

# Answers to queries made by residents at T&P Forum 06 February 2020.

(by Dr Yoann H. Teo-LeTeuff & Cllr Deirdre Alden, 15 February 2020)

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## Introduction

You will find below the entirety of the queries and questions put forward at the Traffic & Parking Forum from 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2020. For each entry, Cllr Deirdre Alden provided the most up-to-date answer and made queries of her own for that purpose.

Click on the **Table of Contents** to navigate to the section of interest in this document.

We hope you find the answers useful and reassuring. If you need to raise more issues, please send your new queries to [traffic@calthorperesidents.org](mailto:traffic@calthorperesidents.org) or at the relevant emails specified in the boxes.

Happy reading!

Yoann

## Traffic matters – Congestion and other Troubles

Query / Question	Answer
Can we have a no-entry box at Pavenham Drive entry/exit as A38 motorists don't give way? It is dangerous without it.	What is meant by no-entry box on Pavenham Drive? If it is yellow box, then tell Cllr Deirdre Alden to request one. <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>

Pothole misery	You need to provide Cllr Deirdre Alden with a <b>specific</b> location (not just a road name). <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>
Double parking causing narrow lanes and delays	
Leaf clearing from/on the route. Twigs/Debris during winter months.	<b>Leaf clearing WILL happen, with more money next year!</b>
How are road surfaces being maintained: monthly/yearly? Any plan in place?	Engineers walk roads every 6 months and note what needs repairing. Kier is taking over from Amey at end of March 2020. Hopefully things will improve.
"H" Box restrictions are flaunted by inconsiderate drivers.	<p>The correct term is H line or H bar. It has no legal standing so cannot be enforced.</p> <p>Dropped kerb: only enforceable if property owner is present and can confirm obstruction of their drive (complaint about UNKNOWN person).</p> <p>To request an H line (roughly £100): contact District Engineer Marie Brown at <a href="mailto:parking@birmingham.gov.uk">parking@birmingham.gov.uk</a> or call 0121 303 7613.</p>
<p>Accident hotspots:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arthur &amp; Wheeleys crossroads</li> <li>2. Westfield Rd &amp; Norfolk/Nursery Rd crossroads</li> <li>3. Carpenter Rd &amp; Ampton Rd crossroads</li> <li>4. St James &amp; Wheeleys Rd crossroads</li> <li>5. Pakenham Rd &amp; Charlotte Rd</li> <li>6. Hallfield School</li> <li>7. West House School</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Must be approached with care. Improved signage done a few year ago.</li> <li>2. <b>Following on from the T&amp;P Forum and our meeting on 13 Feb, Cllr Deirdre Alden has arranged for a "REDUCE SPEED NOW" sign to be installed on Norfolk Rd as you approach the junction.</b></li> <li>3. Not a crossroads!</li> <li>4. Known blackspot, 1 fatality, improvement in signage but not much more can be done.</li> <li>5. District engineer is currently consulting with residents and Pakenham Road has had some parking restrictions introduced.</li> <li>6. Brought up with district engineer, who will look into it carefully.</li> <li>7. Moved parents parking on side road and put flashing speed sign.</li> </ol>

Dangerous crossroads and accident hotspots: limit traffic one way?	You need to provide Cllr Deirdre Alden with a <b>specific</b> location, not just a road name. <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>
Can there be a bye-law enabling parking on pavements?	No plans for that!
More heavy goods vehicles are using Wellington Road now. Limit axle weight?	Nothing can be done! It is a solid road!
Parking on both sides restrict road space	You need to provide Cllr Deirdre Alden with a <b>specific</b> location, not just a road name. <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>
Are there any plans to change the junction of Westfield Rd with Norfolk/Nursery Rd to stop the very regular collisions?	No but new signage will be installed. See above.
Access problems for public utility vehicles	You need to provide Cllr Deirdre Alden with a <b>specific</b> location, not just a road name, and <b>what type of utility vehicles and problems:</b> <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>

## Traffic matters – Parking

Query / Question	Answer
Why cannot residents' permits be introduced in certain areas?	Residents permit schemes are for dwellings where people have no or little off-street parking.  Difficult to decide on a working solution. Full consultation required. Contact Cllr Deirdre Alden if need to set up scheme. <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>  <b>A request for Yew Tree Rd is in hand.</b>
Residents permit for Ryland Rd/Lee Crescent?	<b>Finally DONE!</b>

