

ASHGROVE ROAD, SEVENOAKS

Proposed Field Access

Stage 1 Road Safety Audit
Requested by Motion Consultants

May 2021



Road Safety Engineering

Project: Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks
Proposed Field Access

Client: Motion Consultants

Project Sponsor: Kent County Council

Document: Stage 1 Road Safety Audit

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** This report describes a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit (RSA) of a proposed field access at Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks.
- 1.2** The highway works considered by this Audit consist of a new gated asphalt bellmouth on Ashgrove Road, forming a field access which will serve land on the western side of the road. The proposed works are to include re-grading of the site levels to accommodate visibility splays and hedge to be replanted clear of visibility splays. It is understood that currently the land can only be reached via third party land and that the proposed access will be used for occasional agricultural purposes.
- 1.3** Ashgrove Road is a rural two-way single carriageway road with a 30mph speed limit, on the outskirts of Sevenoaks. It is unlit and has no pedestrian footways or parking restrictions. There are private residential accesses located on Ashgrove Road further to the north and south of the land; however, in the vicinity of the proposed access the road has steep embankments on either side.
- 1.4** This Road Safety Audit was carried out by Wendy Palmer and Julian Smith and consisted of a desktop study and a site visit, which was carried out on the 27th May 2021, between the hours of 1:30pm and 2pm, when the weather sunny and the road surface was dry. The road was lightly trafficked, and no pedestrians or cyclists were seen during the site visit.
- 1.5** The terms of reference for this RSA are as described in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) document GG119. The Audit Team is independent of the project design team and has not been involved in the design process in any other capacity. The audit considers only the potential road safety implications of the scheme and has not verified compliance of the design with any other criteria.
- 1.6** The Audit Team has not been made aware of any Departures from Standard. Whilst reference may be made to design standards, this report is not intended to provide a design check.

- 1.7** Recommendations are aimed at addressing the identified potential road safety problems. However, there may be other acceptable ways to overcome a problem, considering wider constraints and opportunities; the Auditors would be pleased to discuss such alternative solutions as appropriate. The recommendations contained herein do not absolve the Designer of his/her responsibilities.

2 ITEMS CONSIDERED BY THIS ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

Document ref.	Rev.	Originator	Title
2008028-02	-	Motion Consultants	Proposed Field Access
2008028-TK01	-	Motion Consultants	Swept Path Analysis Farm Access

Additional/background information provided to the Audit Team

- Location Plan (ECE Architecture drg 7054/LOC01)
- Gate / fence details (ECE Architecture drg 7054/001)
- Tree Protection Plan (Quaife Woodlands drg AR-4102-TPP-210527)

3 COLLISION DATA

- 3.1 Personal Injury Collision (PIC) information was requested from the online Crashmap database (www.crashmap.co.uk), which indicates that no PICs have occurred on this section of Ashgrove Road within the latest available five-year period.

4 PREVIOUS ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

4.1 The audit team is unaware of any previous road safety audits on these proposals.

5 PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED BY THIS ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

General Matters

- 5.1 The Audit Team raises no concerns at this Stage 1 RSA in respect of general matters.

Local Alignment

- 5.2 The Audit Team raises no concerns at this Stage 1 RSA in respect of local alignment.

Junctions

5.3 Problem

Steep gradient may lead to loss of control vehicle collisions

Location: Field access

The proposed access rises from the carriageway, steepening up to 23.5% in front of the gate. This steep gradient may result in vehicles losing control when using the access during icy or muddy conditions, or inadvertently rolling towards the carriageway when stopping/starting to open or close the gate; this may lead to T bone collisions at the access. Furthermore, pedestrians may suffer slips and falls on the steep gradient when stepping out of their vehicles to open or close the gate.

Recommendation

The steep gradient at the access should be slackened.

Walking, Cycling and Horse Riding

- 5.4 The Audit Team raises no concerns at this Stage 1 RSA in respect of walking, cycling and horse riding.

Traffic Signs, Carriageway Markings and Lighting

- 5.5 The Audit Team raises no concerns at this Stage 1 RSA in respect of traffic signs, carriageway markings and lighting.

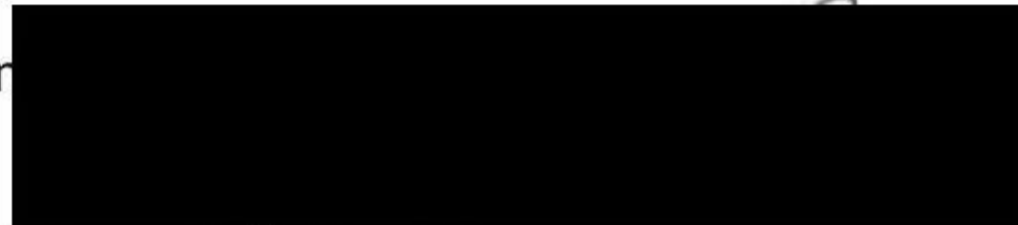
6 AUDIT TEAM STATEMENT

We certify that this Road Safety Audit has been carried out in accordance with DMRB document GG119.

