
E-FOCUS

Liberal 
Democrats

**Your electronic newsletter for
Fareham's Western Wards**

*Published and promoted by Graham Everdell for Fareham's Western Wards Liberal Democrats,
all at 75 Collingworth Rise, Park Gate, SO31 1DD*

Hi Friend,

June 2023

Welcome to the latest of our regular email updates for the Western Wards. Please feel free to share with friends and family. If you have received this E-Focus from a friend or family and would like to receive it regularly, email us [here](#) using the email address you'd like it sent to, and include your name, address, and the words: Yes please to E-Focus

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Road Safety in Brook Lane, Park Gate

Road safety at the roundabout junction of Brook Lane, Headland Drive, and Lockswood Road has been a local concern for some time and is an issue that we raised in our Spring Focus Newsletter earlier this year, and which we will discuss further in our Summer Focus Newsletter. In light of resident feedback both before and after our Spring Newsletter, we have been looking at the options open to us all to raise the profile of this issue further and to press the local authorities to take action.

The first step was to gather some hard evidence in terms of the number of children, adults, and traffic crossing this roundabout at peak times, and we completed a Traffic Survey last month.

Action from your local Focus team

Sort this dangerous crossing - now

The roundabout at the Brook Lane/Headland Drive/Lockswood Road junction has been the subject of recent social media discussion.

Sean Woodward, the Tory Leader of Fareham Borough Council, confirmed that "after surveying the site the highway engineers have said there was no suitable location to install it (a controlled crossing)."

When asked 'What's the solution,' he replied, "the solution is I think to take the very greatest of care when crossing Brook Lane."

There are options to make this road safer for pedestrians to cross and these include traffic calming (built out kerb lines), speed humps, speed limit, rumble additional wa

Drivers have little time to spot pedestrians waiting to cross, say Gayatri

warnings painted on the road.

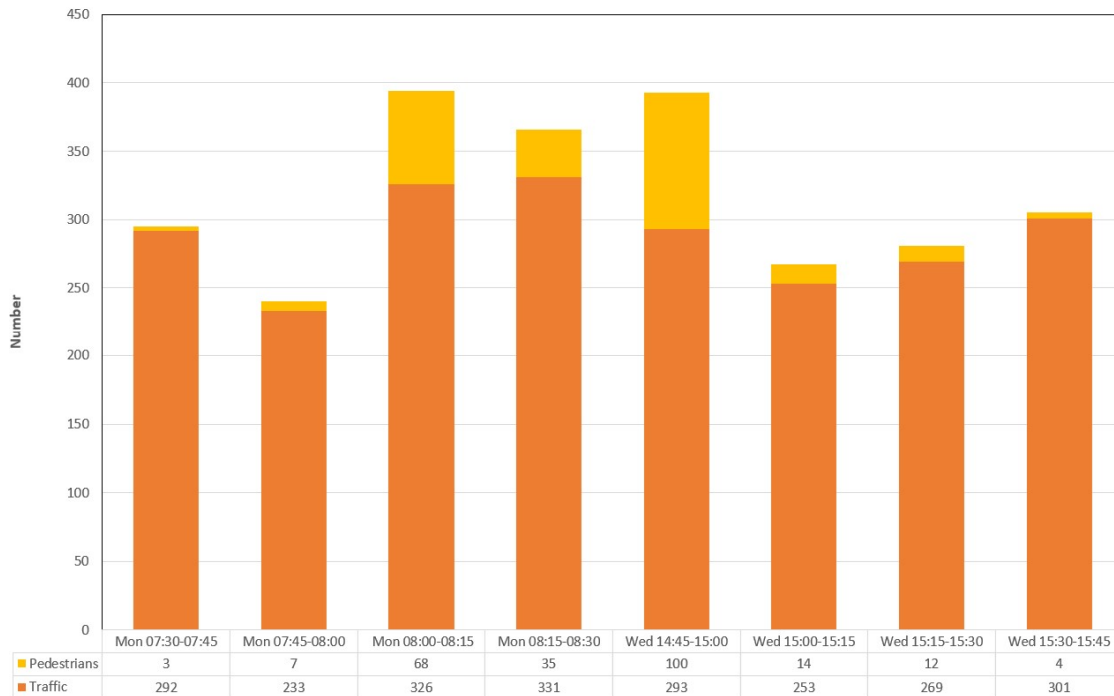
March: We reported residents' concerns in Focus

May: The Focus team were out collecting traffic data to assess the scale of the problem



With one of us each side of Brook Lane at the roundabout we counted the traffic going up and down Brook Lane and the pedestrians crossing Brook Lane at the roundabout from 07:30 to 09:00 on Monday 15th and 14:30 to 16:00 on Wednesday 17th. In both cases there was an hour (07:45 to 08:45 and 14:30 to 15:30) when over 1,000 vehicles went up and down Brook Lane while over 100 pedestrians had to cross Brook Lane at the roundabout.

