CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

Council Meeting 2nd November 2021

Cambourne Village College (Road Safety)

From: Claire Coates
Sent: 16 October 2021 08:57
Subject: Road Safety - Cambourne Concerns

Hello John
Please would you arrange for me to attend a meeting of the Town Council, to address the question of road safety with them, at the earliest possible opportunity.
I am feeling desperate. This week, I witnessed a pupil swerving in front of a car to cross Swansley lane to the cycle path, such that it was a miracle there wasn't a serious accident. I continue to receive frustrated messages from the public about pupils riding recklessly on roads and the pavements of Cambourne and I haven't been able to get any answers at all about a cycle path on Swansley Lane, despite this being listed on the planning notice displayed on the school gate.
There is an urgent need for these things to happen:

- The kissing gate to be reinstated on the cut-through to Swansley Lane from the school link path. This would prevent pupils cutting through and cycling on the pavements through the back streets.
- A cycle path to be instated on Swansley Lane that leads onto the existing cycle path at the cricket field, so that pupils have a safe route to the road crossing and onto the cycle path on School Lane.
- The safety of the junction of School Lane and Swansley Lane to be reviewed.
- The cycle paths to be widened to take the volume of cycle traffic. More than 600 bikes, plus scooters now leave the site and the school continues to grow. The existing structure was not designed with this in mind.
- Traffic calming measures instigated on School Lane and on Swansley Lane. Many pupils cut through Apley Way to join School Lane and then tend to ride on the pavement on the same side. I am fearful of directing pupils off this pavement, either to cross the road to the cycle path, or to join the road, due to the speed of the traffic. A 20 mile-per-hour limit and flashing signs at school entrance and exit times would all help.

I'm aware that you have been seeking answers about the cycle path from the Developers, but I have been raising this concern about serious danger to our pupils for over a year, and it seems to be no-one's priority.

Kind regards
Claire

Claire Coates
Principal

Response from the Town Clerk

Hello Claire

I will put you on the agenda for the Full Council meeting on the 2nd November 2021 and will send you a copy of the agenda when we publish it.

- Kissing Gate I will raise this again with the land owners.
- I have chased up Kam at Ellipsis regarding the extension of the cycle lane from the Cricket Out field on Swansley Lane. They had requested costings for the works so they could move forward.
- Any review of the junction with School Lane and Swansley Lane would need to be carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council as the roads are adopted. When designing the zebra crossing the County Council carried out a safety audit. When making the application for the Zebra Crossing we stressed the number of cyclists, pedestrians etc that would be using the crossing.
- The widening of the footpaths would be the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council as they installed the footpath from the school to Swansley Lane. All developments have cycle paths of 3m or 4m with the widest used for heavy usage areas. I believe the cycle path is over 4m.
- The Town Council is working towards a blanket 20mph speed limit throughout Cambourne this will in some places require traffic calming measures. The engineers at the County Council will assess all roads and recommend what is required. The Town Council has set aside a substantial sum of money (£100,000.00) so this can be achieved. The County and Town Council were hoping to implement this by March 2022.

I chased Kam again on Monday, but she is away until next week, I have asked for a response in my email to her.

CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

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