

Penny Thompson – Chief Executive
Brighton & Hove City Council
Grand Avenue
Hove

7th August 2013

Dear Penny

Parking on A23 at Patcham Place Recreation Ground

I am submitting the following letter under Council Procedure Rule 23.3 to be included on the agenda for the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee meeting of 8th October.

I have been contacted by residents about the increasing problem of parked vehicles on the A23 adjacent to the Patcham Place Recreation Ground. The problem is particularly acute on the western side of the road but also, to a lesser degree, affects the eastern side.

There are marked parking areas along both sides of the road for users of the Recreation Ground but, recently, there have been a number of occasions where vehicles have been parked outside these bays, extremely close to the busy roundabout. This has led to huge tailbacks along the A23 back towards Brighton as vehicles are unable to funnel into two lanes as they approach the roundabout. Vehicles also park illegally to the south of the designated bays near Patcham Place which, due to the traffic islands, makes it very difficult for cars, and especially buses and lorries, to pass through.

The sheer number of cars parked along this stretch of road is, in my view, now becoming dangerous, particularly as the Recreation Ground is regularly used by young people for sporting and other activities. I have had reports of near misses as people try and cross the road to access their vehicles.

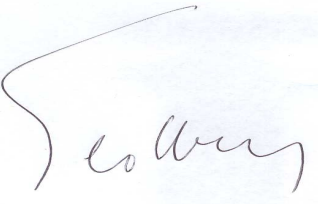
I would ask that officers assess whether a) it is safe to have so many parking spaces along both sides of the A23 at this location and b) a 40mph speed limit is safe along this section of road. I would also ask that double yellow lines are painted clearly on the road beyond the designated parking spaces and that these double yellow lines are properly enforced.

Furthermore, I would like officers to investigate whether it is both legal and appropriate for a hot dog van, lorries and second hand cars for

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sale to be parked on this stretch of road for long periods of time. It certainly does not make for an attractive gateway to the city for the many thousands of visitors who enter from the A23. It also makes it more difficult for legitimate users of the Recreation Ground to park. Hence, I would ask that officers consider introducing a parking time restriction - sufficient for sporting fixtures to be played, but which would prevent long-term parking.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey Theobald', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald OBE