Council details are: Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, Essex. CB11 4ER

From: Cllr Paul Gadd - Member CC <Cllr.Paul.Gadd@essex.gov.uk>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 5:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]@essexhighways.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] - Principal Transportation and Infrastructure Planner <[REDACTED]@essex.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: SW Market Sq

Thanks, [REDACTED]

We've been talking to the Transport Strategy team and as far as I am aware they are fully onboard with our proposals (I know one of their suggestions was full pedestrianisation but that is just a suggestion), so can we either be involved in that discussion or make sure that it doesn't introduce yet another delay to this process please? Way back in March 2024 when things had last stalled we were talking to [REDACTED], who I think is in charge of the Transport Strategy work, who was trying to get this scheme moving again and I believe supportive of it.

Do you know why we've heard nothing back since we met 2 months ago, and why things are still moving so slowly?

I've copied in [REDACTED] in case I'm misrepresenting him or misunderstanding.

BW

Paul

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>
Sent: 05 December 2024 08:45
To: Cllr Paul Gadd - Member CC <Cllr.Paul.Gadd@essex.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: SW Market Sq

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Hi Cllr Gadd

Thanks for your email.

We are aware of the draft Saffron Walden Transport Strategy which also has proposals for changes in the Market Square, we have a meeting arranged with colleagues in the next few weeks to discuss this and other potential future schemes.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] | Highway Liaison Officer

Highways – Design Team



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>

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From: Cllr Paul Gadd - Member CC <Cllr.Paul.Gadd@essex.gov.uk>

Sent: 02 December 2024 16:25

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@saffronwalden.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@saffronwalden.gov.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>;

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[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@saffronwalden.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@saffronwalden.gov.uk)>

Subject: Re: SW Market Sq

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All

Just following up on this e-mail and [REDACTED] subsequent one of 15 November, can we have an update from Essex Highways? Now that SWTC have agreed in principle to the closure dates being harmonised to keep the signage to an acceptable size, and have provided details of the proposed barriers, I would hope that things could move forward quickly.

Thanks

Paul

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@saffronwalden.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@saffronwalden.gov.uk)>

Sent: 23 October 2024 09:37

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>

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[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@essexhighways.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@essexhighways.org)>; Cllr Paul Gadd - Member CC <Cllr.Paul.Gadd@essex.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@saffronwalden.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@saffronwalden.gov.uk)>

Subject: SW Market Sq

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Hi All

Thanks again for your time on Friday 11 October, it was helpful to get together to discuss progression of the two Market Square schemes. Will you be sharing minutes?

Points from our perspective:

- In order to reduce the signage wording, SWTC would in principle support timings to be consistent throughout the week. i.e. 7am-6pm closure daily, or six days a week with roads open on Sundays. Hopefully, this will allow smaller signage you would be supportive of.
- You had asked for further details on the work SWTC already do for the existing road closures.
 - Currently SWTC operatives enact the road closures, putting up and taking down the bollards on a twice weekly basis for the Tues/Sat market, and additionally for extra Market Square activities during the year (i.e., Christmas Light Switch On, Remembrance Day). In addition, during Covid-19 while the temporary closure was in force, the Operations team enacted the closure.
 - SWTC has 15 operatives who can operate the opening and closure of the road; one or two will be required daily to carry out the works every morning/evening.

- Please see below a photo of a recent event, which shows our submitted request 'in action'. We would intend to implement the same, with more robust barriers. Permanent bollards, rising bollards or pavement extensions are not required. SWTC (through an Uttlesford District Council Clean Air grant) would fund the cost of the barriers so we should be able to keep costs as low as possible, the funds expire soon so we need the TRO completed to purchase the barriers. We propose barriers, like those below, these are available from Barriers Direct.
- Regarding redistribution of the loading bays, as discussed, the King Street disabled bays could be shared loading bays with time restrictions.
- Market Row requires no changes and Market Street would become one way.

Many thanks



Kind Regards



Deputy Town Clerk

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