Mark Dobson posted in Garforth News and Events



Mark Dobson

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There's no easy answers to school traffic issues

There's no easy answers to school traffic issues but below is a text of a letter sent to local residents today that I wanted to share with the wider community. Perfect solution? No, but the revised proposals to incorporate all parking for staff on site, an extra 22 spaces for parents and a movement towards more community engagement has to be a positive: Garforth & Swillington Ward Labour Councillors Councillor Mark Dobson Councillor Andrea McKenna Councillor Stuart McKenna Civic Hall Leeds, LS1 1UR Contact Civic tel 0113 247 4047 Civic Fax 0113 247 4046 mark.dobson@leeds.gov.uk andrea.mckenna@leeds.gov.uk stuart.mckenna@leeds.gov.uk Your ref Our ref MD/AM/SM/AF Date 9th July 2014 Dear Residents, Re: Planning Application – 13/02721/FU/E - Five single storey extensions to school building - Green Lane Primary School Further to our letter of 20th June, when we were tasked as your Ward Councillors by the North and East Plans Panel to liaise with the above school around their parking provision, prior to movement on the planning application also highlighted above, we now write with an update. Last week we attended a very useful and productive meeting with the school where the issue of on street parking was discussed and some resolutions were reached. As you are no doubt aware the concerns of Ward Members have reflected those brought forward to us by residents, specifically around inappropriate and indeed dangerous parking at times on the public highway at key times in the school day and also surrounding any events. This issue was put to the school who have agreed several measures that will form part of the planning to mitigate the problem. Firstly, there will be a dedicated parking bay for every member of staff to ensure that on street parking during the day will be completely minimised. There will also be the creation of 22 new parking spaces within the school boundary specifically for parents to drop off/pick up and to use at key events in the school calendar. Clearly this will not completely remove the issue but we believe that everything possible has been done to mitigate the problem. As always with these issues it is a compromise but having sought planning advice we were mindful that should the North and East Plans Panel have rejected this application the school, in line with national policy guidance, would have won on appeal with the plans in their original form. Further to this meeting, Cllr Dobson attended a house meeting with local residents to relay this and pick up on any outstanding concerns. An issue was raised regarding the In Bloom display outside the school and a further concern regarding the movement of vehicles during the period of the redevelopment in the coming months. Cllr Dobson revisited the school and obtained the following assurances: 1) Whilst the In Bloom feature may be moved slightly it will be retained and the school have committed to continue to fund the project going forward. 2) Regarding traffic movement, the school have stressed they take full responsibility during the build to ensure that residents are not inconvenienced and have therefore offered the following contact details should you have any concerns: David Yeadon Ltd 0113 2361888 Aspect Builders07850 072371 M Whittle SPTA07971 225694 3) The hours of operation will be restricted to Monday-Friday with no activity at the weekends. It was also picked up as an ongoing concern that relations between the school and local residents had, without attributing blame to any side, not all they could have been of late, and this concern was relayed back to them. The school have committed to organising a series of forums to meet with residents and parents to pick up, address and work through local concerns. Ward Members are very happy to be part of this process and are always available to discuss this or any other issue should you wish. Yours sincerely, Councillor Mark Dobson Councillor Andrea McKenna Councillor Stuart McKenna www.leeds.gov.ukswitchboard: 0113 222 4444

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