

Highways Committee

14th November 2024

Ferryhill



Parking & Waiting Restrictions, Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 2024

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.

Report of Major Projects - Strategic Traffic Management, Regeneration, Economy and Growth.

Electoral division(s) affected:

Ferryhill

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of objections received to the consultation concerning changes to the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in the Ferryhill District.
- 1.2 To request that members consider the objections made during the informal and formal consultation period.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Members are asked to consider the objections and to decide, in principle only, whether the TRO should be made, which will then guide the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in the exercise of delegated decision making. The final decision is therefore one for the Corporate Director, under delegated powers.

2 Executive Summary

- 2.1 The County Council are committed to regularly reviewing Traffic Regulation Orders to ensure that the restrictions held within them are relevant and appropriate.
- 2.2 Representations have been received requesting a review of existing, and provision of additional, restrictions in Ferryhill.
- 2.3 Having considered these requests, Officers have determined that the changes listed below would be of benefit in terms of improving road

safety and reducing congestion. It is therefore proposed to amend the current Ferryhill Parking and Waiting Restrictions, Traffic Regulation Order 2018 to allow the identified changes to be implemented.

2.4 All Local Members and Durham Constabulary have been consulted and raised no objection to the proposals.

2.5 Consultation Period:

	From	To
Statutory Consultees	23-Nov-22 & 15-May-23	14-Dec-22 & 5-June-23
Informal Consultation	16-Dec-22 & 16-Feb-23	13-Jan-23 & 09-Mar-23
Formal Consultation	26-Apr-2024	17-May-2024

3 Recommendation(s)

3.1 Committee is recommended to:

Endorse the proposal, in principle, to amend the Ferryhill Parking and Waiting Restrictions, Traffic Regulation Order 2018, with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

4 Proposal, Objections & Responses

4.1 The proposed locations for the TRO that received objections during the consultation stages are detailed below.

4.2 **Location 1 – Broom Road:** (to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions)

4.3 **Proposal Background:**

Broom Road is located in central Ferryhill on the C26, behind which Broom Cottages Primary and Nursery School is situated. This route is heavily used by commuters, residents, and parents of the school.

We have received reports from local residents, via the local elected member, of obstructive parking on Broom Road during pick-up and drop-off times at the school, restricting visibility and impeding road and pedestrian safety during these periods.

It is proposed to introduce, ‘no waiting at any time’ restrictions either side of Broom Road leading into Milford Terrace. These proposals are to improve visibility and access for all road users.

4.4 Informal Consultation: 16.12.22 – 13.01.23

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
4	0	1

4.5 Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
26/04/24 – 17/05/24	0	1

4.6 Summarised objections & responses:

4.7 Objections:

1 person has objected to this proposal at both the informal and formal consultation stage, the reasons for this objection has been summarised below:

- “I can’t park my car outside my house where I know I can keep checking on it, where there is also CCTV watching.”
- “There is a lollipop lady on the road at the main entrance, so why do people use the entrance near Milford Terrace and park their cars?”

4.8 DCC Response:

- Whilst there is always a level of displacement when introducing formal restrictions, the purpose of these restrictions is to ensure there is unobstructed flow of traffic and clear visibility for road users when exiting Milford Terrace onto Broom Road, improving road and pedestrian safety.
- The proposed measures will target only the area immediately at the junction of Milford Terrace. It is anticipated that this will improve road safety whilst minimising any displacement of vehicles into the surrounding residential cul-de-sacs.

- When utilising multiple access points, including the one at Milford Terrace, helps to distribute traffic more evenly across the area. This prevents congestion at the main entrance of the school, ensuring a smoother and safer flow of vehicles and pedestrians.

4.9 See appendix 4 for full details of the objection(s).

4.10 Location 2 – Cleves Court: (to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions)

4.11 Proposal Background

Cleves Court is adjacent the C37, to one of the major access roads to Ferryhill. It is located to the far east of Ferryhill, on which Cleves Cross Primary School is situated. The current speed limit being 30mph leading into national speed limit (60mph) northbound and school 20mph southbound, in which, traffic calming measures are also present. This route is heavy used by commuters, residents and parents and staff of the school.

