

## ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 16 OCTOBER 2003

## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

CONSENT FOR THE RELOCATION OF BALCATHIE RAILWAY CROSSING  
BY NETWORK RAIL – ARBROATH GOLF COURSE**ABSTRACT**

To advise committee of a request from Network Rail to relocate the unmanned railway crossing at Balcathie, Arbroath.

**1. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended that:-

- i) The committee give consent for the relocation of the Balcathie Rail Crossing
- ii) Remit the Director of Leisure Services to request that Network Rail retain the existing crossing for occasional vehicular use
- iii) Remit the Director of Leisure Services in consultation with the Director of Roads, on completion of the crossing to relocate the public car park.

**2. BACKGROUND AND CURRENT POSITION**

Network Rail is intending to relocate the unmanned Balcathie vehicular and pedestrian rail crossing some 400 metres eastwards towards Arbroath for improved safety reasons, particularly improved visibility. They also intend to downgrade the crossing to pedestrians only. The new crossing does not require planning permission. There have been concerns raised with regard to vehicular access to Elliot Links for emergency vehicles and potential construction vehicles for the possible development of a coastal footpath. It is proposed that a request is made to Network Rail that the existing vehicular crossing remains for occasional use.

A key element in the chain of events for the relocation of the Balcathie Level Crossing is the council's consent and this is now being sought by Network Rail. They have indicated that all work can be completed between three to six months from receipt of notification of consent.

Associated with the current crossing is an area of car parking used by members of the public to gain pedestrian access to Elliot Links. This is currently on an area which comes under the Minute of Agreement between the Arbroath Golf Club and the Arbroath Common Good. This car park will need to be repositioned for health and safety reasons due to the revised layout of the practice ground necessitated by the A92 development. The consequent relocation of the practice ground which includes the existing golf car park and part of the existing unused golf ground, (see plan) is to be funded under the accommodation works for the A92.

It is proposed to relocate the public car park adjacent to the relocated pedestrian rail crossing. The proposed new area for public parking is located on free draining land and the level of finance required is estimated to be approximately £25k. The access to the new car park area will be funded by A92 Accommodation Works.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The provision of the new relocated pedestrian crossing will be at no cost to the council. There are however costs associated with the relocation of the public car park, estimated at £25k. This will be subject to a further report once clear timescales are established with Network Rail for the relocation of the crossing.

#### **4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights Implications associated with this report.

#### **5. CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Law and Administration, Director of Finance, Director of Roads, Director of Property Services and the Director of Planning and Transport have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

**JOHN R ZIMNY**  
**DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES**

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.