

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL – TUESDAY FEBRUARY 8th 2022

Item No. 11 – Bartley Junior School road safety issues

Background

My last communication to the Parish Council regarding this issue was on November 24th 2015, item No.9 on the agenda. This was presented to Council as a result of some near miss traffic issues at the commencement and cessation of the school day.

Previous communication had been received from NFDC in November 2006 when I enquired about installing yellow lines along Winsor Road. The response was the yellow lines *“may play a part but are not seen as a remedy.”*

In October 2011 there were again near misses along Winsor Road and my letter to NFDC stated they had a duty of care to the children. The school instigated a Travel Plan.

In February 2013 the yellow lines, which were requested in 2006, were painted along part of Winsor Road, presumably they were now seen as a remedy. I wrote to NFDC asking if the yellow lines could be extended to the junction with Southampton Road.

The response was the authority *“needed to provide sections of road where parents can drop off their children. Also, parked cars reduce traffic speed.”* During my 17 years as a resident in Winsor Road, I have not witnessed this reduction in traffic speed because of parked cars.

In September 2015 there were more near misses including one which resulted in the post carrying the “school crossing” sign was knocked down.

A survey carried out in 2015 found that 50% of the children attending Bartley Junior School were from outside the main catchment area. These near misses are not only caused by school traffic but also through traffic along Winsor Road.

A number of meetings took place between HCC, Parent Governors, School Staff the local Police Officer and myself. The outcome was the school would implement some changes, including a one-way system in the layby, for the coaches that drop off children. The layby could also be used for parents dropping off children.

If parents are allowed to use the layby to drop off, why would it be *necessary to provide sections of road where parents can drop off their children?*

The school have been very proactive in trying to solve this issue but without yellow lines can only provide part of the solution.

Parking issues no longer appear to fall within the remit of the Police but that of the local authority.

The latest near miss took place on January 13th 2022 when I received an email from a neighbour stating *“after school today a parent rushing to park their car, nearly ran (“my child”) over on his way home from school.”*

It is only a matter of time before a child is seriously injured or worse as a result of these near misses and further action is required.

Recommendation

I propose the Parish Council contact both NFDC and HCC with a view to having the yellow lines extended along Winsor Road to the Junction of Southampton Road. This would be achieved by extending the double yellow lines from Gardenia through to Meadow View and then from St. Julia to the junction with Southampton Road.

Councillor Steve Herra

January 24th 2022



Notes



Copythorne Parish Council

www.copythorne.org.uk

Winsor Rd TROs

Parish Clerk

Date 19/01/22

Scale 1500