

Consultation Response from KC, Highways Development Management		
2020/92657 King James School, St Helen's Gate, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD4 6SG		
Erection of 10 classroom teaching block and formation of car parking area with associated engineering and landscape works (within a Conservation Area)		
Date Responded:06/10/2020	Responding Officer: Mark Berry	Responding Ref: 11-5-5

The summary of the pre-application advice for this site was as follows.

Any application should include a Transport Statement (TS).

A Travel plan is needed for the whole school to help to mitigate any increase in traffic generation because of these proposals.

A condition requiring a post completion review of highway safety issues may be required

The provision of additional off-street parking should be considered to help lessen the existing issues caused by on-street parking associated with the School

Any application should consider the provision of a crossing facility on Fenay Lane as requested by Cllr Munro and Highway Safety

The application includes a TS which confirms that a condition requiring a Travel Plan would be acceptable and a post completion review of highway safety issues is to form part of the proposed travel plan.

Additional off-street parking for 16 vehicles is shown to be provided.

The TS makes no comment regarding the request from Cllr Munro for a pedestrian crossing.

Councillor Munro was concerned about pupil safety when crossing the top of Fenay Lane to reach the steps at the top of St Helens Gate, and requested that a crossing facility be provided, particularly if pupil numbers were likely to increase significantly. The Highway Safety section and UTMC assessed the issue and agreed that a 'puffin crossing' would be appropriate, although public consultation will be required due to a small loss in residential parking.

As the required funding for a crossing (approx. £50K) is likely to be unavailable from Highway sources, Highway Safety requested that the developer should make moneys available for a scheme.

The TS confirms that as of September 2020, the school Priority Admissions Area (PPA) is to be extended to include the school site and the surrounding area of Almondbury. The revised PAA is illustrated on the plan attached at Appendix BGH4 of the TS.

This additional catchment area includes a large residential area to the north of Westgate and Fenay Lane which represents most of the area of the village of Almondbury. The most direct route to school from this area is likely to be via Fenay Lane and St Helens Gate.

The TS confirms that between 22 and 32 percent of existing pupils currently walk to or from the school, given the proximity of this additional area to the school this percentage is likely to be much higher.

Highways Development Management would therefore consider that the cost of the provision of this proposed crossing should be met by the developer of this site.