

Subject: Meeting 1st April Benson

Dear planning team,

Thank you for reading this I work in accident and emergency and have been on late shifts recently so apologies for the delay in responding.

I have been concerned about the safety of the junction at the war memorial for a while after witnessing an awful accident there 18 months ago.

A car travelling from the co-op direction smashed into a car trying to turn right onto church Rd from the slip road behind the memorial and it ended up crossing the road mounting the pavement and hitting the wall next to the old vicarage on the opposite side of the road.

Luckily the driver only had minor injuries and thankfully no one was walking on the pavement.

The dropped kerb at the old telephone exchange has not been used in the 8 years I have been here and my neighbour who has been here for 31 years has also never seen it in use.

I am concerned that both the footpath and road directly opposite this exit are both very narrow. We have to walk around what we call the "danger corner" a tight narrow pavement in order to get the kids to school and buses have previously knocked a bag out of my sons hand as it drove past us despite us walking close to the wall in single file.

If this new dwelling and driveway goes ahead it will exit directly opposite (arguably) the most dangerous junction in Benson.

This will make this junction even more risky for pedestrians, especially kids walking to school and drivers trying to turn rt from London Rd onto church Rd.

This proposal has been rejected every time it has been suggested over many many years. Each time due to road safety concerns so I am concerned about this new recommendation.

Many of us in Benson heard a long and sickening screech and crash from the last major accident there. We were involved in helping the driver who had minor injuries and calling 999 and redirecting traffic to avoid further accidents.

No one was walking past at the time but if anyone had been walking on that narrow pavement opposite they would have be very seriously injured or killed.

Please consider this statement from someone who sees the consequences of poor road safety on people every day.

I'm afraid I am working on the 1st April so will probably not be able to make the meeting but would be grateful if you could read this statement there. Thank you for reading this.

Many thanks

Dr Karen Edwards

Emergency Department consultant and Paediatric Emergency Dept lead at Wexham Park Hospital, Frimley Health Trust