

**Consultation Response from KC,
Highways Development Management**

2022/92464 King James School, St Helen's Gate, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD4 6SG

Discharge of condition 11 (traffic survey) of previous permission 2020/92657 for erection of 10 classroom teaching block and formation of car parking area with associated engineering and landscape works (within a Conservation Area)

Date Responded: 28-11-2022

Responding Officer: Mark Berry

Responding Ref: 11-5-5

Highway Safety have provided the response below regarding the applicants' technical note and traffic surveys and consider that some consideration should be given to controlling where parking can take place. This condition should not therefore be discharged.

Highway Safety comments as follows

I do have some issues with the Technical Note, so have made a few points below:

- The focus of the parking issues has been on start and finish times, which is rightly the busiest time for overall traffic and parking numbers.
- Parking is significant at these times but there is also a significant issue with staff parking throughout the day, which doesn't really manifest itself in this Technical Note, but has significant issues for residents. This has also been brought up by Cllr Munro, in a recent email she raised "I am not happy that the issue with lines of parked cars down St Helens Gate outside the school does not seem to have been addressed in the survey." And also went on to say "It therefore seems that not only are cars now parked outside the school down St Helens Gate for the most part of the working day which is causing endless problems for vehicles travelling up and down St Helens Gate which has been reported to highways safety as emergency vehicles cannot get down with all the cars parked, but additionally even more pupils are being taken to school by car. This report does not seem to address safety concerns regarding the line of parked cars or the fact that emergency vehicles such as a fire engine cannot get past quickly."
- I have been checking through our complaints system (ROSS) and since the scheme has been in place we have had 3 complaints about parking issues on the narrowest section of road north of the school site.
- The complaints relate to either access/egress issues to the various drives but also to the narrowness of the road and parking on the narrow section affecting larger vehicles.
- The Technical Note does not make any reference to this as an issue, and it seems to be a significant issue to the immediate residents and other drivers who pass through to houses further afield.

I have looked out here in the last few days and the extent of parking on St Helen's Gate clearly fluctuates but as this Technical Note doesn't carry out any data collection on this matter the extent of the problem has not been quantified. It is possible that the parking issues on St Helen's Gate vary by the time of day and day of the week. I would expect to see something clarifying this, in this Note.

It seems parking by staff takes place on some of the narrowest sections of the road ahead of some of the wider sections that are further away, some consideration should therefore be given to controlling where parking can take place to manage this. This would also allow control to parking by parents who also seem to use whatever location suits them despite prevailing road conditions in place such as near junctions, accesses and on the narrowest sections.