

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 38 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1994, AS AMENDED BY SECTION 46 OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REGULATION ACT 2009

Re: PROPOSED ALTERATION OF THE JUNCTION OF THE OLD PARK ROAD L-10157 TO ONE LANE ENTRY ONLY FROM THE CORBALLY ROAD R463



Mike Richardson

Mike Richardson
Senior Executive Engineer

Hugh Mc Grath

Hugh Mc Grath
Senior Engineer

Pursuant to SECTION 38 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1994, AS AMENDED BY SECTION 46 OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REGULATION ACT 2009 this report is submitted to the members of Limerick City & County Council. In accordance with Section 38 of the above Act, it is proposed to proceed as indicated in Section 5 of this report.

Brian Kennedy

Brian Kennedy
Director of Services
Transport and Mobility
Directorate
Limerick City & County Council

Date: 16/09/2022

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1.0 Foreword

This report has been prepared pursuant to provisions of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transportation Regulation Act 2009, Limerick City and County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to alter the junction of the Old Park Road L-10157 to one lane entry only from the Corbally road R463.

2.0 Description of the nature and extent of the proposed development

The proposed alteration to the junction of the L-10157 Old Park to one lane entry only will occur at the L-10157's intersection with R463 Corbally road in Corbally Co. Limerick. The works involved consists of improving traffic control measures to prevent an illegal right hand turn when exiting the Old Park road onto the Corbally road and improve pedestrian safety in this area.

Refer to Figures 2.1 to 2.2 of this report.

The plans and particulars went on public display from the 20th of May to the 17th of June 2022. Submissions and observations had to be submitted by 4pm on the 17th of June.

Location:



Figure 2.1: Site Location

Site Layout:

