

**PROPOSED FOOTWAY – MAIN ROAD/WHITE HART LANE, HAWKWELL**

**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To provide a safe route for pedestrians crossing the junction of White Hart Lane with Main Road, Hawkwell. The proposal requires the inclusion of a small area of land, which forms part of Hawkwell Common.

**2 INTRODUCTION.**

- 2.1 It is considered that vulnerable highway users such as pedestrians and disabled have difficulties negotiating this junction due to the lack of a footway on both sides of the road and the narrowness of the refuge islands.
- 2.2 This proposed improvement will enhance the safe passage for all pedestrians and disabled at this junction by providing a kerb line on the northern side of the road and improving the existing kerb line on the southern side of White Hart Lane. This should reduce the speed of traffic when turning in and out of White Hart Lane from Main Road.
- 2.3 The proposed footway in front of The White Hart Pub includes an area of highway, which is currently enclosed as part of the forecourt of the pub. The existing bollards in front of the pub will be moved back to the highway boundary as shown on the attached plan.
- 2.4 The existing traffic islands will be relocated and aligned with the new kerb line. A refuge area has been designed to provide sufficient area for pedestrians, prams and wheelchair users whilst crossing at this point.

**3 LAND REQUIREMENTS**

- 3.1 As part of this scheme and in order to provide a safe area to cross away from the bellmouth of this junction it is necessary to provide a link from the existing footway on Main Road into White Hart Lane. The area required to achieve this is a small part of the public open space known as Hawkwell Common at the north western corner approximately 15 square metres as shown the attached plan.
- 3.2 The change of use of any piece of open space is not to be taken lightly. However, in this instance it is considered that the benefits for pedestrians from the improved crossing arrangements far outweigh the loss of a very small area of open space land.

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**4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The impact of the proposed footway may have a detrimental effect on the frontage of The White Hart Public House although the landlord will still be able to put picnic tables on the block paved area of his remaining forecourt. However, at present The White Hart pub's forecourt does occupy part of land considered to be highway and should be made available to the public at large. The loss of a small area of land from the open space will not reduce the environmental amenity of the area.

**5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This scheme would be paid for from the locally determined budget.

**6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Hawkwell Common is an area of open space land in the ownership of the District Council. If Members are minded to agree the principal of a new crossing, then a further report would need to be submitted to Corporate Resources Sub-Committee seeking agreement for the transfer of land for highway use.

**7 RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES:-**

That arrangements be made for the construction of the new footway link as outlined in the report.

Area Highways Manager

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**Background Papers:**

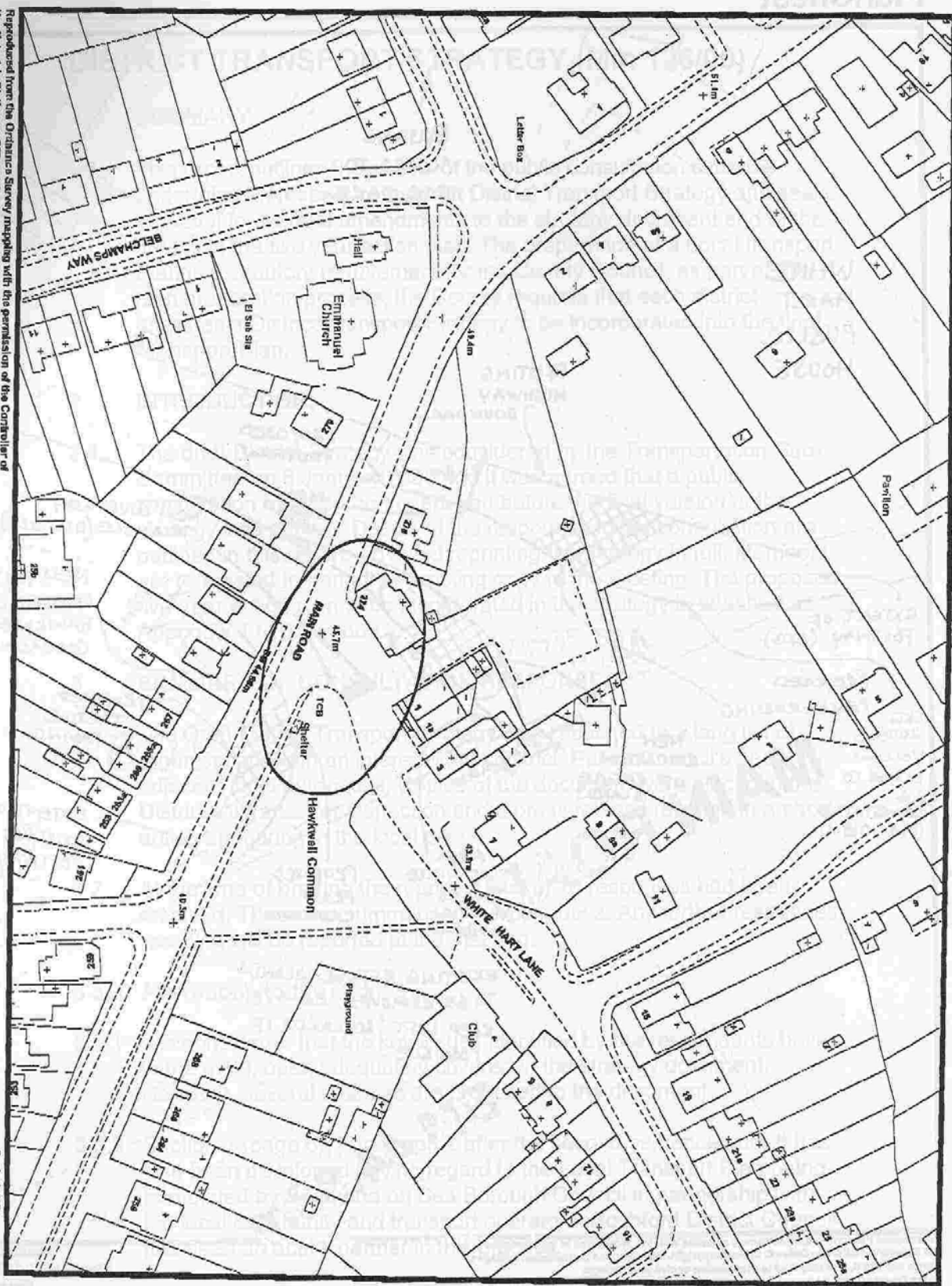
None

For further information please contact Trudy Mills on (01268) 771458

# APPENDIX Item 11

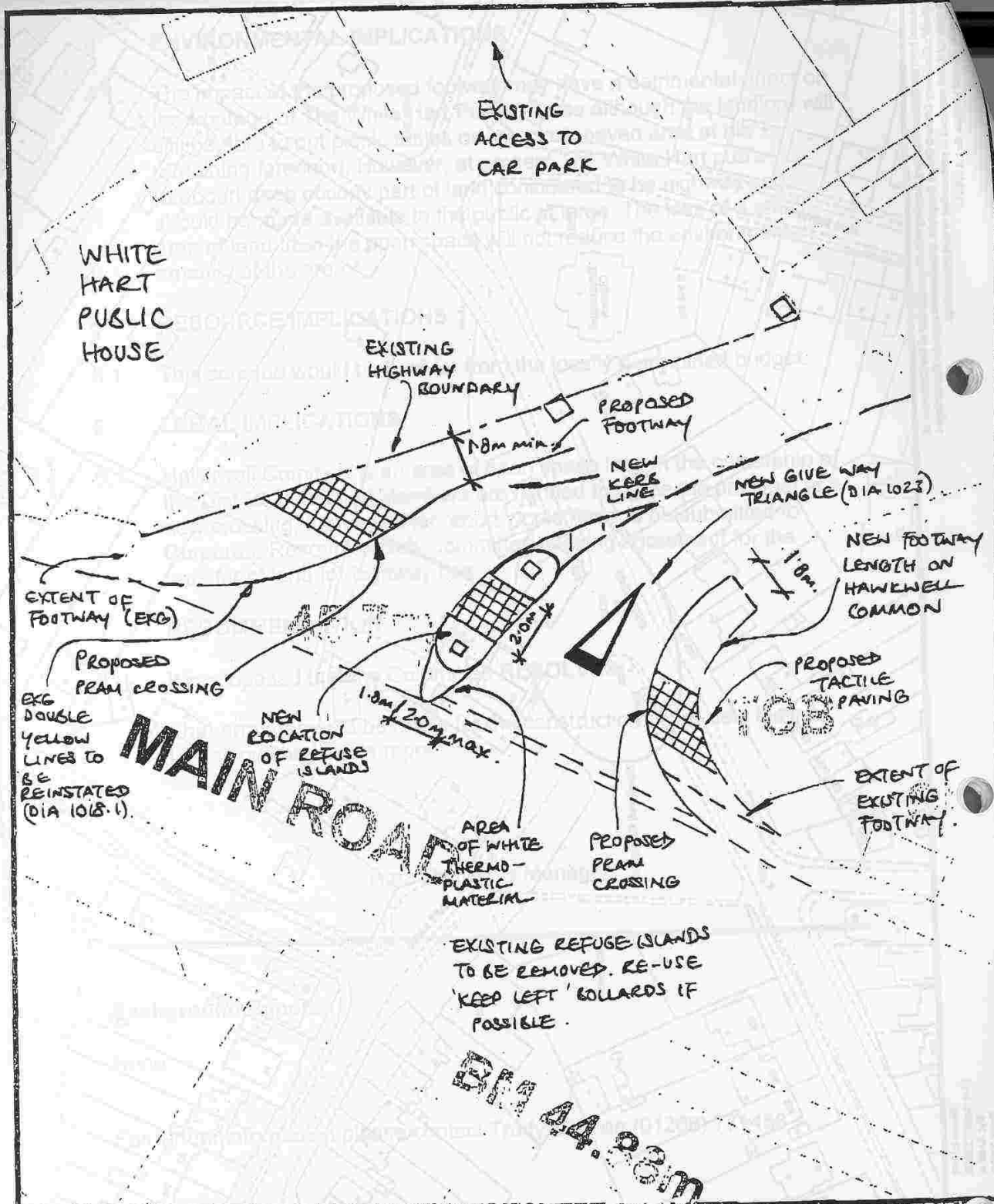
## Planchest

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PlanChest



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