CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

Council Meeting 6th July 2021

Traffic Matters and Road Safety

The below schedule is a summary of correspondence circulated by the Town Clerk to Councillors

	FROM	SUBJECT
15.1	Local Resident	Email- Traffic Calming in Cambourne
15.2	Local Resident	Cycle Routes
15.3	Dawn Cave	Highways Structure Chart

AGENDA ITEM No. 15.1

Dear Mark,

I have been given your contact details as I wanted to express my concerns over extremely bad driving in Cambourne.

Yesterday I had a near miss with a Whippet bus on the corner between Oaks Wood and Quidditch Lane. On seeing the bus I slowed right down but ended up having to mount the kerb in order to stop the rear end of the bus taking out my wing mirror and side of my car. He didn't appear to slow down and seemed oblivious that the rear end of his bus was halfway over the white line!!

This has been reported to the bus company with dash cam footage. I hasten to add that I always give way where possible to busses as I appreciate they are long straight vehicles and so it is more difficult for them to negotiate bends.

In addition on numerous occasions cars are seen cutting straight through bends even when vehicles are coming the opposite way. I have spoken to John Vicmery and asked South Cambs coucil when they intend to renew the central white lines on Scool Lane as its now got to the stage that people, don't even seem to be aware they are supposed to drive on their side of the road on the straight sections either!

Another neighbour has just also pointed out about the end of the double yellow lines on the bend towards Oaks Wood from Monkfield primary school. More are seem to be parking on the be d and its basically then a blind bend that you're driving on the wrong side of the road.

If you could lend your weight to these issues it would be much appreciated as I believe there is a traffic calming plan being looked at, but I have no idea what is being considered.

Kind regards,

Dear Cambourne Council,

Today I tried cycling for the school run with my 6-year-old for the first time, from our home in Upper Cambourne, to Hardwick & Cambourne school (on the Village College site). It's something I am keen to do more often now that he has learnt to ride a bike - we would usually drive as it is too far to walk (and still be able to get to work on time) and I'm sure you'd agree it would be a good thing to take more cars off the road, especially during the school run.

To plan my route, I looked at the map on the Council website at: https://static1.cambourneparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/85cd-01-a3-site-plan-rev-zg-1.jpg

It was not clear to me from this map which was the best/safest/shortest route to take with a small child who is not yet safe to ride on the road and does not yet have the stamina or speed to go a long way around, so I ended up asking on a local Facebook group instead and was advised to go along the High Street, and up Swansley Lane, on the pavements, even though these parts of the route are not designated as cycleroutes and therefore cycling on the pavement is effectively illegal (in contravention of the Highway Code). Nevertheless we tried that route today, and found very many other people (especially Village College pupils) cycling the same way, on the pavement. However, it was difficult to pass pedestrians on some of the non-cycleroute sections and I'm sure it would be safer if these routes were made into the slightly wider paths used for shared pedestrian/cycle routes, or even safer would be a separate path for cycles made alongside the footpath. There is sufficient space beside the road to do this along the entire route, just by making the currently-wide verges slightly narrower. Personally I would also feel much more comfortable cycling with my son to school if I knew that I did not need to break the law by cycling on pavements to do so! It is very disconcerting as a (relatively new) cyclist to find several places in Cambourne where the cycle route suddenly ends and it isn't clear how you should get to your destination other than cycling in the road (which is dangerous especially with the number of blind bends in Cambourne and the speed people drive at) or cycling on the pavement (illegally).

As well as these sections that are not currently cycleroute, I've also noticed several sections of path that I *think* are cycleroute (based on the wide paths and reddish colour of the tarmac) but which are not currently marked as such on the map on your website which makes journey planning by bike more difficult.

I've attached two maps - the first is a copy of the map of cycleroutes from your website, on which I have marked:

1. In yellow, sections of path that are not currently cycleroute, but where there's space to turn them into cycleroutes and that would make cycling in Cambourne more accessible and encourage active travel (e.g. to schools).

2. In orange, sections of path that I think are already cycleroute, but which are not marked as such on your existing map (please update the map to help people plan journeys by bike - this is an easy win :-))

3. In dark blue, sections of non-tarmaced path that I think are already wide enough to be cycleroutes but are not currently marked as such (needs updated map plus in-situ signage).

Please note that I'm providing this feedback in order to be helpful, and to help the Council to encourage active travel in Cambourne and get cars off the road. I do hope you will be able to take action on at least some of my suggestions.

Below is the response from the Town Clerk

Thank you for your email the Town Council is keen to promote walking and cycling and has raised this with the developers, District and County Councils to ensure the routes are linked throughout Cambourne. As Part of the concern for cyclists and pedestrians the Town Council is working with the County Council on a 20mph speed limit within Cambourne.

I would respond to your highlighted sections on your map as follows:

Yellow sections: A number of the yellow sections have been identified by the Town Council for upgrading to cycle ways and as part of the improvements within the existing town for West Cambourne and will be upgraded going forward we do not have a time scale at the moment. The first one they are working on is Swansley Lane extending the cycle path along the Cricket outfield up to the secondary school, followed by Eastgate there will be some other cycle link incorporated. The High Street is part of the High Street development and the route will be designed taking pedestrian safety into account.

In relation to the two sections on Jeavons Lane I will take this to the next Town Council meeting to request the County Council to consider upgrading the paths to cycle ways.

Orange Sections: I will forward your map to Randal thorp who produce the map to update with the orange sections.

Dark Blue sections: the link between Sterling Wy and The Broadway is due to have a cycleway as part of the works to provide the bus link, this is part of the provision of West Cambourne and the Reserved Matters Planning application has been submitted. The other two Paths I will take up with Randall Thorp to see if anything can be done with them. Randall Thorpe are the Landscape Architects for Cambourne working for the Developers.

John Vickery

AGENDA ITEM No. 15.3

From: Dawn Cave

Sent: 11 June 2021 09:48

To:

Subject: FW: Highways Structure chart - May 2021

Dear Members

I attach the latest Highways Structure Chart and Highways Maintenance Patch contacts. I will be emailing these to you on a monthly basis, so that you are kept up to date on any staff changes.

Kind regards

Dawn Cave

Democratic Services Officer

Cambridgeshire County Council