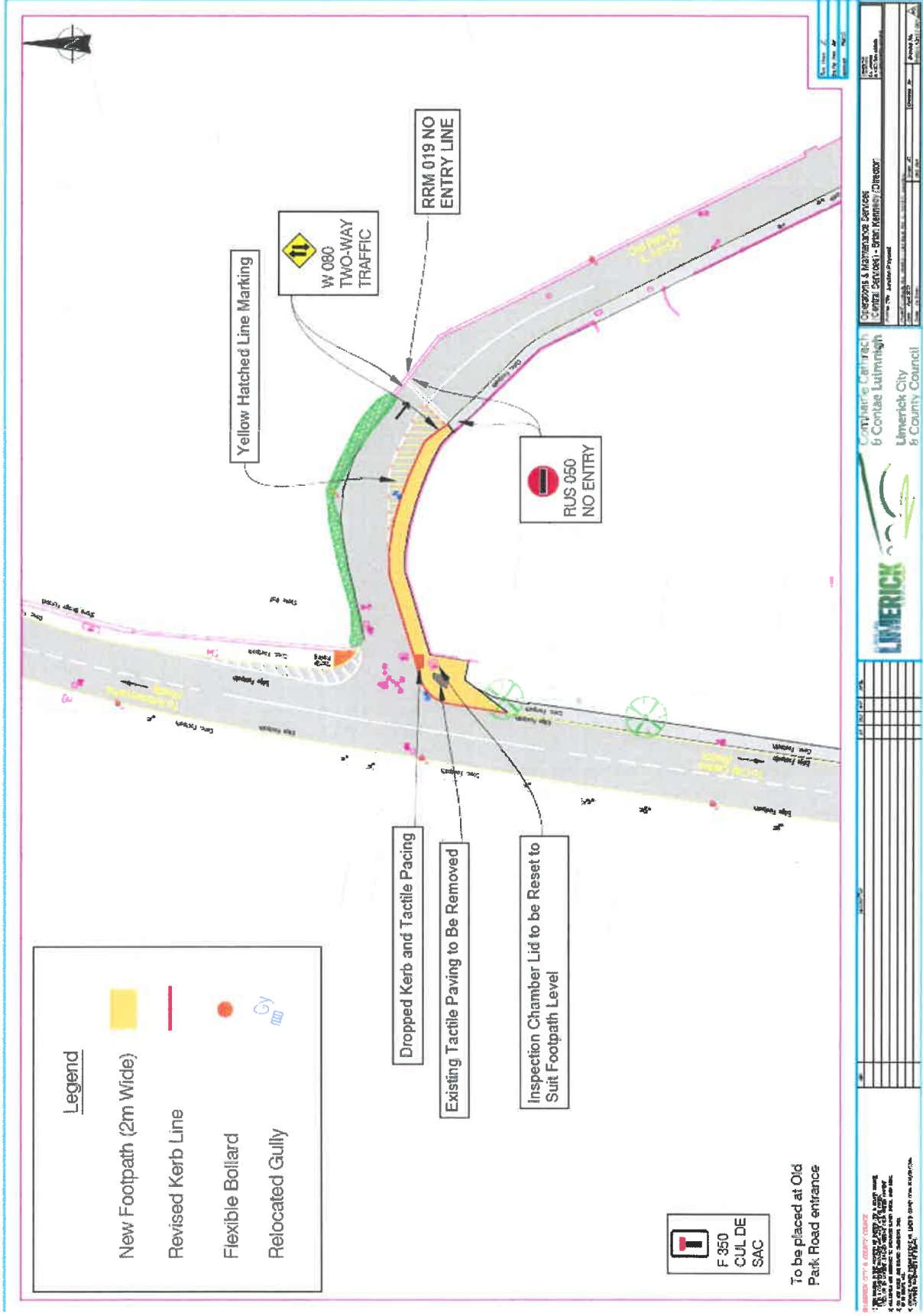


Figure 2.2: Site Layout

3.0 Likely implications, if any, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area

This project does not have any likely implications, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. No significant road infrastructure amendments will be made as part of this scheme that could have any further planning implications in the area.

4.0 Submissions with respect to the proposed development

Submission Ref	Submitted by
1	Tony Earls
2	Susan Foley
3	Seamus Frawley
4	Ray Keane
5	Margaret O' Reilly
6	Mary Power
7	Shane Foley
8	Dermot O' Driscoll
9	Declan Power
10	Ann Naughton

4.1 Submissions:

SUB 1

Submission Summary:

Theme: Road layout

Title: Old Park road

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

Old Park road, proposed cul de sac not a viable option considering the area is already restricted access for residents with just one other way out to a heavily congested Pa Healy Road, with St. Marys school causing major chaos. The Placement of Bollards to Restrict Right hand turn would suffice and still keep Old Park Road Open.

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Installation of Bollards will be considered if possible in suitable locations along the centre line of Corbally road to prevent traffic taking illegal right hand turning manoeuvres from the Old Park road on to the Old Corbally road.

SUB 2

Submission Summary :

Theme: Road layout

Title: The proposal to make Old Park Road (L-10157) a cul-de-sac

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

I would like to register my strong objection to the proposal to make Old Park Road a cul-de-sac by limiting it to entry only from the Corbally Road. I live in Curramorna Grove at the end of Old Park Road (by the roundabout) and if this proposal goes ahead it will mean that all traffic wanting to join the Corbally Road (heading towards Limerick City Centre). I will have to use the road by St. Mary's Secondary School which is congested at the best of times by cars illegally parking on footpaths and

double-parking at school drop off and collection times. There are times when this road is at a virtual standstill.

At peak times the PA Healy Road is usually at a standstill outside Grove Island and the roundabout and it will be impossible for traffic to join the main road, heading towards the Corbally roundabout.

It seems crazy to close a perfectly good road in an already congested area with limited road access.

I hope you will reconsider the proposal in the interest of local residents and the everyday users of the road.

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently been considered.

SUB 3

Submission Summary

Theme: Junctions

Title: Old Park Road

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

I have just reviewed the proposed alteration to the junction of the Old Park Road to one-way entry only from the Corbally Road. I live in Rosary Ville on the Old Park Road (the first bungalow on the right after you turn in from Corbally Road) and wanted to make a submission regarding same. My Eircode is V94 P9ND.

