

We have been running Cotswold Alpacas in Cowley for almost 9 years. In 2019 we diversified to run alpaca walks from the Dutch Barn in Cowley village itself and employ three members of staff. Three to four days a week we take our animals and guests along the routes around the village and often encounter other vehicles. We encounter vehicles on our route on the lane running from Stockwell which can be anything up to 10 vehicles in each 30 minutes we are out, depending on what is happening at Cowley Manor, The Green Dragon and the amount of visitors coming to visit the AONB.

Any influx in traffic makes a huge difference not only to us but the walkers, horse riders and other car users on this narrow lane. Countless times we have encountered drivers who do not slow down for animals or humans making the lanes a treacherous place to be. Due to the winding nature of the lane, blind spot's, driveways and soft verges which are turned to mud quickly in wet weather and usage, the lane simply can not withstand a 1000% increase in traffic. Already delivery vans in the area hurrying to reach a destination and not slowing down is an issue Â This will increase dramatically with more vehicles cutting through as a short cut Â

This also has implications for pedestrians with or without animals who are often walking on the lanes to traverse between one footpath and the other in the local area and as the scheme is designed to proactively enable more use for leisure of the area these numbers will also rise making for even more times and places where safety is potentially not a high priority Â

Drivers not used to the lanes often reach nose to nose forcing the other to reverse, creating gridlock, affecting hedgerows by squeezing large vehicles through small gaps, in icy conditions this lane is particularly treacherous for vehicles.

The road is already pot holed and needs constant attention from the current amount of local traffic.

If the safety aspect and general inadequate infrastructure of the lane is not enough, pollution will increase by 1000% as will littering and fly-tipping, once again as we stress in the AONB.