
From: David Thomson
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To: Planning Comments (Shared Mailbox)
Subject: Ref No 6/2018/2178/full

Ref No 6/2018/2178/full – Chancellors School: Proposed Extension and the Resulting Impact this will have to the surrounding area and its residents.

I am writing as a resident of Pine Grove to raise serious concerns about the proposed extension to Chancellors School.

Chancellors School already generates a large volume of traffic during school days and at weekends. Most of this traffic uses Pine Grove for both access and parking. During school drop-off and pick-up times the road is often grid-locked as cars and buses attempt to weave through the parked cars (on both sides of the road) along a single accessible lane. The situation is made worse by cars performing three point turns into residents driveways. Living nearly opposite the entrance to the school, we often cannot exit our property because of cars parked over our driveway (despite the presence of yellow lines). With a large number of children also using the pavements and crossing the roads, it is an accident waiting to happen.

The School intends to expand its numbers by 200 students. This will further increase the traffic around the area and exacerbate the already serious problems.

Over the past ten years the school has had an increasing impact on the quality of life of all residents in Brookmans Park but particularly residents of Pine Grove. An increasing number of children are brought to school by car and an increasing number of students have their own car which they park in Pine Grove. The current situation raises significant health and safety concerns as well as environmental issues. Any further increase in the number of pupils will push the situation to breaking point.

Counter Proposal:

Given the size and the location of the school, I believe that the only feasible and sustainable long-term solution is a park and ride bus service. Access to the school via Pine Grove would be restricted to residents, pedestrians, school buses and teachers.

This would largely resolve the traffic issues in Pine Grove and indeed the surrounding area. It would also be more environmentally-friendly and sustainable.

In conclusion, I believe the planning proposal should be rejected until the current issues with traffic in Pine Grove and the surrounding area have been fully addressed. Any new planning proposal must have an accompanying solution which is environmentally friendly, sustainable and considers the quality of life of the residents in the area surrounding the school.

Best wishes

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