<p>No.6 Norfolk Road – development of house and grounds into 47 extra living units including a 4 storey x 32 apartment block: not enough parking provision!</p>	<p>Council planners told them to drop 11 more spaces! Council wants people to use public transports more.</p>
<p>Will university/QE developments have sufficient parking, notwithstanding any strategies to encourage staff/students to use alternatives?</p>	<p>UoB hasn't got enough parking and council barred UoB from adding more parking.</p>
<p>Will restricting city central parking simply move parking to residential areas?</p>	<p>Known potential impact of CAZ: join the CRS CAZ Action Group! Email: <a href="mailto:traffic@calthorperesidents.org">traffic@calthorperesidents.org</a> with your name and mobile number to volunteer and make a difference!</p>
<p>During development, e.g. of university station, will there be an impact on the existing car parking?</p>	<p>There should be no impact on parking from building the new Uni station as there isn't any parking at the moment.</p>
<p>Hospital staff parking</p>	<p>What about it? Please flesh this up by emailing <a href="mailto:traffic@calthorperesidents.org">traffic@calthorperesidents.org</a></p>
<p>What parking restrictions will be introduced in the area just outside the CAZ?</p>	<p>Parking around CAZ will depend on residents.</p>
<p>Time restricted weekday parking and increased future parking provision would be good.</p>	<p>Give specific locations for consideration to Cllr Deirdre Alden: <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>NOTE: the council policy is to REDUCE parking to incite people out of their cars!</b></p>
<p>Pavement parking on any road is a problem.</p>	<p><b>Pavement parking rule</b> on any road: is there <b>4-foot width left on pavement</b> for pedestrians? If yes, it's OK. If not, contact police with details of location of obstruction.</p> <p><a href="https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/">https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/</a></p>

## Traffic matters – Pollution & CAZ

Query / Question	Answer
Implement in the right sequence: better public transport first, e.g. Sprint, then CAZ.	Sprint is too late to come in before CAZ.
Mitigate effect on city centre businesses	Special 2-year allowance will enable such businesses time to improve their fleet/commuting.
People will drive longer distances	They won't if their vehicles are compliant as they will still be able to drive through the city centre. Check your vehicle compliance here: <a href="#">Vehicle Checker</a>
Where are the Park & Ride places?	Longbridge & Selly Oak.
Why is Park & Ride <b>not</b> an urgent priority?	Lack of land, not lack of priority!
What parking restrictions will be introduced in the area just outside the CAZ?	Parking restrictions around CAZ will depend on residents.
Will air quality and dust levels be monitored before CAZ/after CAZ? If not, why not? All round ring road?	Partly and badly monitored pollution levels in and around the city centre. Join the CRS CAZ Action Group to improve that by measuring pollution! Email: <a href="mailto:traffic@calthorperesidents.org">traffic@calthorperesidents.org</a> with your name and mobile number to volunteer and make a difference!  Also consider pollution-monitoring training from sustrans (" <i>Brum Breathes Clean Air Champions</i> "): <a href="mailto:BrumBreathes@sustrans.org.uk">BrumBreathes@sustrans.org.uk</a>
Affected CAZ roads: Norfolk Road – catch bus on Hagley Rd or walk to metro station.	Norfolk Road parking troubles? Monitor it by joining the CRS CAZ Action Group! Email: <a href="mailto:traffic@calthorperesidents.org">traffic@calthorperesidents.org</a> with your name and mobile number to volunteer and make a difference!

Why isn't the Calthorpe Estate in the CAZ?	The Calthorpe Estate is OUTSIDE the ring road, hence not included in the CAZ.
Will there be an annual permit system for the CAZ?	Annual permit will be publicized but probably only available for people living inside the CAZ.
Edgbaston Rd already <u>full</u> with parked cars <u>now</u> ! No more room. How will this be mitigated?	Any roads already full won't qualify for mitigation because it won't make any difference to resulting parking!
The CAZ will cause more parking in Edgbaston, more dirty cars! What is the plan to stop this happening?	Us! Join the CRS CAZ Action Group! Email: <a href="mailto:traffic@calthorperesidents.org">traffic@calthorperesidents.org</a> with your name and mobile number to volunteer and make a difference!
Why will the CAZ discriminate against the poorest commuters?	CAZ will indeed discriminate against the poorest commuters, but there will be support measures for some people living within the CAZ only.

## University of Birmingham's expansion – impact on its neighbourhood

Query / Question	Answer
Is there a limit to the growth of UoB/QE hospital?	There are in principle no expansion limits to the university and hospital.
Parking permits approach? Designated parking zones?	Designated parking zones cannot be done (see previous responses).
Future of Vincent Drive? Close to private vehicles.	Bad idea.
The nightmare of the Pritchatts Rd mini roundabout.	No clear solution for that.
Better public transport map/access	Lobby mayor about bus route maps & publicity.  <a href="https://www.wmca.org.uk/contact-us/">https://www.wmca.org.uk/contact-us/</a>
Impact of congestion/through roads	No real solution for congestion there.

