

## Appendix 1 – Correspondence between BHS and Mott Macdonald of January 2017

### 1A – Email chain ending on 18/01/2017

**From:** Patel, Sandeep []  
**Sent:** 18 January 2017 11:31  
**To:** Lynda Warth < >  
**Cc:** Smith, Jason A < >; Farrow, Leanne < >  
**Subject:** RE: Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

Hi Lynda,

We have logged your feedback on our system.

The surfacing has not been finalised to that level of detail but we would want to ensure it is non-slip and suitable for horses to use. We have liaise with the BHS and would expect our proposal meets their requirements.

Kind regards

Sandeep

**From:** Lynda Warth []  
**Sent:** 15 January 2017 21:25  
**To:** Patel, Sandeep < >  
**Subject:** RE: Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

Dear Sandeep

It is disappointing to note that safety warning lights are not being proposed.

Could you please advise what product you are proposing under the term 'hard paving'? Do you mean concrete block or slab? If so, these are normally acceptable for horses although it should be non-slip e.g. with a brushed finish, to give grip.

The mounting blocks should, of course, conform to BHS standards.

Kind regards

Lynda

**From:** Patel, Sandeep []  
**Sent:** 09 January 2017 13:51  
**To:** Lynda Warth < >  
**Cc:** 'Andrew.Kenning@networkrail.co.uk' < >  
**Subject:** RE: Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

Hi Lynda,

Please see attached comments to give you an update on the design under consideration at Coffue Drove. Warning lights have not been proposed to warn dismounted riders when a train is

approaching. However, the height clearance within the underpass would be maintained under our proposal which is approximately 2.1m and mounting blocks provided on either side of the railway.

Kind regards

Sandeep

**From:** Lynda Warth []

**Sent:** 25 November 2016 09:08

**To:** Patel, Sandeep < >

**Subject:** RE: Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

Hi Sandeep

I'm currently away so no worries although I would like the information as soon as you have it please.

One of the things that concerns me is that riders should have some sort of warning – lights? – so that they know when a train is approaching and can judge their crossing accordingly. Height of the arch will also be significant. There may also need to be mounting blocks either side of the underpass.

Kind regards,

Lynda

**From:** Patel, Sandeep []

**Sent:** 25 November 2016 09:03

**To:** Lynda Warth <>

**Cc:** Huntley, Nathan R < >

**Subject:** RE: Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

Hi Lynda,

Hope you are well.

I'm sorry for not getting back to you sooner. I understand you may have more recently spoken with Andy Kenning about this level crossing. We are working on the detail for this proposal and can provide details shortly if required.

Kind regards

Sandeep

**From:** Lynda Warth []

**Sent:** 08 November 2016 22:41

**To:** Patel, Sandeep < >

**Subject:** Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

Hi Sandeep

I am the British Horse Society County Access & Bridleways Officer for Cambridgeshire.

I understand that there is a technical issue about the changes proposed by NR for the use of the underpass at Coffue Drove which you want to discuss with the BHS?

If you let me have some details, I will try to find someone to help.

Kind regards,

Lynda Warth

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1B – Email chain ending on 26/01/2017

**From:** Patel, Sandeep []

**Sent:** 26 January 2017 09:01

**To:** Haggett Camilla <

>; 'Lynda Warth' <

>

**Cc:** Champion Karen <

>; Anglia\_LX <>; <>

**Subject:** RE: ALC - Mounting Blocks for Horses and warnings

Thanks Camilla and Lynda for your comments.

Just to clarify the email below regarding the mounting blocks was not specific to any one particular site. I take on board your views about them being useful viewing platforms for pedestrians and feel they should be clear of obstruction. Their exact locations can be agreed at detailed design with Karen to ensure it benefits those who will use it. If you know of these positions now at any of the sites you may send this information though with coordinates.

Apologies Camilla, I have contacted Lynda and should have copied you in. I have attached the correspondence for reference.

Kind regards

Sandeep

**From:** Haggett Camilla []

**Sent:** 25 January 2017 16:56

**To:** 'Lynda Warth' <>; Patel, Sandeep <>

**Cc:** Champion Karen <>;

**Subject:** RE: ALC - Mounting Blocks for Horses and warnings

Hi Lynda,

Thanks for this useful information.

Sandeep – see below fyi. Please ensure that you agree the location with Karen Champion as the ROW Officer.

Re warning, I believe there is an outstanding action with you to contact Lynda (BHS) for advice as to what would be appropriate. We have repeatedly raised the need for some warning system to be established.

Kind regards,

Camilla

**Mrs Camilla Rhodes (Haggett)**

**Asset Manager – Information**

**From:** Lynda Warth []  
**Sent:** 24 January 2017 19:10  
**To:** Haggett Camilla  
**Cc:** Champion Karen;  
**Subject:** RE: ALC - Mounting Blocks for Horses

Hi Camilla

I can't see the one Sandeep has sent but if they go with the BHS advice they should be OK.

Not sure if it would be applicable here, but on our local bridleway we intentionally placed the mounting block in a good position with a nice view for use by other path users as well. I've often found people sitting on them enjoying a bit of peace and quiet!

At this crossing, there will be no advance warning of trains approaching, so my feeling is that the mounting blocks should certainly not be right up against the underpass. Who will decide on the location?

