



## ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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### **Consultation regarding the pedestrian crossing at Junction 4, V4 (Watling Street) - Kiln Farm Roundabout, between Fullers Slade and Western Expansion Area (Fairfields).**

The Parish Council would like to submit the following response to the Consultation.

Primary Response: 'full support' for the underpass and 'no support at all' for the signalised pedestrian crossing.

#### Rationale.

1. An underpass is consistent with the unique features that make MK a success.
2. MK Core Strategy states 'grid roads are urban *clearways*'; with no at-grade crossings.
3. The October 2016 cabinet meeting made no mention of an at-grade crossing, even though full cost estimates for underpass and bridge had been calculated and reported in detail.
4. The design of MK grid roads would begin to be compromised. This keeps motorised vehicles and vulnerable users / pedestrians apart and safe.
5. Pedestrian crossings increase the risk of accidents to motorists and pedestrians.
6. Pedestrian crossings increase congestion. Furthermore the most frequent time that the traffic will need to stop is when it is at its busiest (i.e. in the rush hour).
7. Pedestrian crossings increase air pollution.
8. The budget allocated for two WEA crossings (£3M) is very close to that required to implement two underpasses.
9. An underpass has the least visual environmental impact.
10. We disagree with the view that '...underpasses are difficult to plan and construct due to the number, size and nature, of existing buried services, several of which pre-date the original outline planning for the WEA. The existence of buried services is particularly problematic along Watling Street, at the junction with Millers Way....' unless more detailed information is forthcoming.
11. The feasibility study appears to lack proper surveying detail as to the actual risks and likelihood of 'having to abandon the project should a service be discovered that cannot be moved for technical reasons.' That is to say such an obstruction MAY NOT be discovered.

Yours sincerely,

Julian Vischer, Clerk, on behalf of Abbey Hill Parish Council