

## **TOWER VIEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING – 2 WEEK TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE**

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS** - Provided to supplement the information provided in [www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com), the notification flyer, the Kings Hill Newsletter issue 18, copies of which are being delivered to the residential neighbourhoods, the business park occupiers, schools, emergency services, etc. The works have been approved by the local authority in conjunction with Kent County Council (KCC), Kings Hill Parish Council and your Borough Councillors.

**Timing of the road closure** – incorrect information was posted by a third party on social media – the road **closure** will be for a period of 2 weeks, starting 30<sup>th</sup> April and ending 14 May 2018.

**Why could the works not be rescheduled to happen in the school summer holidays?** KCC Highways & Transportation team have advised that further Southern Gas Networks works are scheduled for a 4 week period, on the A228, close to Kings Hill at that time. Therefore, it would not be helpful to traffic circulation in and around Kings Hill, for the Tower View closure to happen at the same time. There are also repairs to be undertaken by Southern Water on the Silver Ball roundabout, which are planned for the half term week at the end of May.

**Why do the works have to take place now?** Planning obligations legally require the approved puffin crossing to be installed and operational within a set period. The cost of this project is being paid for by the developer, Liberty Property Trust.

**How will the bus services operate during the closure?** KCC have confirmed that all bus companies have been advised of the closure and provided with a copy of the diversion route. Bus services will travel to the bus stop near Asda on Tower View and then continue on the usual bus route and collect customers from the various bus stops.

**Who agreed to the diversion route?** KCC Highways and the local authority agreed the route as part of the options which were carefully considered when planning the construction of this crossing. The roads which will be used by the diverted traffic, and signed accordingly, are main distributor roads and used by buses and are suitable for HGV traffic in the short term.

At the time of agreeing the diversion route, the new access roads (part of the new residential neighbourhood/phase 3 under construction) were not programmed to be completed and compliant for use. Hence why that route was initially discounted. However, an accelerated programme of works - which we think might be accomplished by redeploying the workforce, to ensure that that road meets highway standards and can be open for residential traffic - is currently being finalised. Careful consideration is also being given as to whether the road may remain open after the works.

**Would opening the new phase 3 north road be feasible and would it help?** Subject to confirming the accelerated programme can be resourced, one of the new roads, the extension to Kings Hill Avenue which links Tower View to Beacon Avenue, will be open for residential access only for the duration of the closure. However, HGV deliveries for Asda and Waitrose plus the buses would still need to take the diversion route.

**How will people access Valley Invicta?** Access to the school will be via Gibson Drive and Warwick Way. A specific plan has been provided to the school administrative staff to communicate with parents, on their return from the Easter break but well before the works/temporary road closure starts on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

11/04/2018