We have received reports from local residents via the local elected member of obstructive parking on the junction of Cleves Court, during pick-up and drop-off times at the school. Such parking is restricting visibility and the pedestrian and road safety during these periods.

It is proposed to introduce, 'no waiting at any time' restrictions either side of Cleves Court to address obstructive parking and improve visibility.

4.12 Informal Consultation: 16.12.22 – 13.01.23

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
2	0	1

4.13 Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
26/04/24 – 17/05/24	0	1

4.14 Summarised objections & responses:

4.15 Objections:

2 properties have objected to this proposal. 1 property has objected at the informal consultation stage and 1 property objected at the formal consultation stage. The reasons for their objections have been summarised below:

- “Our school is 50 years old and the car park was obviously created at the same time and does not now accommodate the cars of a number of staff members. Some staff need to park where you are planning the restrictions.”
- “Placing the restrictions there would mean that staff would have to find alternative places to park and this would be in front of nearby residents housing. The housing around school has limited car parking space and many of the residents are elderly and often need the spaces clear to allow carers or emergency services access”.
- “Cars that park there during the day actually slow the traffic down on which is already road which cars go too fast near a school. I also fear putting yellow lines will only lead to the cars parking on the estate causing more hazards than they would be on the side of the road.”

4.16 DCC Response:

- With consideration to the increased speed, due to the traffic calming measures (speed cushions and two chicanes) which are currently in-situ , this provides mitigation of the speed whilst travelling north of Cleves Cross. Southern travel will be reducing speed also, if not stopping, to allow for the give way.
- With regard to displacement of vehicles, if the scheme is implemented, it will be under review for safety and effectiveness. From this, any displacement issues can be revisited and addressed; this can be completed via keep clears or additional restrictions.
- These proposals would aim to reduce congestion and increase traffic flow by allowing vehicles which are currently unable to pass parked vehicles. Mitigating the buildup of traffic at the priority chicane located to the north of Cleves Cross whilst improving visibility for vehicles egressing from the junction with Cleves Court.

- When introducing formal restrictions there will always be a level of displacement however, I can advise that these proposals have been in effort from Durham County Council to alleviate some of the issues during school pick up and drop off hours, but also to improve accessibility of residents within and outside of Cleves Court. Maintaining a positive relationship with residents is an important aspect of introducing such restrictions, however, there is a significant concern for road safety and accessibility, and it is believed the introduction of such restrictions will address these concerns.

4.17 See appendix 3 and 4 for full details of the objection(s).

5 Conclusion

5.1 Having considered the evidence of obstructive and inconsiderate parking and the objections to the proposals, Officers remain of the view that it is necessary to introduce the proposals in order to address the identified highway safety issues. Accordingly, it is recommended that Members agree in principle to endorse the proposal to proceed with the implementation of the Ferryhill, Parking & Waiting Restrictions, Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 2024 with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

6 Background papers

6.1 Correspondence and documentation in Traffic Office File:

L:\TRAFPROJ\06 REGULATION DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION\Settlement\Ferryhill\Traffic Regulation Orders (Parking Restrictions)\2022 - September

Author(s)

[Joshua Wraith]	Tel: 03000 265392
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[Lee Mowbray]	Tel: 03000 263693
[Kieron Moralee]	Tel: 03000 263368
[Dave Lewin]	Tel: 03000 263582

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

All orders have been advertised by the County Council as highway authority and will be made in accordance with legislative requirements.

Finance

LTP Budget.

Consultation

Is in accordance with SI:2489.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

It is considered that there are no Equality and Diversity issues to be addressed.

Climate Change

This TRO will allow for effective management of traffic to reduce congestion, reducing the overall amount of CO2 emissions.

Human Rights

Any interference with human rights is considered to be necessary in accordance with the law and proportionate in order to address highway safety issues.

Crime and Disorder

This TRO will allow effective management of traffic to reduce congestion and improve road safety.

