

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes.

Deputations received:

(i) Deputation: Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

We are aware that the council is beginning work on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and will be consulting the public and schools about improvements they require to support travelling more actively.

We believe our community needs cycle lanes along Carden Avenue from London Road to Coldean Lane, connecting the London Road cycle lane with Ditchling Road cycle lane. There are over 14,000 people living in Patcham Ward, in about 5,000 households. Also, there are five schools: Carden Primary, the Dharma School, Patcham Infants, Juniors and High, with over 2000 children travelling to them daily. A large number of people travel into town along Carden Av for work and also students to sixth form colleges and Brighton Met. Car dependency is high in Patcham, over 80% of households have at least one car, with 40% of journeys to work by car.

Additionally, there are three parades of shops along Carden Avenue plus Ladies Mile parade; Old Boat Corner Community Centre & Library and Patcham Community Centre & Library; County Oak Medical Centre; Asda and two adjacent retail parks; at least four churches; Carden and Mackie Parks, the Ladies Mile Local Nature Reserve and Stanmer Park/ National Park.

This all makes Carden Av a very busy road and an unsafe environment for cyclists and pedestrians alike. There are few safe crossing points and no cycle lanes. As the council has declared a Climate Emergency & plans to reach Carbon Neutral status by 2030, infrastructure to enable safe cycling and walking is essential. Transport accounts for 25% of the cities carbon footprint and will be a large focus of the Climate Assembly.

All these people, the schools, businesses and other destinations in Patcham and Hollingbury would benefit from having cycle lanes and safer pedestrian routes. The benefits of active transport for both physical and mental health are well known and with a 14% obesity rate in Year 6 children in Patcham these and all residents need to have equal active travel options and improved air quality.

As a particular step forward we request a public consultation event based in Patcham to feed into the LCWHIP and explore the solutions needed to enable equality of transport options along Carden Avenue.

Supported by:

Geraldine Keenan (Lead Spokesperson)

Barry Steer

Hugh Woodhouse

Piera Tomasi

Cathy Lovell

Julie Mars

Julie Hunter
Claire Hammond
Andy Smith
Rachel Ruiz-Macpherson
Anthony Rogers
Cathy Fry

(ii) Deputation: Child Safety at collection and drop-off times at the West Hove Schools

We make this deputation as parents of children at either Hove Juniors or West Hove Infants on the combined site on the junction of Portland Road and School Road in Hove. Our concerns relate to the safety of children at drop-off and collection times with respect to irresponsible and dangerous parking practices.

We confirm that we are working closely with our elected representatives – Cllr Robert Nemeth and Cllr Garry Peltzer Dunn – and with management at each of the two schools in taking this matter forward. We understand that council officers have been immensely helpful already in discussing the matter with our Councillors. Nonetheless, we are keen to see some of the action points expedited so that the issue does not slip.

The concern is ultimately that one day a child will be seriously hurt or worse through the actions of a parent parking dangerously whilst dropping off their children. Detail and examples of this will be given when the deputation is presented.

We believe that the following measures would hugely mitigate the risk and today request confirmation that each of the six proposed actions will be undertaken swiftly:

1. A continued warden presence as agreed already with Councillors and officers.
2. A review of line markings and parking bays at the foot of School Road.
3. Confirmation that the two crossing points from Marmion Road to the schools will be made much more visible.
4. Confirmation that bright yellow A-boards will be provided to the schools if requested.
5. Provision of practical and legal advice to parents who wish to become safety volunteers.
6. Confirmation of the start date of proposed build-out works to Portland Road junctions.
7. Confirmation that workings of the road generally – especially with regard to direction of traffic and use timings – will be reviewed as work on the Westerman Complex opposite progresses.

Supported by:

Lucy Shelvey (Lead Spokesperson)
Anne Lever
Amy Rogers
Beverley Webb
Deborah Griffiths
Kerry Jean Lister
Tor Cooper
Sharon Willmore Swash
Catherine Michie
Faye Crowther