Currently when I leave my driveway I turn left and then exit left on to the Corbally Road. I do this for my own safety even though it in fact makes my journey slightly longer in most circumstances. I do it as currently the traffic coming from the main Corbally Road on to the Old Park Road is often extremely heavy and more importantly, it is often travelling at a speed that renders it unsafe for me to turn right from my driveway on to the Old Park Road. The Corner there is completely blind and I cannot see traffic coming from the main Corbally Road until it is almost on top of me.

Your proposal would mean that I no longer am able to do this and have to turn right without being able to see the traffic coming from the main Corbally Road. No matter how slowly or carefully I do this manoeuvre I simply have never felt safe attempting it due to the speed some drivers move at. If your proposal goes forward, this will serve to only make matters worse as the drivers from the Corbally Road will no longer be concerned with oncoming traffic from the Old Park Road and are likely to go even faster.

If this proposal goes ahead and I am no longer able to turn left on to the Corbally Road, is there any proposal to put any sort of traffic calming measures to slow down the traffic coming from the Corbally Road or to provide mirrors or something to enhance visibility so that when coming out I can better see the traffic approaching from around the bend? I note that my concerns will also apply to the residents of Island View Terrace who have to come up the lane behind their houses to exit on to the Old Park Road.

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently been considered.

SUB 4

Submission Summary

Theme: Road layout

Title: Alterations to the junction at Old Park Road (L-101570) to One Lane entry only from Corbally Road (R4630)

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

I am writing in response to a letter I received from Cllr, Conor Sheehan regarding alterations to the junction at Old Park Road (L-101570) TO ONE LANE entry only from the Corbally Road,(R4630.

The objectives of these alterations are:

- a, Danger to pedestrians.
- b. To prevent motorists from turning RIGHT ILLEGALLY at this junction.

I have been a resident of Old Park Road for approx. 55 years. During this time I have never heard of any injury or accident involving pedestrians at this Junction.

There is a Blind Spot as marked on the Sketch Map provided . This is a greater danger to motorists turning LEFT legally rather than pedestrians. Consequently, removal of the stone wall Elbow as shown, is essential.

As regards the continuous illegal RIGHT TURNING at this junction. Old Park road has become a Rat Run for motorists from Westbury and Shannon Banks commuting to and from work in the University and Bally Simon every morning and evening. The traffic congestion on the Corbally Road is a reason motorists avoid the back ups and use Old Park Road as a Rat Run. Since many motorists already ignore the existing NO TURN RIGHT SIGN erecting another sign is also going to be ignored . Erecting a traffic Camera at this junction might deter moterists turning Right.

A possible solution would be to widen the lanes at the Corbally Roundabout to permit two vehicles to negotiate the roundabout at the same time. In addition replacing the traffic lights at St Mary,s Church Cross Rds with a roundabout would help increase the traffic flow.

Another solution would be to Improve the delays at the traffic lights on the Junction to the Dublin Rd at St Patricks School;

The proposals as outlined in this letter will if implemented force residents of Old Park Road to use the road through College Park via St Marys School. This route is normally congested by vehicles

dropping off and collecting students. This route leads to the Supervalu bypass. The recent construction of traffic calming measures at this junction are a major hazard and have caused several accidents at this junction. These traffic calming measures should be demolished.

It is my firm conviction that the measures as outlined in Cllr Sheehan,s letter will NOT increase safety matters for pedestrians or prevent motorists' from turning Right .

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently been considered..

SUB 5

Submission Summary

Theme: Road layout

Title: Proposed Alteration of the junction of Old Park Road to one land entry only from Corbally Road

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

I live on Old Park Road and only found out about this proposal from a local councillor. As a resident on the road, I would have expected some notification from Limerick City & County Council as to this proposal.

We are going to be totally inconvenienced with this proposed change to the flow of traffic on Old Park Road. This will be particularly relevant when there is a flood outside St Mary's school and we cannot access this road. At the moment at least we have a choice of going down Old Park Road and then continuing in Corbally Road towards Limerick City.