Staffing

Carried out by Strategic Traffic.

Accommodation

No impact.

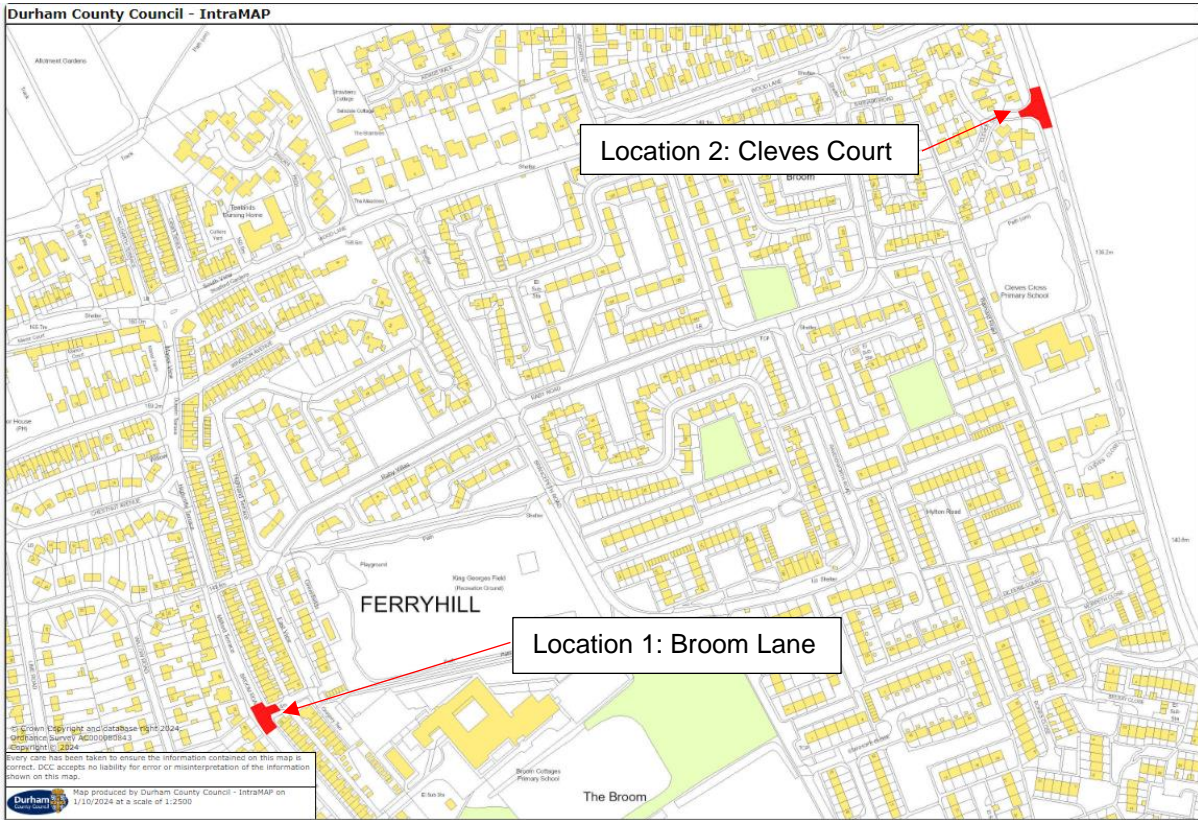
Risk

Not Applicable.

Procurement

Operations, DCC.

Appendix 2: Location of Proposals



Appendix 3: Request History

Location 1 – Broom Lane:

Road safety scheme - Printable information

Case reference FS-Case-347148159

Case created: 06/07/2021 07:05:30

Printed on: 2021-07-13

Summary

Details

What would you like to do: **Report a dangerous road, junction or roundabout**

- Other please describe:

What is the issue with an existing scheme:

- Other please describe:

Extra info:

Uploaded files attached:

Map / location

21 Bede Terrace, Ferryhill, United Kingdom, DL17 8AJ

Street name: **Bede Terrace**

Map proximity Address: **Cottage News 1 Bede Terrace, Ferryhill DL17 8AJ**

Map co-ordinate location: **54.68580881155193,-1.5467655658721924**

Additional location information: **Parked vehicles are causing great concern at junction leading from the Woodlands School Ferryhill, I have attached screen shots from a video sent to me from a staff member at the school,**

Could this be investigated please. - The junction is next to 22 Bede Terrace Ferryhill, Staff from the school (woodlands) use this junction to access the main road.

