

### Traffic Issues In Cornholme – Update from Cllr Tony Greenwood

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** 19 November 2021 at 09:11:21 GMT

**Subject:** Cornholme Traffic

The work to ensure that the serious traffic problems in Cornholme /Portsmouth continues but the reluctance to accept that there is a problem is the main bar to progress , particularly as far as speeding is concerned.

Calderdale Councillors Press and Dacre have been involved and are fully aware of the problem and the anger of residents.

The Covid rules meant that a bigger meeting wasn't possible but I had a morning meeting ,at the roadside with the Deputy Director of Highways of Calderdale Council.

I was present with Cllr White, Calderdale Councillors Press and Dacre and [REDACTED] the Head of Cornholme School.

We met by the Recreation Ground.

I raised the matter of the pointless stretch of unrestricted road between Windy Bridge and Portsmouth.It transpired that no efforts had ever been made to ask Lancashire County Council to reduce that to 40mph .

That matter is now being raised with Lancashire and I've apprised the Town Council on this matter.

The matter of the need for a pedestrian crossing at the "Rec" has been considered and the nature of the road and its width are used as a reason why they Dept of Transport would not approve it.The matter really rests on the number of accidents recorded there. There is no "significant" record. I'll come to this point later.

I have pointed out that at Aldi in the Town centre is a junction where traffic emerges at a blind bend to the left as you emerge from the Aldi car park.

At that very short stretch of road are 2 zebra crossings , a junction on the other side of then road ,a roundabout and traffic backing up from the roundabout and market holder's cars loading /unloading.

The rules seem to be less rigidly adhered to here.

The overgrown hedges at Vale Baptists which obscure sight lines was raised...again.

I pointed out that a local Borough Council has the authority to issue an order to make the owner cut them back.

It was agreed that this would be done. The privets remain in a flourishing condition.

I asked [REDACTED] the School, to circulate parents asking them to email me...at this email address .. with observations of speeding and bad driving.

The School also agreed to collect paper records and to let me have them after over a month had passed.

None have been received...which doesn't help !

[REDACTED] said the behaviour of motorists was of great concern to him and that pupils were particularly worried about it.He had tried a "walking bus "

With pupils at the opening and closing of school but had abandoned it due to the dangerous nature of the pavement widths.

Essentially ,the big problem for us is establishing that the road is actually dangerous. Police recently reported that there was evidence from recent traffic observations that some vehicles were travelling too fast and that further attention by them was required. I have raised this matter with the Town Council's Development Committee who are writing to the police to ascertain their procedures for informing the Highways Authority when accidents occur. This is the important bit.....the highways Authority do not know about accidents and road closures arising from traffic accidents. Consequently their figures are wrong. The Deputy Director seemed surprised to hear of 5 accidents / road closures on the short stretch where we were stood , over the very recent past. Our assertion was evidenced by a demolished wall just above the Rec'.

So that is number one..ensuring that all these matters involving the Police are fully reported to the Highways Authority.

I used to be responsible for a place of work and it is an absolute imperative that "Near misses" have to be reported...this is how accidents are prevented. This is not factored into the statistics for road safety. So every time a child just misses being knocked down nothing happens....but it DOES need people to formally report incidents.

I have discussed these matters with Cllr White who lives on the main road at Portsmouth and he has ,on behalf of both of us, made enquiries re the progress on matters covered .

My priorities now are..

To get in writing the reason why a Zebra or Controlled crossing at the Rec is not compliant with the regulations .  
I suspect the core of the answer will relate to accident statistics.

To further press the Police to explain exactly how the local authority are informed of road safety issues in Cornholme /Portsmouth.

To seek an summary of Lancashire's response to the request to reduce the speed limit from 60 to 40 from Windy Bridge to Portsmouth.

I will also test the reporting system by asking if the Highways Authority if the Police have informed them of the details of the very recent accident where a lamp-post was struck.

To find out what has become of the suggestion made at the meeting that warning signs could be recovered ....such as "Your speed is.." , "Speed Camera ". permanent signs ( as at Shade School).

These matters are the priority for your Cornholme Councilors but the evidence needs to be statistical and whilst anecdotal accounts are illustrative they don't seem to feature in the factors which drive the decisions.

With best wishes.

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