Brook Lane Traffic Survey 15 and 17 May



It is clear to us that traffic calming measures need to be put in place in this part of Brook Lane to reduce the potential for accidents and to reduce the severity of any accidents that do take place.

The key to successful traffic calming is acceptance by the local community and we are looking for feedback on what you think should be done, along with your experiences of using this stretch of road.

Traffic calming measures could include such as:

- Speed humps
- Speed cushions
- Speed table
- Rumble strips
- Increased signage
- Road markings
- Signs activated by traffic to warn of excessive speed
- Speed restrictions (20 mph)
- Speed cameras
- Narrowings and chicanes – kerb extensions
- Changes in road texture

Are there any other options that you can think of?



Speed humps have a short rounded top with the ramps either side painted with white arrows to make them obvious to motor vehicle drivers. The aim of the speed hump is to slow traffic to a safe speed as the ramps are uncomfortable for vehicle drivers if driven over too fast.



A **speed cushion** is a form of speed hump that allows larger vehicles, especially emergency vehicles, to straddle them without slowing down while reducing passenger car speeds. They are often installed in high-traffic areas where vehicles have a higher chance of collision with pedestrians or other vehicles.



Speed cushions: Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley



Speed tables are a raised section of road with a ramp on both sides painted with white arrows to make them more obvious to motor vehicle drivers. Again, the aim is to slow motor vehicle traffic to a safe speed, as the ramps are uncomfortable, and can lead to vehicle damage, if driven over too fast.

Speed table: Leafy Lane, Whiteley

Rumble strips cause audible and/or tactile feedback to the driver to warn that a junction or other danger is ahead. The driver will hear the noise the tyres make on the lines and feel feedback through the steering wheel and the suspension.





Increased Signage can highlight to motorists the potential dangers they are facing on the road ahead.



Speed restrictions reinforced by signs that are activated by traffic to warn of excessive speed.

Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley - 20 mph zone



Road narrowing simply reduces the width of the road through such as kerb buildouts.

Road narrowing in Hunts Pond Road

**To Be Accurate the Road is Absolutely Fine...
The Solution is I Think...**

As you can see traffic calming measures have been put in place in Yew Tree Drive in Whiteley, in the ward our Tory County Councillor Sean Woodward represents on Fareham Borough Council.

Traffic calming reduces the potential for accidents and reduces the severity of accidents that do take place. It appears that he doesn't want to protect Park Gate pedestrians in this way. In a recent social media discussion Sean Woodward stated "actually to be accurate the road (Brook Lane) is absolutely fine. It is that some idiots choose to drive too fast on

it." When previously asked for his solution to the problem of pedestrian safety on Brook Lane his response was "the solution is I think to take the very greatest of care when crossing Brook Lane". No mention of traffic calming to reduce the speed of those who drive too fast!

As for the two Tory Fareham Borough Councillors for the Park Gate Ward (which includes Brook Lane), they are conspicuous by their silence and absence of any input on this issue. It is clear as far as we can see that we will not get any changes to Brook Lane through the local Conservatives who seem to have no desire whatsoever to represent the views of local residents on this issue.

There are issues with other parts of Brook Lane with pedestrian safety at the roundabout junction with Bridge Road a concern, safety outside and on the approach to Brookfield School needs to be improved, and there is the desirability of a pedestrian controlled crossing to allow easier pedestrian access to the Community Hospital, Brook Lane Surgery, and the Royal Mail Delivery Office.

However, we are starting with seeking to improve the safety of pedestrians, who are predominantly school children, crossing Brook Lane at this roundabout.



Botley Road in Park Gate has a Pelican Crossing, why not Brook Lane?

According to Sean Woodward, Brook Lane is too narrow to warrant a Pelican Crossing, but as Botley Road, at the point where this crossing has been installed, is clearly narrower than Brook Lane is where the Community Hospital and Brook Lane Surgery are sited, we cannot understand his reasoning.

Action Required Please - Your Views and Experiences

We need your feedback along with your experiences of using this stretch of Brook Lane before we can move to the next stage of our campaign to press the local authorities to take action. The more 'real life' examples we can gather, the stronger the case for action becomes. Are you aware of traffic calming measures elsewhere that highlights the lack of any safety measures along Brook Lane?