Contact details

Customer name: [REDACTED]

Landline:

Mobile number: [REDACTED]

email: [REDACTED]

Customer address: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Back Office


Notes:

History:

Appendix 4: Objection Details

Location 1 – Broom Road

**PROPOSED SCHEME
CONSULTATION RESPONSE CARD**



Please tick the appropriate box:

I am in favour of the scheme

I am opposed to the scheme

Comments WHERE DO YOU EXPECT ME TO PARK
MY CAR (ADDRESS BELOW) HAVE SCHOOL USE MAIN
ENTRANCE.

(Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**)

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

REF Tm/40038/22/1402

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 May 2024 13:26
To: Traffic Consultations <TrafficConsultations@durham.gov.uk>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]:Ref:1961023
Subject: [EXTERNAL]:Ref:1961023

Hi My name is [REDACTED] I live [REDACTED].

I am very concerned on these new proposed road markings outside my house which I have lived in for over 30 years. If I can't park my car outside my own property were I know i can keep checking on it also there is cctv watching then were do you expect me to park my car.

If the school is the problem there is a lollipop lady on the road at the main entrance so why do people use the entrance near milford terrace and park their cars anywhere (nuisance to me) so yes I am objecting to these new plans unless you have other plans were I could park my car like parking permit for residents

Looking forward to hearing from you and the decisions you make

[REDACTED]

From: Traffic Consultations <TrafficConsultations@durham.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 May 2024 13:26

To: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for writing to us surrounding the proposals at Broom Road, Ferryhill. We value comments from the local community which ensure correct measures are implemented to make the roads safer for all users.

These proposals have originated following concerns raised of restricted visibility as a result of on-street parking. The presence of parked vehicles within close vicinity to the junction with Mill Terrace is reducing visibility to and from the carriageway, as well as limiting ease of access into Milford Terrace. In an effort to assist and deter this practice we proposed the introduction of the consulted 'No waiting at any time' (Double Yellow Line) restrictions.

As for your query of people using the entrance near Milford Terrace to access Broom Cottages Primary & Nursery School; utilising multiple access points, including the one near Milford Terrace, helps to distribute traffic more evenly across the area. This prevents congestion at the main entrance of the school, ensuring a smoother and safer flow of vehicles and pedestrians. This also helps to reduce the need for road users to park in places that reduce visibility and create traffic safety concerns, such as the proposed location of the 'no waiting at any time' (double yellow lines) restrictions.

With the increase in car ownership, on-street parking has become common practice nationwide, provided it does not obstruct other road users, which has become apparent within this location. Therefore, residents are not assured parking near their homes. If we were to introduce restrictions to prioritise residents, it would take the form of 'resident permit parking only.' However, I must advise that resident permit parking restrictions will only be applied to residential streets within commercial areas where there is a high demand for long-stay commuter parking. Further guidance on the qualifying criteria can be

found on pages 30-31 via County Durham Parking Policies, therefore in applying this criteria against Broom Road we would be unable to pursue such restrictions in this area.

I trust this clarification sheds light on the rationale behind the scope of the proposals and addresses your concerns. If we do not hear from you by 7th June, we will assume that this information has satisfied your concerns which has led to the withdrawal of your objection. Should you have any further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the email provided below.

