

Note of a meeting held on 11th November 2024 at the Civic Hall, Barnoldswick to discuss safer routes to Barnoldswick Church of England Primary School

Attendance

Councillor David Whipp, Pendle Borough Council (PBC)
Councillor Chris Church PBC
Scott Whalley, Engineering Manager PBC
Rachel Kemp (School)
Judith Jamieson (School)
8 residents

This meeting had been organised at the request of West Craven Committee to discuss the promotion of walking to Barnoldswick C of E Primary School and trying to find a safe route. This followed recent objections from residents regarding LCC's proposals to create a pedestrian access point on Clarence Street to promote walking to the school. Although this scheme now was no longer going ahead.

Residents of Clarence Street, Clifford Street and Lower Park Street had been invited to the meeting.

Discussion

- Improvements are required to the steps which lead up to Kelbrook Road to make them safer.
- Possibility of restrictions on use of motorised vehicles at school times – School Streets Initiative – although this would also restrict residents using vehicles too. General thoughts were that it was probably inappropriate.
- Are there options for provision of an area for pick up and drop off within the grounds of West Craven Technical College? Liaison with WCTC required. The question has been asked previously but worth asking again.
- Concern was raised over the fact that the introduction of the Pendle Leisure Trust (PLT) ANPR controlled car park will encourage parents to drop children off on Kelbrook Road.
- Is there currently any Safer Routes to School funding available which could contribute to improvements? Need to approach LCC.
- Options of a Walking Bus from Rainhall Road Car Park. School had looked at this previously but staff resource is an issue.
- Does the school have a Green Travel Plan?
- We need to speak to PLT and see if there is any flexibility in the 10-minute grace period on the car park. It is thought that the deal has already been done and there will be no flexibility. Need to speak to new PLT Chief Executive.
- Residents' Parking Scheme – could a scheme be implemented? SW to approach LCC to see if it would likely meet the criteria. Would this actually discourage parents? Probably not.
- The majority agreed that a scheme to provide a surfaced and lit link for cycling and walking from Clifford Street would be a good idea. LCC require evidence from the school to prove that this link is used. Pendle to check on the status of the footpath links through the land between Clifford Street and the school. LCC have said that the land is earmarked for future school use. Most agreed that it would make a nice woodland/nature area.
- Residents flagged up a number of maintenance issues on PLT's car park which require attention, particularly drainage problems. SCW to contact the Sports Centre manager.