

**Planning Application Number: 203535**

**Site Address: Land at the junction of Finchampstead Road and Molly Millars Lane**

**Description: Full planning application for works at the junction of the A321 Finchampstead Road and Molly Millars Lane comprising replacement of the existing three-arm mini-roundabout with a larger roundabout; demolition of Nos 81 and 83/85 Finchampstead Road; and associated landscaping and changes to the pedestrian crossing environment.**

I am writing on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Wokingham Society.

We are perplexed by the statement at Section 4.4 of the Design and Access Statement that "there is not a pedestrian/cyclist desire line to cross Finchampstead Road South of the roundabout. We can find no evidence in other accompanying documentation to back up this claim that there is no demand to cross the road in that vicinity.

Many of those objecting to the proposed removal of this signalised crossing appear not to have noticed that "a new toucan crossing is to be provided on the north arm of the roundabout". The applicants must bear some responsibility for this confusion by failing to link these two proposals into a single explanation and it may be thought that the misunderstanding is so profound that the application should be revised and re-issued, with an extended closing date, in order to inform concerned participants properly.

Whether this is done or not, we feel strongly that there is and will continue to be a need for a controlled crossing further south along Finchampstead Road towards Tangle Drive so that pedestrians and cyclists whose journeys originate or emerge south of the roundabout on the west side of Finchampstead Road do not need to travel north, use either the uncontrolled crossing on the western arm of the roundabout (with its attendant risks for motorised buggies, pushchairs, young children and infirm older people) or the signalised crossing further along Molly Millars Lane, and then cross at the toucan crossing on the northern arm of the roundabout in order eventually to proceed south as originally intended.

25 January 2021