Four-year discussion on Selly Oak Masterplan still awaiting.	Selly Oak masterplan still waiting!
This is the city's "second city centre" – it needs its own transport plan.	Currently there is a Transport Plan (for city and campus) and residents need to have their say <a href="#">NOW!</a>
Where it is possible, use existing buildings. Use existing sites for any new building. Do not expand beyond present boundaries.	University IS recycling their building sites for new constructions. Staying within the campus.
Red lines to expansion: if the student voice becomes more important than actual residents'.	Students don't have a real say about how the university expands. UoB is a big economic player in Birmingham and the council does support the economic benefits it brings to the city.

## Car-free Mobility – Public Transport Use

Query / Question	Answer
Cost – too expensive – consider free travel for people living within a 3-mile radius from the city centre.	Ask directly to the Elected Mayor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at Continental Europe for ideas to reduce public-transport costs.</li> <li>• WMCA must develop better connectivity between bus and train service.</li> <li>• Complain to mayor about poor bus service.</li> </ul> <a href="https://www.wmca.org.uk/contact-us/">https://www.wmca.org.uk/contact-us/</a>
Better connectivity between bus, tram and train services.	
Some very good bus route connections: 1, 47/45 but not all.	
Park & Ride facilities: more please.	There is no available land to construct Park & Rides on West of town because landowners sell to housing development (more money). We don't own the land where we could have it.
<b>Drop-off points at the university station: why were bollards put up so that no one can drop off/pick up anymore?</b>	QE put bollards there and councillor is enquiring as to why and will they remove them, but still awaiting a response.
Road surface getting eroded by double-decker buses – load issue?	Which roads cannot take on bus loads?

## Car-free Mobility – Walking

Query / Question	Answer
Pavement slabs uneven	Unevenness must be at least 1 inch deep: need to provide Cllr Deirdre Alden with <b>specific</b> location, not just a road name. <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>
Leaf clearing from/on the route. Twigs/Debris during winter months.	<b>Leaf clearing WILL happen, with more money next year!</b>
<b>CCTV</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up along walkways, e.g., canal near Five Ways</li> <li>• More lighting</li> <li>• Speed reduced for cyclists esp. if silent approach without bell ring.</li> <li>• Improve safety (CCTV monitored) with help points.</li> </ul>	CCTV cut right down due to Data Protection issues (says Council): a lot of CCTV has actually been taken out, and none added. If there are specific locations with poor lighting, give details to Cllr Deirdre Alden. <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>
Pavement parking on any road is a problem.	<b>Pavement parking rule</b> on any road: is there <b>4-foot width left on pavement</b> for pedestrians? If yes, it's OK. If not, contact police with details of location of obstruction.  <a href="https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/">https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/</a>
<b>Crossing points:</b> (safety improvement – more difficult to cross) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Somerset roads</li> <li>• Calthorpe Road – 3 lanes near buses.</li> <li>• Wheeleys/St James</li> <li>• Wellington Road/Bristol Rd</li> </ul>	Crossing points are very expensive (£80k)! Cheaper option is to use middle-of-road refuge but only IF road is wide enough. Wheeleys Road is not wide enough. Engineer can go and measure width for any other road. <b>Give SPECIFIC LOCATION on a road to Cllr Deirdre Alden.</b> <a href="mailto:Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk">Deirdre.Alden@birmingham.gov.uk</a>



## Car-free Mobility – Cycling / A38 Cycling Lane

Query / Question	Answer
Cycling around Edgbaston is dangerous. Pavement parking moves cyclists out into road.	<p><b>Pavement parking rule</b> on any road: is there <b>4-foot width left on pavement</b> for pedestrians?            If yes, it's OK.            If not, contact police with details of location of obstruction.</p> <p><a href="https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/">https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/</a></p>
Cars not following road signs and not giving way to cyclists	<p><i>There is a need to <b>educate drivers and cyclists to respect each other.</b></i></p>
<p><b>Cyclists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No control of their speed</li> <li>• No Control of where they cycle, e.g., pavements</li> <li>• Ignore traffic signals</li> <li>• Ignore the roads and rules and do what they want without due care and attention to car/truck needs</li> </ul>	<p>What will Police &amp; Crime Commissioner candidates do about cyclists' poor behaviour: we suggest <b>asking candidates</b> at election time/run-up for <b>Police &amp; Crime Commissioner Election</b> (May 2020 Elections).</p>
No dedicated cycle lanes	<p>Government is allocating more funds to cycling and doubtless the Council will bid in for a share of it.</p>

END OF DOCUMENT