

Sent: 18 June 2024 20:45
To: planningcomments
Subject: Planning objection

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to object to the updated access road plans related to Planning Application 5/2022/0599.

The new layout has cars on the school side expected to reverse across the pavements, potentially with parallel parking on the opposite side of the road, thereby reducing the access to a single lane with traffic needing to three point turn to leave at busy times. This would be chaos! Introduce primary school aged children to the scenario and the risk of tragedy is immediately apparent.

With all the potential chaos in the new road, car access from each end will be slowed to a stop. Queuing would then need to take place on the already congested High Street and will cause motorist impatience and frustration. Residents in the proposed housing development would find it impossible to leave as they would become trapped at each drop off/pick up time. Emergency services access to the proposed development or the football club would also be limited at these times. In reality, the football club would not be accessible anyway as, based on the new plans, the entrance from the road would be too acute for vehicular access anyway.

The loss of the grass verge by the fence may seem a small amount of grassland but this is an essential corridor for wildlife such as insects, hedgehogs, etc. It will leave the trees and grass in front of 96 to 106 completely isolated in biodiversity terms whilst 'tarmac' yet another part of our green belt village. The appearance of the proposed new road with its 2m footpaths, 5.5m carriageway and now lack of greenery would be completely out of keeping with the surrounding green belt village.

The street lamp near the fence provides essential light for the school and football club in the winter and late evenings. It is not shown on the plan and its loss would be a pedestrian safety problem as well as increasing the risk of anti-social behaviour when leaving functions at the football club.

The tactile paving shown in the latest plan, both across the access road and across the High Street, appears to be formalising a new crossing point. This route would not be safe. For school age children it would give a false confidence in it being a safe route but in reality the traffic at drop off/pick up is too heavy and constant on both roads for it to be a good option. Adding this new formal route will draw children away from the zebra crossing increasing the risk for pedestrians and motorists alike.

I urge this appeal application be refused in full.

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