What traffic calming measures would you like to see on Brook Lane? What are your experiences of using this stretch of road, and how does it compare with elsewhere.

Email us at graham.everdell@farehamlibdems.org.uk (please include your name and address as this will be needed on any feedback used with Hampshire County Council, and will not be used for any other purpose).

It's Not Just Our Roads With Safety Issues



Park Gate Ward resident Heather White uses a mobility scooter and contacted Graham about the deterioration of local pathways which has led her to feel less safe when getting around the area. She raised the issue for all mobility scooter users for whom their scooter is their freedom out of the house.

In the summer months she loves to go for a wander on her scooter to get some fresh air and enjoy this beautiful area we live in.

Graham spent an enjoyable morning with Heather walking along the paths she uses on a regular basis, and has subsequently reported issues to Hampshire County Council in the hope that they will carry out the required maintenance.

If you see any issues with a local pavement you can report this direct using the following link: www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving or contact your local Lib Dem Team in the Western Wards who will report it on your behalf.

Planning News

Local Building Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

Vero Ltd 61A Brook Lane Great Brook Farm – Construction of single storey dwelling and solar pv installation. Under consideration with decision expected by 31 July 2023. Reference P/23/0541/FP

Oak Cottage Mill Lane – Addition of first floor, widening of vehicle access and alteration of pedestrian access, boundary wall and access gates and a change in the external materials. Under consideration with decision expected by 27 June 2023. Reference P/23/0187/FP

4 Jesmond Grove Locks Heath – Demolish existing single garage and erect garden room. Under consideration with decision expected by 05 July 2023. Reference P/23/0684/FP

33 Pine Walk Sarisbury Green – Single storey side and rear extensions, a change in external materials and outbuilding. Under consideration with decision expected by 30 June 2023. Reference P/23/0665/FP

138 Swanwick Lane Swanwick – Front roof extension with triangular window (gabled). Under consideration with decision expected by 19 July 2023. Reference P/23/0741/FP

15 Connemara Crescent Whiteley – Partial garage conversion and erect external pergola. Under consideration with decision expected by 20 July 2023. Reference P/23/0746/FP

290 Warsash Road – First floor extension to form two storey house, rear, side, and front extensions and dropped kerb. Under consideration with decision expected by 11 July 2023. Reference P/23/0706/FP

7 Caigers Green Burrage – Construction of one and two storey extensions. Under consideration with decision expected by 14 July 2023. Reference P/23/0725/FP

Casa Para Siempre 253A Titchfield Road Titchfield – First floor over existing detached garage to provide a games room. Under consideration with decision expected by 21 July 2023. Reference P/23/0757/FP

84 Bellfield Fareham – Loft conversion with gable raise and rear dormer. Under consideration with decision expected by 21 July 2023. Reference P/23/0762/FP

22 Lynden Close Fareham – Front porch roof, pitched roof over existing flat roof, conversion of internal garage, bin/bike store, single storey rear extension with log burner flue. Under consideration with decision expected by 26 July 2023. Reference P/23/0771/FP

8 Robins Meadow Titchfield Common – Single storey rear extension. Under consideration with decision expected by 28 July 2023. Reference P/23/0776/FP

2 Cyprus Road Fareham – Increase ridge height to form accommodation within the roof space and rear extension. Under consideration with decision expected by 29 July 2023. Reference P/23/0793/FP

Homeland Brook Avenue Warsash – Conversion of storage area over garage to create first floor habitable accommodation with three rear facing dormers. Under consideration with decision expected by 19 July 2023. Reference P/23/0743/FP

Further information on any local planning application can be obtained from the Fareham Borough Council website using the following link: https://www.fareham.gov.uk/planning/applications_and_advice/planningweeklylists.asp

Here to Help - Your Focus Team

If we can help with a local issue, or if you'd like to hear more about the local Lib Dems, please email us with your contact details.



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Want to help us? Go to www.farehamlibdems.org.uk/get-involved

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Best wishes,

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Your Western Wards Focus Team
Fareham Liberal Democrats



Lib Dems for Park Gate and Locks Heath
Fareham Liberal Democrats

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Remember, 'The Liberal Democrats exist to build and safeguard a fair, free, and open society, in which we seek to balance the fundamental values of liberty, equality, and community, and in which no one shall be enslaved by poverty, ignorance, or conformity.'

Preamble to the Constitution of the Liberal Democrats