

Notice of Proposal: Cheltenham Schools

Leckhampton Primary School:

Comments

I don't think the proposed keep clear school markings go far enough. Cars frequently park on the zig zags at pick up and drop off and there are always cars idling or parked on the H-bar markings opposite the school. I'd make the whole area on both sides of the road yellow zigzagged, parents just need to allow a little more time, park a bit further away and walk their children in. I fear for my XXXX child, I'm trying to let him gain a little more independence before secondary school by letting him walk to school but selfish parents are making crossing the road much harder and more dangerous. A zebra crossing would also be helpful.

Naunton Park Primary School:

Comments

Dear Sir

OBJECTION TO STREET PARKING PLANS ON NAUNTON WAY

I object to the painting of yellow lines on Naunton Way, between the boundary of 1 Naunton Way and 68 Naunton Lane to the boundary of 1 Naunton Way and 3 Naunton Way (and the corresponding line on the other side of the road).

There were no yellow lines on this part of Naunton Way before the road was resurfaced a few years ago. When the road markings were replaced, the yellow lines were extended in error down Naunton Way to the boundary of no. 1 and no. 3. When this was pointed out the contractor painted over the yellow lines within 24 hours. Sadly, the paint has now worn off causing confusion and some annoyance to visitors and residents. I had asked for the yellow lines to be burnt off thereby removing the problem forever, but nothing was ever done.

If you examine the original documentation in the Map Room at Shire Hall, labelled CH102 dated 15 June 2018 you will see in the bottom right-hand corner that the yellow lines stop as soon as they get to the boundary of 1 Naunton Way and 68 Naunton Lane. Further, your own web site, <https://gloucestershire.traffweb.app/traffweb/1/TrafficRegulationOrders> shows without any doubt that the yellow lines only go around the corner and stop at the boundary of no. 1 and no. 68. Please see attached print-out from the web site.

Your colleagues in the Parking Enforcement Officers Department are aware of this error in painting the 'extra' yellow lines a few years ago. Cars are parked on them all day and never get a ticket!

May I urge you to re-issue your notice with the correct map details and advise the contractor who is doing the work to burn off the old lines painted in error. Naunton Way can ill-afford two more car parking spaces to disappear!

I am happy to discuss this issue further if you wish.

Yours sincerely

Naunton Park Primary School:

Comments

Dear all

I am writing to query the rationale behind the on-street parking order that appeared on a lamp post recently outside Christ Church Primary School on Malvern Road.

The order appears to show (the map is not clear unfortunately) that a section of the road above the school is to become a 'no waiting at any time' zone with double yellow lines. On the council website (again, not clear), the explanation seems to be vaguely about the safety of children/pedestrians.

<https://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/media/k3mjza0w/draft-order-cheltenham-schools.pdf>

If this order is being imposed in response to complaints from local residents about congestion/thoughtless parking during school drop-off and pick-up times, then I believe the proposed order will do nothing to alleviate this, or to improve safety. By putting in

double yellows on a stretch of the road where many parents drop/pick their children, the current problem of parents parking across people's drives on the Christ Church Terrace side of the road will only become worse, with safety equally impacted.

In previous years, for many years, parents were able to use the lane running alongside the CLS sports centre. They could park there for a short time to drop children off and pick them up; I don't recall there ever being an issue with congestion, thoughtless parking (sometimes accompanied by strong words), and the dangers this imposes.

Why can't the lane be re-opened for the use of parents? This would have a positive impact on the current problems, and negate the (in many local people's opinions, ludicrous) imposition of the double yellow lines.

I have spoken to neighbours, and many feel the same way, but can't be bothered to get in touch with you. Can you explain the rationale for the order? And is it possible to have a meeting about it? Or is it in fact done and dusted, as many suspect?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Collective Response - x 41 responses received individually

We, the parents of children attending Christ Church Primary School in Cheltenham, are reaching out to express our support for the proposed changes to the road markings as highlighted on the consultation notice REF 5227-34, but with recommendations for additional safety mitigation to be implemented.

We have long had deep concerns and frustrations regarding the ongoing parking, safety and traffic issues on Malvern Road. Despite Christ Church Primary School's dedicated efforts to manage and address these issues, they are left without adequate support from the neither council - Cheltenham Borough nor Gloucestershire County Council - and the safety of our children remains at significant risk. It seems, harrowingly, that a child must die before the council's deem it worthy of attention and funding.

Whilst we are in support of the proposals adjusting the road markings, we feel strongly that they don't go far enough. To improve safety for our children, vulnerable people and the wider local community, we respectfully request the council to take into consideration the information below and implement the following measures urgently:

1. The current situation is critical: vehicles routinely park illegally on both the double yellow lines opposite and on the school marked zigzag lines outside the school gates. It creates dangerous blind spots and limits visibility for both pedestrians and other drivers. This not only disrupts the flow of traffic but places our children in direct harm as they attempt to navigate their way to and from school. There have been many near misses and we are happy to provide details of those we have been able to log on request. There have also been incidents of aggression and unwarranted accusations of harassment from drivers when staff at Christ Church Primary School have attempted to use their limited authority to address the issue by speaking to drivers directly. Parents have also begun to raise concerns of safety to drivers who are parking dangerously which has lead to aggression from some drivers too, and sadly in the presence of children. This clearly indicates the need for council-led support in enforcing necessary traffic safety measures. So we wish to hear how the changes in markings will be enforced? Is there a way the community can support enforcement without the risk of aggression and harassment?
2. There are a number of legal parking bays immediately outside the main entrance to the school via the playground gates, where hundreds of pupils and parents enter and exit daily (adjacent to houses to the west). While we all appreciate the needs of the local residents, and the challenges of parking when bringing children in to school via car, these

spaces immediately outside are a great risk to the flood of young families coming and leaving on a daily basis. We would like to see these bays removed and the zigzag school markings extended to cover the main gates entrance/exit.

