



Surrenden Area Parking Campaign

Working for better, fairer & safer parking
in the Surrenden Area

NOTE OF ROAD SAFETY MEETING: PRESTON TENNIS CLUB, 8 FEBRUARY 2019

The meeting was convened by Cllrs Leo Littman (Green) and Julie Cattell (Lab) and attended by Cllrs Ken and Ann Norman and Nick Taylor (Con), to discuss road safety following some accidents in the area where local children have been knocked down. The issues discussed were:

- speeding
- the local area being close to some major roads such as the London Road, Preston Drove, Ditchling Road etc, and the local streets being used as a rat run
- the high concentration of children travelling to the large number of schools and nurseries in the area (2 high schools, 2 primary schools, 1 college, numerous nurseries).
- the parking issues in the area leading to double parking, parking on corners, large vans making it difficult to cross roads
- some roads becoming 20mph, but people not adhering to this-some of the roads are designed to be faster making it difficult to travel at 20mph.

The council wanted to hear from local residents to get their views on potential solutions. Solutions discussed included:

- better signs-20mph painted on the roads, electric signs that warn you when you are going faster than 20mph such as the one in Surrenden Road
- zebra crossings
- traffic lights
- planters in the road similar to Viaduct Road, and other methods to slow vehicles down such as those used in Preston Park Avenue (but this does reduce parking spaces)
- parking schemes which also provide funding and pay for traffic wardens in those areas.
- shutting off one end of the road or making roads one way
- awareness campaigns in local schools (Balfour had a representative there and was keen to assist and get the local children involved)
- requesting traffic wardens to patrol certain roads. One had been diverted to Cornwall Gardens recently at the request of a Councillor.
- painting street corners with yellow lines. (the council traffic wardens can intervene if people are parked on yellow lines. The police are the only ones who can deal with people parked on street corners with no markings.)
- reporting anti-social driving or parking on the Operation Crackdown website www.operationcrackdown.org/ or via 01243 64 22 22. You can report antisocial driving and this will get assessed by the police. Examples include:
 - tailgating
 - mobile phone use
 - inconsiderate driving
 - driving without tax or insurance
 - under-age drivers
 - drink or drug driving
 - vehicles in unsafe condition
 - abandoned cars
- One attendee suggested using "Community Speedwatch". This is an initiative where members of the public with the support of the police, monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated (even across county borders), enforcement and prosecution follow. I have contacted the Head of NHW in Sussex and the

relevant police officer in Sussex Police to get more details on this. Once they have come back to me, I will let you all know.

- <http://www.dashboard.sussexsrp.org.uk/opcrackdown/map/> There is also an interactive map which combines Op Crackdown and Community Speedwatch data to show where hotspot areas are. There are quite a few reports in Preston Drive as well as on the main London Road, mainly for inconsiderate driving but there is a whole range of criteria that can be recorded.
- You can also report parking incursions to the Council via 0345 6035469 option 2, or online via <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/parking/reporting-a-vehicle-parked-where-it-should-not-be> the link to abandoned vehicles is also on this page.
- TROs-Traffic Regulation Orders were also discussed. Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) are legal documents that enable the council, to manage traffic in the city, including the use of roads for parking. The following list includes most of the things for which a TRO is required:
 - Controlled Parking Zones
 - parking places (permit, pay & display, disabled badge holders etc)
 - loading bays
 - yellow lines, loading restrictions and taxi ranks
 - one-way streets, prohibitions of vehicles, turning bans and vehicle weight restrictions
 - bus lanes and cycle lanes
- There is a meeting once a year to discuss TROs for Brighton and Hove. The council believed one was coming up shortly, and would be putting may ideas to them. More details on this process can be found here: <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/parking/traffic-regulation-orders/>

In terms of next steps, the upcoming council elections mean that we will soon be entering 'purdah' and the Councillors did not think that much would be achieved before the elections, but they are taking all the ideas and will sit down with Safer Roads Partnership and the Police to see what can be achieved, and what is likely to be most successful in the area.

(Thanks to Fiona Patterson for this note)