PL Planning Applications
OBJECTION - WSCC 052 20
13 December 2020 21:39:15

Objection to WSCC/052/20 re A29 Realignment northern tie in

Dangerous proposal to bisect pedestrian public right of way, without controlled crossing

The existing footway - gateway to village facilities

The existing A29 going north/south along Fontwell Avenue has one footway for pedestrians for the whole length of its eastern boundary.

This footway is well used by the community to go to and from the main local facilities that are all situated beyond the southern end of Fontwell Avenue. During peak morning times and after school the footway is used by children walking to and from the two local schools (Eastergate primary school and Ormiston Six Villages Academy secondary school). Throughout the day the footway continues to be used by people of all ages to access the only general store and post office in the area (Elm Tree Stores), the GP surgery (The

Croft), Eastergate playing field, Eastergate Village Hall and St George's Church. Planning application's dangerous proposal for public right of way as it crosses the carriageway

WSCC/052/20 proposes that the realigned A29 should swing east at a new roundabout towards the southern end of Fontwell Avenue, bisecting the above much used footway. The realignment planning application proposes an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing at the new roundabout to enable walkers to cross the A29 carriageway as it swings east. This is an extremely dangerous proposal.

At peak times the traffic along Fontwell Avenue is very heavy and WSCC are already aware of the issues this creates at the road's northerly roundabout junction with the A27. In the morning, the unremitting flow of traffic going south and swinging round the proposed new roundabout would make a crossing without controls unusable. Children walking to school from the roads and new development north of the proposed roundabout will be coming from the mile-long Eastergate Lane, Wandleys Lane, the estate about to be built on the western side of Fontwell Avenue and new developments in Fontwell. The children will be unable to cross safely and elderly or disabled people would find it impossible at any time.

Unsafe crossing will force people back into their cars

It is essential that any crossing, at what will be a dangerous dog-leg junction across a preexisting public right of way, must be a safe, **controlled** crossing. If it is not safe, villagers and parents of school children will be forced to take to their cars to access local facilities south of the proposed roundabout safely. This would be a retrograde step at this time for a local authority that should be promoting walking over car use to protect the environment. Mrs Susie and Dr David Peters