Thank you;

trafficconsultations@durham.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 3:44 PM
To: Traffic Consultations <TrafficConsultations@durham.gov.uk>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]:

So you have not solved the problem of me parking my car outside my house which I have been doing since I bought my house 30 plus years ago

Value of my house will probably go down because you have decided to put double yellow lines outside making car parking outside impossible

A disgruntled resident [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Location 2 – Cleves Court:

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 January 2023 10:50
To: Strategic Traffic <strategictraffic@durham.gov.uk>
Subject: Change of opinion – Ferryhill TRO

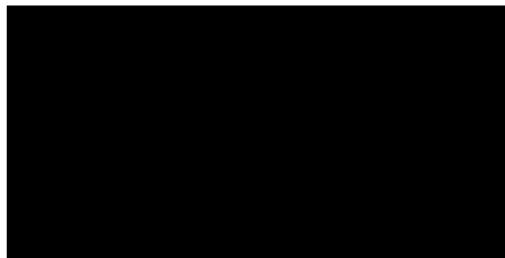
Hi

(please see below message sent to Deborah on Teams, advised to put formally into email)

I received a letter and form to complete regarding potential double yellow lines near my house [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I didn't take note of the reference, apologies.

Anyway more to the point, I did send my reply back saying I agree with proposals, however having thought about it more in depth I would like to change my opinion if possible due to following reasons. Yes, the cars parked on the side are a slight hindrance when pulling out but only mainly on a morning, I feel the cars that park there during the day actually slow the traffic down on which is already road which cars go too fast near a school. I also fear putting yellow lines will only lead to the cars parking on the estate causing more hazards than they would be on the side of the road. Let me know if you need this in an email, thanks

Thanks



Mobile [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2023 10:23
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Change of opinion – Ferryhill TRO

Good morning [REDACTED]

As you're aware the informal consultation period has come to an end for the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), Ferryhill.

First of all, I'd like to thank you for your concerns and comments which have been taken into consideration.

With consideration to the increased speed, due to the traffic calming measures which are currently in place, this will provide mitigation of the speed whilst travelling North Cleves Cross. Southern travel will be reducing speed also, if not stopping, to allow for the give way. Displacement of

vehicles, if the scheme is implemented it will be under review for safety and effectiveness. From this, any displacement issues can be revisited and address, this can be completed via keep clears or additional restrictions.

In this instance due to the majority vote, road safety, pedestrian safety and investigation into the concerns raised the TRO will be proceeding to the formal process.

I hope this information addresses your concerns. The proposals will shortly be progressed to our final stage of consultation where they will be advertised online, onsite, and in the local press for 3 weeks, if you would like to maintain your objection information on how to object further will be included withing this advert. However, If you do not respond we will consider that the information above does address your concerns and your objection has been withdrawn.

In the meantime, if you have any further queries please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards

Deborah

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 January 2023 9:31

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Change of Opinion – Ferryhill TRO

Hi Deborah

Thanks for this email. I will await the formal process and make the objection again so it's made at formal level.

I'll keep an eye out for the process to start

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Mobile [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 8 May 2024

To: Highways Orders <HighwaysOrders@durham.gov.uk>

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to object to the proposed order of introducing 'No waiting at any time' restrictions (ref: 1961023) on the southern and northern sides of the junction C26 leading into Cleves Court.

We are a popular primary school in Ferryhill and also have lots of children with additional needs. Consequently, we have a high number of adults working in school to ensure that we meet those needs. Our school is 50 years old and the car park was obviously created at the same time and does not now accommodate the cars of a number of staff members. Some staff need to park where you are planning the restrictions. They do not block the junction and it is not in front of any residents housing. We are not able to extend the car park as we cannot build anything on the school field. Placing the restrictions there would mean that staff would have to find alternative places to park and this would be in front of nearby residents housing. The housing around school has limited car parking space and many of the residents are elderly and often need the spaces clear to allow carers or emergency services access. We have worked hard to build up good relations with the nearby residents and having staff park there would result in that relationship being broken.

This is a similar issue with our parents. Some do park where you are planning the restrictions at drop off and pick up times and I fear that they would resort to parking either in front of residents' houses, again angering them and breaking down our relationship. Alternatively, parents could resort to parking inside the chicanes outside of school. This would put the safety of our children at extreme risk. We have asked for restrictions (double yellow lines) to be placed inside the chicanes to deter parents from parking but this has been refused by the council in the past. We do work hard in school and with families to encourage them to walk to school and notices about respectful parking is often on the school newsletters but there are some parents who do need to park there.

