

Parking issues

Good afternoon,

Further to my telephone conversation with John Ambrose today, I am just emailing to raise my concern and frustration at the unsafe and uncourteous parking that is occurring on a daily basis outside Holbrook Primary School at the afternoon pick up time (usually around 15:15-15:40).

As the school gates are opposite a busy T-Junction it is really important that the road in this area is clear for parents and families to see clearly if it safe to cross. Unfortunately we now have regular issues with cars parking right round both sides of the T-Junction, sometimes with cars half-parked in the street with the other half pointing into Clifton Wood. This means as you approach the junction with the school on your right, you need to pull out into the middle of the road and then turn left into Clifton Wood. I for one have nearly had a head on collision through having to do this, as I am being forced to be practically in the middle of the road when turning left into Clifton Wood due to the bad parking on the junction.

Cars parking on the grass verges on the t-junction also make it hard for drivers to see if people are looking to cross / hard for pedestrians to cross safely as they are less visible to drivers.

Also, I am becoming quite frustrated at the lack of thought for local residents in the area. People (often the same cars) day after day, park on and churn up the small grass areas we have, with no thought or consideration for those who live in the area. Cars frequently are parking on pathways and we are continuously seeing families having to walk their children in the road, push buggies in the road - Or, they have no choice but walk across residents gardens, as there is too little space on the path to walk safely.

The yellow cones which I believe are put out by the school opposite their carpark entrance are often simply ignored or simply moved by drivers upon pick up- so they are having little to no impact.

I would like to ask if there is any scope to improve the safety of this t-junction for the safety of the pupils and families at the school:

Could we look at somehow signposting a crossing in someway for children to cross from the Clifton Wood side of road to the school - at present, people cross from various points in front of the school, in all directions from all sides of the roads, all right on the junction, whilst cars are arriving and driving through.

I would like to ask if we could have wooden bollard/posts installed on the outer edges of both grass curved areas on the T-junction opposite the school, to deter cars from parking here at all and make it a safer and more visible junction for all who use it, both vehicles and pedestrians.

Maybe consider more signage to encourage people to use the village car park / remind them they should be not parking on a junction.

I think we really need to consider how to make this situation safer and better for all concerned. This problem is never going to ease. The reality is that now with the peninsula being considered more and more of a beauty spot in terms of places to live, a growing proportion of those who live here can now perhaps afford or are beginning to use the two private schools on the peninsula. This then leaves spaces in both our primary and secondary schools which are rightly taken up by those who live further away and this brings more cars (the alternative is our schools close)

Each day I leave my house and am often amazed by what I see, and I fear we will soon have an accident on our doorstep if these issues are not addressed in someway soon.

Thank you for your time