

Local Residents Feedback A5 West of Gailey.

Email 3rd June 2019 –

Good Morning Anita,

Firstly thank you for all your efforts to try and illustrate to the “usual suspects” the downsides to any further increase in traffic on the A5.

As you say the disruption caused by the M54 closures are just a microcosm of the whole traffic problem – each and every time there is a closure roadworks, accident, local event, the result is the same. All local villages have to bear the burden of the extra traffic trying to find another way through to their destination. The state of repair of the Brewood to Bishopswood road - Wheaton Aston- Lapley which are lamentable illustrates the point – the hedging is steadily being destroyed and it is only a matter of time until there is a very serious accident on one of these stretches.

My ??? recently had the back of her car badly damaged by a 40 ton HGV on the Brewood road – she had pulled in to allow the vehicle past but her rear door and rear panel were badly damaged (incidentally she had a child in a rear car seat at the time) and the HGV did not stop. The driver was either completely unaware of the collision or simply did not care. She visited ???? as she was very close to their site but to no avail as they could not help although a very similar vehicle to the one that had hit her was on their weighbridge at the time.

I can only assume that HGV companies are too “ cost conscious” to install HGV satnav in their trucks and the drivers use car satnav instead ending up on totally unsuitable back lanes and obviously using the Gailey to Weston as a secondary HGV route for the Hub is completely unacceptable – a queue on the A5 will just send the HGV's though the back lanes exactly as it does now.

The current solution offered to the problem of 40 ton HGV on the Brewood road particularly is a “ not suitable for HGV” sign – and that is completely ineffectual.

Logistics used to mean that the **appropriate** size vehicle was used to process and deliver but now it means the fastest route and the largest vehicle possible to maximise profit and no thought of infrastructure or indeed the difficulty in driving these vehicles through Brewood Wheaton Aston Lapley etc. Perhaps a pro active dialogue with the “ logistics “ providers would be illustrative of their priorities. A charge set for unsuitable delivery vehicles to rural villages might concentrate their efforts to use appropriate vehicles.

It goes without saying that the Hub will just increase the frequency of these vehicles looking to keep to their required ETA. Thinking that speed restrictions without **permanent cameras** and **penalties** will be successful is wishful thinking.

On Ivetsey Bank Road through Bishopswood 60 through the 30 limit is normal – this includes the local police, the local bus, the local farmers tractors and trailers, and indeed the residents of the village and the mothers picking up their children from Brewood.

I have caring duties in Wheaton Aston and currently there are 40 ton Hiab vehicles thundering up and down the road daily – the milk tanker on the route is the largest available , and the deliveries to the Spar shop on Frog Lane are 16.5 metre articulated vehicles and at times they cannot navigate the parked vehicles. The drivers are clearly under real pressure and I'm sure it must be the “short straw”

route.

The Planning departments love of “infill” and permitted development means we now have houses where there were none before on Frog Lane resulting in parking in front of the new houses where there used to be passing space - no forethought is given to the traffic flow through these small lanes subsequent to building. I believe 1 1/2 spaces per house is considered appropriate. You only have to drive through WA to find the two to four car(4x4) families are parking on the grass verges and on the corner pavements so the current parking algorithm is clearly a very long way out of date.

I do apologise for deviating from the Hub point but the traffic situation locally is becoming a whole new problem without the hub !!

Email 2nd June 2019

Dear Anita,

Thankyou for your hard work.

It does still worry me however that it is only a matter of time before a pedestrian is killed on this rd.

As you know I live in Weston under lizard, our wheelie bins are regularly knocked over by passing lorrys.

New tenants are advised against having cats as they usually become a casualty to the rd. I can state that as fact we lost our first within six months and a yr ago we lost our second. Cars vans and other vehicles constantly overtake despite double white lines all through the village, sometimes this happens even when we are indicating to turn across the rd.

It is becoming ever more dangerous.

And as I have said before we live opposite a tourist attraction where I feel maximum speed should be 30mph with enforcement cameras at least.

Ideally I would like to see speed bumps to slow down traffic and dissuade large vehicles. (I dont feel this is to much to ask compared to the life of a human being!)

Email 3rd June 2019

Dear Anita

Thank you for putting us in the picture I agree speed limits should be put in place and also speed cameras in our stretch as it's the only stretch without any speed measures in place.

I have just read about this weeks plans for visits and also talks about compulsory purchases, we know first hand about compulsory purchase we are in the process of having our business of almost 30 years compulsory purchased to make way for the commonwealth games.

As this is happening we want to put up a storage building in our garden and have now been told we have to have permission although on line it says as long as it meets size requirements we do not.

Moving forward with extra traffic passing through traffic calming measures need to be put in place this area is in need of it for sure even the bikers use this stretch and WHY because they can because there's no speed limits etc. Let's hope something comes of the visits and talks this week good luck.

Email 2nd June 2019

Thank you for up-date Anita ...news of the A5 Gailey to Weston is so disappointing ... I'd suggest maybe the people from proposed development walk down the A5 as it is at the moment before they suggest more lorry's thundering down it ..

The M54 closures were a nightmare the whole area was gridlocked.. there are so many lanes both sides of the A5 especially in our Area by the Bell inn that there will just be crash's ... it took my friend over an hour to get from Brewood to Penkridge ., no one would let her out right from Horsebrook Lane so she had to turn round and go up to Wheaton Aston via Bradford Arms and back through the ridiculously busy lanes ..

In penkridge although not ideal at least they have pavements .. road lights and pedestrian crossings as well as low speeds the A5 have none of these measures in place...

We all appreciate the efforts you are making Anita and I hope we are successful in stopping this development.

The road to be honest whilst ridiculous when M54 closes is actually only busy morning and evening .. I would describe it as a fast road rather than a busy road ... but we have tiny broken pavements where there is some .. no lighting and it really is just a country road essential for all the surrounding villages to communicate socialise work and school .., my children's friends are based in all the surrounding villages the A5 getting busy would really quite significantly impact upon every village fed from the country lanes ... best of luck Anita

Ps stand the group on top of the beautiful canal bridge over the A5 and feel the bounce when lorry's go under ... can be quite disturbing at times

Email 2nd June 2019

Thank you for your update, Anita.

It has got much worse I feel since we last spoke. I now see much more general traffic and hear lorries now rattling past when I am in bed where as when we first moved here it was relatively quiet in the evenings.

Look forward to hearing of your victories! And thank you for all the work you are doing on this.