

John Hill

From: Sarah Riley <sarahjaneriley80@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 September 2014 22:32
To: John Hill
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Subject: SEMMS bypass - Concerns re Threaphurst Lane

Dear Mr. Hill

My name is Sarah-Jane Riley and I am a resident on Threaphurst Lane, Hazel Grove, Stockport.

I am writing with some concerns regarding the potential traffic implications on this lane once the construction of the bypass commences and on its completion.

The primary concern, which has also been highlighted by Stockport Council, is that the volume of traffic on this lane will significantly increase both during the construction process and subsequently once the bypass is functional.

As I understand it from Stockport Council, the suggested measures to slow down and/or reduce the potential traffic are to designate this lane and Torkington Road a 'quiet zone' at 20 mph.

Having spoken with several residents on the lane (some of which are copied in to this email) these are the primary concerns:

1. **Traffic Volume** - currently, if there is a traffic jam on the A6, just a small increase in the traffic on the lane presents problems, due to the speed with which 'rat runners' travel and the narrow width of road in several areas (single carriageway and insufficient passing places)
2. **Traffic Speed** - people do not adhere to the 30 mph presently in force. I do not see how a 20 mph will be of any use! There are often people on the straight areas driving up to 70 mph.
3. **Types of vehicles** - see point 5 re resident commercial traffic. Often, as the lane is not wide enough, the larger vehicles drive on the verge, causing the destruction of the dykes which leads to poor drainage with the water collecting on the road creating very dangerous black ice patches, or actual water-damage to the road surface (towards the A6 end of the lane).
4. **Suitability of the road** - it is a single carriageway in the majority of places. There are some hairpin bends which people take too fast. The foundation of the road is already under strain with the present traffic weight/volume as can be seen by the undulating areas, cracking tarmac on the central and edges sections, areas of collapse into the dykes, large and deep potholes, kerb stones being driven over and pushed into the dykes, blocking them and subsequent drainage problems.

5. Other road users:

- **RESIDENT commercial traffic**
- Farm traffic - tractors with/without balers/spreaders, animal transport etc
- HGV - Wagons

- Skip Trucks (based on Torkington road)
- HGV - Low loaders
- Bin trucks (not resident)

ALL of the above take up the entire width of the road and although there are a few passing places, these are not suitable for more than 1 car to pass at a time.

- **CHILDREN:** there are 6 young children resident on the lane and more that visit family. Some cars pass at 60mph + and this is a MORTALITY WAITING TO HAPPEN.

- **HORSES:** There are stables on the lane as well as residents who own horses. Combined with the use of the lane to get to Middlewood Way by the two riding schools based on Torkington Road and Wellington Road (A6), there is daily horse traffic which is not suitable in combination with a large volume of traffic on the lane, due to the width of the lane and the speed with which people drive.

- **FARM ANIMALS:** crossing

- **DOG WALKERS:** many use this lane due to its connections with Middlewood Way

- **CYCLISTS:** used regularly by many cyclists and dangerous re the speed with which people cut through

A few suggestions have been made by the residents: (although these are limited due to the commercial traffic i.e. re width restrictions etc)

1. ACCESS ONLY - road - and for this to be properly enforced
2. SPEED HUMPS - although these are not always viable where farm traffic is concerned

I apologise that this email is a relatively late submission but I was unaware of the inquiry commencing the week until last Tuesday!

I am copying this email to the residents, Jayne Hallam (Programme Officer), Kelly Schrocksnadel (Dept, for Transport), William Wragg (local MP).

I was informed by Jane that this email will be regarded as a formal concern and will be read out during the 'Objectors' section of the hearing.

I look forward to your response. I will not be able to attend in person due to the late notice and would like to suggest that the local residents are informed of such events directly by email or post, to enable a forum for such concerns to be properly heard.

All the best

Yours sincerely

Dr. Sarah-Jane Riley