Whereas with this proposal, you are continuing to allow everyone from further out in Corbally and all road users from County Clare to continue to use Old Park Road as a "rat run" every day to the detriment of restricting access to "residents" of Old Park Road. Why don't you consider stopping traffic turning in to Old Park Road instead of the current proposal?

I do not recall any accidents occurring at this junction in the last 34 years. This is not a dangerous junction.

Yes, there is a problem with people making illegal turns turning right to go out Corbally Road but maybe this just needs policing with a video camera.

I strongly object to this proposed alteration of the Junction of Old Park Road and Corbally Road and would ask you to reconsider this proposal. Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently being considered.

SUB 6

Submission Summary

Theme: Road layout

Title: Proposed changes to Old Park Road Corbally

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

I strongly object to the proposed changes to Old Park Road Corbally Limerick. I am a resident in old Park Road and traffic in Corbally is chaotic without cutting access from Old Park Road. We cannot get on main Corbally Road at Supervalu as there is too much traffic coming from Pat Healy Road and we believe there is going to be a building site at St Mary's school in the not too distant future.

Make access at Supervalu roundabout two Lanes instead of the large grass area

Can any of your Engineers please sit in this traffic at the peak rush hours and design a better system and change traffic lights at St Mary's Church to stop build up in Corbally

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently being considered.

SUB 7**Submission Summary****Theme:** Road layout**Title:** Opposition to the Old Park Road Proposal**Documents Attached:** No**Boundaries Captured on Map:** No**Observations:**

I feel extremely disappointed and am now compelled to register my strongest opposition to the proposal to make Old Park Road a cul-de-sac by limiting it to entry only from the Corbally Road.

It seems incomprehensible, in an area so poorly served by roads, ever-growing traffic issues and a lack of route alternatives, that restricting access to a perfectly good road would even be considered.

I live in Curramorna Grove at the end of Old Park Road (situated by the large trees and mini roundabout) and if this proposal goes ahead it will mean all traffic wanting to join the Corbally Road (heading towards Limerick City Centre) will have to use the road that passes in front of St. Mary's Secondary School.

I am aware that there could be two 'rat runs' through housing estates but both are extremely dangerous because of residential parking!

The road running in front of the second school is congested at the best of times because of illegally parked (on the footpath) and double parked cars at drop off and collection times.

Please see attached a photograph of an elderly woman with a walking aid having to leave the footpath because of cars parked on the footpath. As a resident of the area I can tell you that the elderly lady was actually quite lucky on the day because of the number of cars parked on the footpath — it would usually be completely blocked.

As it turns out, it was completely blocked 20 minutes or so later.

In an already congested area with limited road access, I, once again, register my strongest objections to this ludicrous suggestion!

I hope you will reconsider the proposal in the interest of local residents and the everyday users of the road and I look forward to hearing from you regarding my objection

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Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently being considered.

SUB 8**Submission Summary****Theme:** Road layout**Title:** Old Park Road**Documents Attached:** No**Boundaries Captured on Map:** No**Observations:**

I wish to object to the proposed one-way system on the Old park road, Corbally.

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently been considered.

SUB 9

Submission Summary

Theme: Objection to scheme

Title: Road Layout

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

I wish to lodge my objection to the above alteration to one lane entry only from the Corbally Road R463 and refer to a recent notice I received from Councillor Conor Sheehan in this regard.

In the above Cllr. Sheehan states that this junction is very dangerous for pedestrians but having lived on Old Park Road for over 30 years there has never been an incident or accident to any pedestrian.

Having said that, I have no doubt that there will be an accident if the proposed changes are fully implemented.