I do have serious concerns that if you put the restrictions in place, that the safety of our children at both sides of the school, will be at risk.

Finally, I am disappointed that as a school, we have not been consulted about the planned restrictions. If it were not for a friend of the school informing us of the proposals, we would have been none the wiser and it is going to have a huge impact on the school and the safety of the children.

Kind regards



From: Traffic Consultations <TrafficConsultations@durham.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 May 2024 13:26

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL]:Ref:1961023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for writing to us regarding the proposal 'no waiting at any time' (double yellows) at Cleves Court at Ferryhill. We value comments from the local community which ensure correct measures are implemented to make the roads safer for all users.

These proposals have originated following reports concerning limited access to the footway due to parked vehicles. The presence of parked vehicles parking on the footway limits pedestrian access as well as the ability to freely cross the junction of Cleves Court when obstructed. In an effort to deter this practice we proposed the introduction of the consulted 'No waiting at any time' (Double Yellow Line) restrictions at the proposed location, in an effort to improve pedestrian accessibility. The introduction of these restrictions also acts to reduce congestion and increase traffic flow due any vehicles currently being unable to pass any parked vehicles in the case that there is a buildup of traffic at the priority chicane located to the north of Cleves Cross whilst improving visibility for vehicles egressing from the junction with Cleves Court.

We understand that when introducing formal restrictions there will always be a level of displacement however, I can advise that these proposals have been in effort from Durham County Council to alleviate some of the issues during school pick up and drop off hours as well, but also to improve accessibility of residents within and outside of Cleves Court. Maintaining a positive relationship with residents is an important aspect of introducing such restrictions, however, there is a significant concern for road safety and accessibility, and we believe the introduction of such restrictions will address these concerns.

As for your query on the lack of consultation on this scheme, our consultation is done in two stages, the first stage is a 3 week informal consultation where we consult with directly affected frontages, in this instance the residential properties within Cleves Court. The second stage is the formal consultation stage, at this stage notices are placed on site, advertised online and in the local press for a further 3 weeks, aiming to consult a wider area, such as yourselves, and offers an opportunity to provide feedback. If objections are received, the scheme will need to be referred to Durham County Council's Highway's Committee where it will be put before panel of elected members who will discuss the proposals. All objectors are invited to the Highway Committee and provided the chance to express their concerns regarding the proposal to the panel.

I would therefore be extremely grateful if you could respond to this email advising whether you would like to affirm your objection or withdraw your objection if the information above has satisfied your concerns. If we do not hear from you by the 13th June, we will assume that this information has satisfied your concerns which has led to the withdrawal of your objection.

Should you have any further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the email provided below.

Thank you;

trafficconsultations@durham.gov.uk

From: Traffic Consultations <TrafficConsultations@durham.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 May 2024 13:26

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL]:Ref:1961023

Thank you for your email. I would like to affirm my objection. My staff do not park on the footpath at any time so I am unsure how these concerns have come about. There is also, very rarely, a build up of traffic at the priority chicanes, even at pick up and drop off times. I think if surveys were carried out, they would find this to be the case. As I said previously, some parents do park there and we do continually discourage this but cannot dictate where they can park. My concern, once again, is that my staff will have nowhere to park and annoy residents at the other side of the school.

As with your reference to consultation - there are at least 4 families who live in Cleves Court whose children attend/ed our school so I am unsure as to why they would complain. With regards to the 3 week consultation, I do feel it would be better if the school had been consulted directly as I would never have known of the council's plans had it not been for a friend who lives in the village.

In your email below, you have asked that I reply by the 13th June - this is clearly unhelpful and as I am sure you are aware it is the school holidays. Fortunately, I do monitor the school email in my own time so am able to respond immediately.

The email below has not satisfied my concerns and am affirming my objection.

Thank you

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

tel. [REDACTED]