3. There is no safe crossing point along the entire stretch of the Malvern Road, of which Christ Church Primary School shares with Cheltenham Ladies College, St Faith's Nursing Home, and Christ Church in its immediate vicinity. Plus, this road is also used by those travelling to Little Trees Day Nursery and Airthrie School (now owned by Dean Close), and beyond. It also forms an entrance and exit to the Honeybourne Line - a major pedestrian route for Cheltenham. With this in mind, we would strongly petition for the introduction of a formal pedestrian crossing point - be that pedestrian traffic lights or a zebra crossing - for increased safe crossing.

4. Reinstating the worn out speed bumps will ensure they work as intended and slow traffic down.

5. The 20mph signage is poor and with no enforcement. We would like to see better 20mph signage and road markings.

6. Finally, there is the question as to whether the Malvern Road from Gloucester Road needs to service both directions of traffic or if it could operate as a one way road. This would dramatically reduce traffic volumes and help make road crossing even easier and safer for our children.

These measures would provide Christ Church Primary School, its families, and the entire surrounding community with the support and protection needed to maintain a safe environment for all. It will not only make it safer, but also encourage more families to walk and cycle to school, knowing it is safer and easier than driving. It would also be more cost effective to look at a whole scheme approach than piecemeal projects.

We trust that both councils will consider their various responsibilities for community safety, schools, and highways, and prioritise the safety of our young community members and take swift action to address these concerns. Investment has been prioritised by councillors in areas that support our visitor economy and vehicle users and not into our resident communities, young people and their ability to walk and wheel safely to and from education. We want to see a gear change in prioritisation.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. We look forward to your prompt response and welcome engagement with Highways, Councillors, Travel teams and others in order to make the above a reality.

Millbrook Street:

Comments

Hello,

Regarding the above mentioned proposal, as residents of Amos Close, Cheltenham, we are in support of the proposal to put double yellow lines along Millbrook Street where it joins Amos Close.

Vehicles who park there block the view when driving out of the Close, we are unable to see oncoming vehicles or pedestrians. Larger vehicles also struggle to get in and out of the Close.

We have lived at XX Millbrook Street for XX years. We strongly object to the latest proposed parking restrictions of double yellow lines near our house as it would mean the loss of four vital parking places. We have never known anyone parking across the drive into River Court.

We feel the restrictions are totally unnecessary as a safety aspect as there is a perfectly good path on this side of the road.

To our knowledge there haven't been any accidents caused by parking in these areas and by the time the dustmen come the area is clear of cars so access to Amos Close and River Court is not restricted. Millbrook Street is not a busy thoroughfare.

We have paid the residents parking fee since it was first introduced but in the evenings and at weekends we cannot always find anywhere to park. Our neighbours and ourselves are now of an age when we cannot park miles away from our homes.

We hope you will reconsider your proposed actions and await to hear from you.

Regards

Objection withdrawn – No response received

Hello – I am writing in objection to the proposed Variation Order affecting parking on Millbrook Street (the addition of a few yellow lines).

The reason people park in the places the yellow lines are proposed is because there's often nowhere else to park on the street, especially if you arrive home after about 7pm. Putting yellow lines is going to further exacerbate this problem and leave people with nowhere to park anywhere close to their property. Already I regularly have to park way down the street or sometimes in adjoining streets and have to walk a distance to my house after dark, which, XXXXX, is less than ideal. I therefore strongly object to any reduction of available parking along Millbrook Street. I would urge you to look at other options to ease the parking problem – perhaps by limiting the number of parking permits per household, or by making it a requirement to have a permit 24/7 rather than just during the day, or giving people four hours free, as many non-residents take advantage of this. The whole situation is an enormous frustration and adding yellow lines is only going to make it worse.

Thanks for your time.

Objection withdrawn – No response received

St Thomas More Primary School:

Comments

Hello,

I am a resident of Lewis Road (GL51 0HZ). I am not quite happy with your proposal. The main problem with traffic in the morning or afternoon during school hours is cars parked on Marsland Road (starting from the post box towards Coronation Square).

No one is parking on Marsland Road (towards Springbank) because this is the only way to get into Springbank or Fiddlers Green. So the proposed Single Yellow Line is not fit for purpose.

Parking on Marsland Road, especially during peak times, creates hazards for both drivers and pedestrians, particularly near the school. A "No Waiting at Any Time" restriction on Marsland Road could definitely help reduce congestion and improve safety in the area.

I think the No Waiting at Any Time restrictions should be on Marsland Road (towards Coronation Square), not on Lewis Road.

As for Lewis Road, having a designated drop-off zone or parking bay next to the school could also make a significant difference in streamlining the morning and afternoon rush. This could help alleviate the pressure on surrounding roads and reduce the risk of accidents.

Objection withdrawn – No response received