Audit Team Leader

Wendy Palmer
MCIHT, MSoRSA, HE Cert Comp
Road Safety Engineer

Sign



Date: 28th May 2021

Audit Team Member(s)

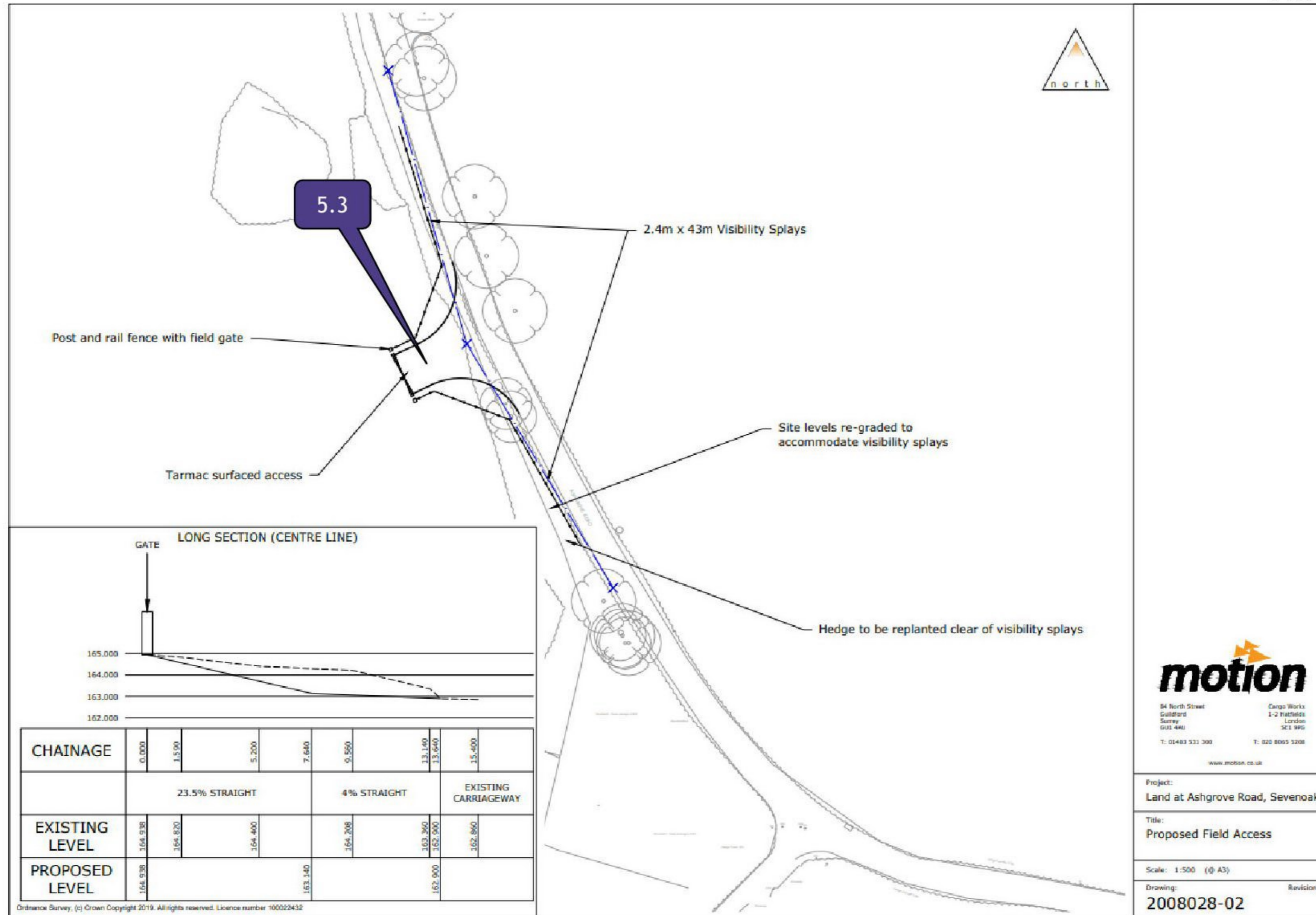
Julian Smith
BEng MCIHT MSoRSA
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Signed:



Date: 28th May 2021

APPENDIX A Location Plan(s)



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Project:
Land at Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks

Title:
Proposed Field Access

Scale: 1:500 (A3)

Drawing:
2008028-02

Revision: