Item 11 Development Committee 5th Aug 2026

Previous correspondence regarding road safety at Copperas House.
For reference.

Email Exchange Between TTC, CMBC and Walsden Resident About Proposal for Zebra Crossing

Email 9 August 2022
Good Afternoon Susan,

Thank you for your email.

This one is still being dealt with, Highways advised they have had to get comments off the canal and river trust and also enquire with two members of staff who are currently on annual leave.

Once they have this information they will get back to the resident who enquired initially.

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Customer First.

From: Customer First <Customer.First@calderdale.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 July 2022 09:55
To: Resident

Subject: RE: Urgent request - New crossing!

Good Morning,

Thank you for your email.

I have raised this with Road Safety to investigate further.

The reference for this is 220704-000109

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Customer First.

From: Resident
Sent: 01 July 2022 23:20
To: Customer First <Customer.First@calderdale.gov.uk>

Subject: Urgent request - New crossing!

Hello Calderdale council and Todmorden/Walsden town councillors,

Firstly, I apologise for reaching out to everybody at once, but as I'm sure you can appreciate when it comes to the safety of our community, it takes a village!

I am writing to ask for a zebra/pelican crossing to be installed at the point the Rochdale canal goes under Rochdale Rd between Copperas and Hollins Rd. I would be naive if I thought I were to be the only person to have made this request, and even more so to believe that such a request can be immediately actioned within tight council budget restraints. However, without trying to sound on the edge of hysteria, 'Won't somebody think of the children!'

The amount of canal towpath traffic, of both the little and large variety, I encounter trying to navigate this area is shocking. It's on a blind bend, people drive along that stretch of the road like lunatics from time to time, and if I'm being frank I'm shocked that I haven't seen any memorial flowers in my time here. I would love to think there has never been any, but I doubt it. And if miraculously this is the case, I genuinely feel it begs the question of when, not if, as lamentable as that sounds!

I appreciate these things take time/money/shouting/bells & whistles, hence my tone thus far. But I genuinely think that even if the cost was in the tens of thousands, it would be mere chicken feed to instil a sense of safety and security into this community!

I really do hope this falls on some sympathetic ears, and I am more than willing to get involved in fundraising however I can. Though to be perfectly frank, and without being 'that guy', isn't this what we pay our council tax for?!?

Thanks for listening and I hope to hear from one (or preferably more!) of you soon.

Kindest regards,

Local resident

Correspondence About the Proposal for a Zebra Crossing at Copperas in Walsden

From: Resident
Sent: 02 September 2022 11:30
To: Highways and Engineering
Cc: <assistanttownclerk@todmorden-tc.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Customer Service Request 400568 for ped crossing fac at Rochdale Rd, Gauxholme

Good morning,

This is extremely disappointing and indicates you want to wait for somebody to be seriously injured or killed prior to any infrastructure for the protection of local residents to be put in place.

This is crossing on a major highway and the only place logical to join back onto the canal from either side. I have spoken to quite a number of local residents, and all have expressed their concern regarding the lack of safe crossing space as well as the speed at which many vehicles drive along this particular stretch of road.

It also feels yet again that pandering to vehicle owners/users takes priority over the safety of much more vulnerable pedestrians. I really have no worry if on street residential parking may be affected to be perfectly frank, if you own a car and need to have it parked directly in front of your house, I would suggest considering buying a house with a drive!! I say this as someone who is currently learning to drive and will soon be a car owner.

It very much feels like you are passing the buck to an already over stretched, underfunded and inadequately staffed police force, rather than looking for opportunity to allay the communities concerns that could fall within your own remit.

I will be taking this matter up further with my local town and county councillors and trust you will be hearing further regarding this matter shortly.

Regards,

Dear Resident

We are sorry it has taken so long to respond to your concern .We have been awaiting responses to our enquiries.

Physically a pedestrian crossing could be provided but the site is problematic with poor sight lines and it would require removing some on street residential parking. There are also the bus stops to consider and the turning manoeuvres from CHT and Hollins Lane and possibly from the access to Copperas Specialities Ltd.

Local authority resources for speed reducing/traffic calming schemes are such that they are targeted in areas where there is a history of speed related injury accidents. When assessing roads for potential safety schemes, it is usual practice to consider casualty data over the previous 5 year period.

We have looked at the casualty record for this section of the Rochdale road since 1999 and there has been no casualty attributed to speed. We are sorry but we are unlikely to carry out any traffic calming scheme at the current time in this location.

Our enquiry to the Canal and Rivers Trust did not reveal an issue at this location either.

In terms of schemes the Todmorden Towns Fund has potential surface upgrades of the canal towpath up to Alma Rd from the town centre, beyond that weirs become a barrier. Subject to funds though surface upgrades this may fall back to the A681 and not reach this location . A crossing was mentioned at this location in the Towns fund but also raised a considerable risk versus the funding available. Unfortunately all Town Deal funding is now exhausted. There is a project supporting towpath improvements but this has already been substantially reduced due to cost versus budget.

We will refer your concerns to the Police about traffic speeds on the A6033 and request enforcement action.

Kind regards

Highways Information on behalf of Road Safety

Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Regeneration and Strategy

Strategic Infrastructure