Lynda

**From:** Champion Karen  
**Sent:** 24 January 2017 12:12  
**To:** 'Patel, Sandeep' <>  
**Cc:** Gaskin Peter <>  
**Subject:** RE: ALC - Mounting Blocks for Horses

Dear Sandeep, this is the British Horse Society advisory document for mounting blocks.

<http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjrvPaO3NrRAhUBuRQKHZ6PC1AQFggaMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bhs.org.uk%2F~%2Fmedia%2Fbhs%2Ffiles%2Fpdf-documents%2Faccess-leaflets%2Fbhs-advice-mounting-blocks.ashx%3Fla%3Den&usg=AFQjCNHjIWzFvpluIWM-geMGrdGHHVqGng&sig2=VUSH0ELIUIkRGTMdWNRw1A>

Your photo shows a concrete cast block- and I would advise that you check measurements with the document above, add a non-slip tread to each step perhaps Decksafe or similar GRP product and

that you do not place a “this is a mounting block” post sign right in the way of the riders handling area as in the photo. The rider is seated in the middle section of the horse, controlling the head end of the horse with seat, legs and reins and needing space to do this. They could also hit their head on the sign. The area around the mounting block should be suitably hardened and available for the horse and rider combination to use.

A mounted rider has a lot more control of a horse whilst riding, so a dismount sign should be advisory as the horse can spin round from the ground handling position or rear up and break away if frightened. I notice that the background shows a bridge with a low parapet, less than 1.8m high which would not be suitable for ridden horses.

I hope that this helps, Karen Champion.

Karen Champion

Public Rights of Way Officer

**From:** Patel, Sandeep []  
**Sent:** 24 January 2017 10:38  
**To:** Haggett Camilla <>  
**Cc:** Champion Karen <>; Gaskin Peter <>; <>  
**Subject:** ALC - Mounting Blocks for Horses

Hi Camilla,

Hope you are well.

As part of our proposals we have included the requirement for a mounting block in certain locations. Do you have a standard detail you would want to adopt. Attached is an example we have considered in Suffolk.

**Kind regards**

**Sandeep Patel**

Civil Engineer

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1C – Email Chain ending on 09/01/2017

**From:** Patel, Sandeep []  
**Sent:** 09 January 2017 13:51  
**To:** Lynda Warth <>  
**Cc:** <>  
**Subject:** RE: Coffue Drove - Little Downham Crossing Closures

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Sandeep

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Kind regards,

Lynda Warth

## Attachment that accompanied Sandeep Patel's email of 09/01/2017

### C10 – Coffue Drove

#### 1.0 Background Information

There is an underpass adjacent to the level crossing that users will be diverted to in order to cross the railway. The Network Rail structural report (NR structure No. 1809) notes that the underpass is prone to flooding, which was also reported in both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 consultation feedback. Looking at the structural report the clear height of the underpass is 2.10 m and we would want to retain that height.

#### 1.1 Proposals

Our proposals are shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3.

- The surface within the underpass would be sloped with a suitable cross fall. The top of the surfacing would be at least 50mm above the current ground level at the ends of the culvert to guide water outside the underpass.
- A hard paved surface within the underpass to prevent wearing from frequent usage.
- Along with the works inside the underpass additional releveling works will be required outside the underpass to allow water flow to the adjacent ditches, which are maintained by the Internal Drainage Board. See Figure 1.

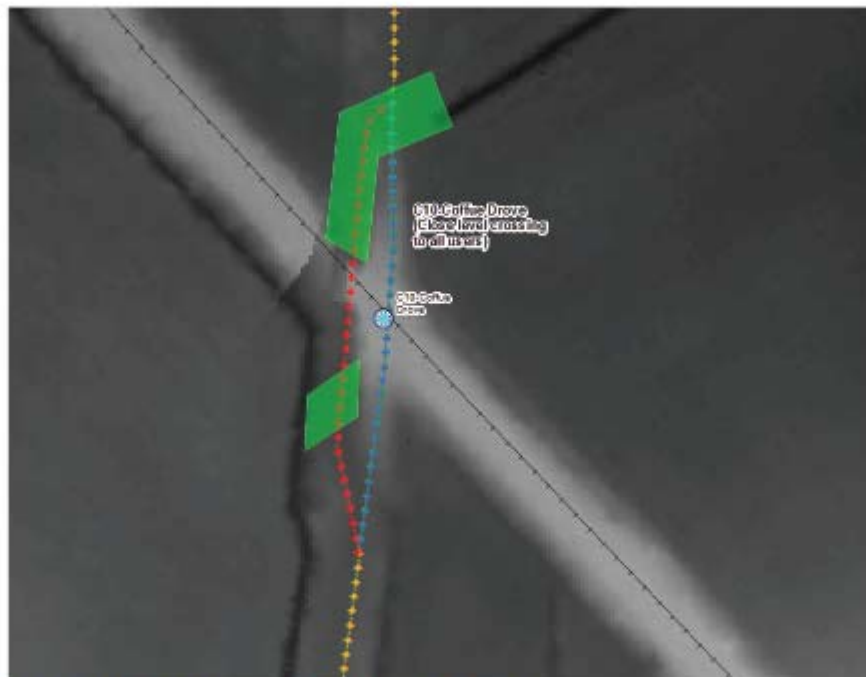


Figure 1 LIDAR aerial which shows approximate area of releveling.

