

## TRO10032 LOWER THAMES CROSSING

### SUBMISSION ON AMENDED PROPOSED ASI ITINERARY (Ref REP1-178) For Deadline D2 (3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023)

#### SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL (IP ref 20035603)

This document provides Shorne Parish Council's comments, as requested by Deadline D2 (3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023), on National Highways Amended Proposed Accompanied Site Inspection Itinerary (Ref REP1-178):

- 1.1.7 page 2 – If possible this should include a location using a Ground Protection Tunnel under marshland.
- 1.1.4 (g) and Table 2.1.1, page 3, 10.00-10.15 slot – We suggest that there should be a secondary Pick-up point at Shorne Woods Country Park to assist Shorne, Higham and other local IP's to join the tour.
- Table 2.1.1, page 4, 12.45-14.30 Timeslot:
  - Discussion points column:

Existing Text:	Correction/Comment:
"Brewers Road/The Ridgeway/Peartree Lane to Higham traffic lights, turn left."	OK
"Turn left at Forge Lane into Shorne, then back through Shorne Village to Brewers Road, over bridge and take newly renamed Darnley Lodge Lane, Thong Lane down to turn right at Shorne Ifield Road."	Add end of sentence: At end of Shorne Ifield Road turn right into Crown Lane then left into Forge Lane heading downhill (north).
"Back up Forge Lane, across Shorne Crossroads, take Green Farm Lane to Lower Higham Road. Left to Chalk."	Correct to "down".
"At Lion Roundabout, left onto Gravesend Road to Higham."	OK
"Pass Gad's Hill School and Gad's Hill Farm on right and Forge Lane on left."	Gad's Hill Farm and NOx mitigation land can't be seen from the A226, would have to actively turn into the Farm.
"From Higham, turn right at Gad's Hill Interchange to Three Crutches (A2 out of Strood) to join A289 slip road back onto A2 westbound."	Needs correction - Go straight ahead at the first A226 roundabout, turn right at second A226 roundabout. However, this takes you onto the A289 heading south-west to join the M2 rather than Three Crutches and the A2 out of Strood. To go to Three Crutches and the A2 out of Strood, either double back at the first A226 roundabout and turn left into Crutches Lane, that will take you past the eastern entrance to Crabbles Bottom (see below) on your right just before going under the A289, and then along to the roundabout on the A2 southbound out of Strood at Three Crutches itself, turn right and you will go over the M2 to join the A289 and then the westbound A2.

- Further Comments column:

Existing Text:	Correction/Comment:
"Much of route to be observed from bus, with opportunities to stop and explore on foot at specific areas of interest including Gad's Hill School area."	If possible, include the Dickens' Tunnel under the A226, as there is a question about weight loading strength.

#### Road Safety Advice:

- Some of the roads are narrow and without official passing places so there is need to proceed slowly and cautiously.
- Forge Lane, Shorne has incorrect road centre line markings on the bend after the last houses on the left (west) side heading downhill/north, best to wait if anyone is driving uphill. Similarly, when approaching uphill/southbound suggest wait if anyone is driving downhill.
- Shorne Crossroads – be careful going across, it is 50mph and accident rates are increasing.
- Shorne Ifield Road, this is very narrow, keep over to the right side as much as possible in the wherever there is a drop on the left side as the edge can be unstable but is recently repaired. Take it slowly as there are blind bends and crests.

#### Additional places to possibly visit:

- "Crabbles Bottom" – USI – (Please see map on next page) This is open access, either from Bowesden Lane to its west (no parking area) or better by car from Higham along Crutches Lane to informal parking area just before A289 overbridge. This is Parish Council owned recreational and ecological land, the issue is noise increase and NOx pollution for which no preventive measures are being proposed as well as not being included in mitigation/compensation proposals. Please see our other current submission "Review of Deadline D1 submissions from Interested Parties", page 6 for more information.
- "Great Clane Marsh" north of Lower Higham Road in Chalk – unsure whether USI or ASI – This may be adequately viewable from Footpath NG3 (prone to flooding). This is an indicated location for construction phase water storage and outflow to the Ramsar ditch. Understandably, the Farmer is very unhappy, see REP1-394.

#### Other points:

- Size of vehicle to be used: We realise that the size of the vehicle to be used depends on the number of people attending the tour but suggest that at least south of the Thames only minibuses should be used, more than one if necessary, due to narrow road width and otherwise difficulties with achieving stopping locations.
- Detailed suggested places to observe on the tour: Once the itinerary is finalised we intend to provide a list of relevant places that can be seen from the minibus while driving the route.

Shorne Parish Council,  
3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023

**Map of "Crabbles Bottom":**