1. This residential Old Park Road has become almost a primary route for drivers from Westbury, Shannon Banks and the Mill Road as it is consistently used as a 'rat run' for traffic avoiding the main Corbally road due to continuous congestion. Old Park Road is being used by these drivers to access the canal bank, through Rhebogogue and onto the Dublin Road. This has made life at peak times very difficult for residents as we are unable to exit our own houses due to this continuous, and regular, speeding traffic. This is where accidents will happen if traffic is continued to be allowed to access Old Park Road from the R463.
2. Preventing residents from Old Park Road, the option of turning left onto the main Corbally road will also cause severe difficulties. Our option will now be heavily restricted with only one access point at the Junction of Supervalu, and Pa Healy's Road and then onto the Corbally roundabout. This is going to cause severe congestion and potential accidents as we will be obliged to pass St. Mary's secondary school while students are entering and leaving. Traffic at these times is also heavily congested with cars and this will get significantly worse when the school building commences with construction workers and associated equipment.
3. The other restricted alternative is to drive through another residential area in College Park and try to exit against two flows of traffic onto the main Corbally road.

There is a solution to congestion on the main Corbally road that can be easily implemented.

- A. Make a filter lane at the Corbally roundabout so that traffic, that wishes to access the Pa Healy Road, can easily turn left rather than being stuck in a traffic jam. This can easily be implemented by removing the significant grass margin (outside of the barriers) and moving the road signage so that an additional filter lane can be incorporated. This will allow for the free flow of traffic onto Healy's road and reduce the build up on the main Corbally road.

- B. Manage the traffic light system at the junction of St. Mary's church on Athlunkard street so that it is free flowing at the peak times, especially in the morning for traffic entering the city.
- C. Manage the traffic light system at the junction of St. Patrick's girls' school and the main Dublin Road in the same fashion as above to allow for a free flow of traffic which all aides on alleviating congestion on the main Corbally road.

I would also like to point out that at no stage were we, the Residents of Old Park Road, consulted on these proposed changes on how we can and cannot access and egress to and from our property.

I strongly object to theses proposed changes and indeed, if access to Old Park Road is to be limited to a one-way system, then it should be the opposite of what is being proposed.

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently been considered.

SUB 10

Submission Summary

Theme: Road layout

Title: Old Park Road

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

Observations:

As a resident of the Old Park Road in Corbally, I would like to lodge my objection to changing the junction of Old Park Road to Corbally Road.

This doesn't make any sense, trying to get out onto the Corbally road is hard enough without adding to the confusion / congestion etc, as the junction at Supervalu is extremely hard to exit from and the chaos that would ensue should this project go ahead doesn't take long standing residents and their needs into consideration.

Whoever planned this obviously does not live in Corbally and have to deal with the constant traffic build-ups. Coping with the upheaval that the road works in the city have caused has been horrendous for people traveling into the city centre from Corbally.

Someone did not do their homework on this plan either, we are nearly two years into this work and it's still not finished. It has contributed to the demise of the city centre into one big coffee shop, what a waste

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review, two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place until further notice. Other improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians and traffic users at the junction of Old Park road and Corbally road are currently been considered.

Operations & Maintenance Services (Roads), Limerick City & County Council

Transport and Mobility comments:

Following a review of the residents' comments, the overall current traffic movements and traffic congestion in this area the Limerick City & County Council roads department have agreed that the proposal to alter the junction of the Old Park Road L-10157 to one lane entry only from the Corbally road R463 will be put on hold until further notice.

The existing two-lane traffic on the Old Park road at this junction will remain in place and junction layout will be further reviewed. Improvements to signage and suitable lane delineators will be considered in suitable locations where possible along the centre line of Corbally road to prevent illegal right hand turning manoeuvres by vehicle from the Old Park road on to the Old Corbally road.

Further improvements to increase the safety of pedestrians at this junction will also be considered with the provision of traffic bollards at crossing points.

5.0 Conclusion

All comments received from this consultation submissions list were reviewed and proposals considered. The Limerick City and County Council roads department intend to amend this scheme with the two-lane traffic on the Old Park road to remain in place and alternative improvements made at the junction of Old Park Road and Corbally Road as outlined on comments above.

6.0 Action taken by Local Authority

1. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, on the 20th of May 2022. This project does not require planning as it does not meet the planning thresholds as laid out in the Planning & Development Regulations, 2001-2021.