

F.T.A .O. Swale Joint Transportation Board.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Proposal of double yellow lines at the entrance of Court Tree Drive, Eastchurch. Sheerness. In the forthcoming meeting of the Swale Joint Transport Board scheduled for 7th December 2020.

I write on behalf of the residents of Court Tree Drive to enlist your support for double yellow lines to be put in place at what has become a very real hazard for us all from early morning until dark seven days a week by daily dog walkers (often twice daily) and people arriving for leisure during summer months to use the green open space with children, chairs, picnics etc.. Ninety nine per cent of which do not live on this estate.

I must emphasise that the main reason for its new popularity has come about after the first lock down in March this year when the SBC advertised all green open spaces available, but, in this case provided no safe parking for visitors HAVING PREVIOUSLY CLOSED OFF THE CAR PARK IN PLOUGH ROAD EASTCHURCH. Now making many aware of the site (previously unknown to them) it has now become a "hot spot" which has exacerbated the problem. Visitors are no less at the onset of winter.

This road is the only entrance/exit to this estate comprising of some 211 houses, almost all having two or more vehicles. Other roads making up the estate all branch from Court Tree Drive. The estate known as Kingsborough Manor is now finished. Due to Covid 19, I have been unable to gather a petition but write on behalf of all the residents of Kingsborough Manor.

From Eastchurch Road (National Speed Limit) you enter Court Tree Drive (30 mph) from a ROUNDABOUT on a TOTAL BLIND BEND. Many vehicles therefore enter at 40mph having not reduced their speed sufficiently resulting in the sudden screeching of brakes where a vehicle leaving Court Tree Drive is forced onto the wrong side of the road to avoid the line of parked cars including the parking up of supermarket and other delivery trucks who use this exit to sit to complete their paperwork and often spend their lunch break before leaving. Cars all reverse into Coultrip Close (this being the first turning to back into, then drive out onto possible incoming cars to park up opposite.

Even the dustcart men having four trips a week to the estate have expressed their annoyance at this difficult situation in what should be an easy collection estate.

On a daily basis we now have a line of cars parked on the right hand side to make use of the green open space. I have during these past six months been in correspondence with Mr. Graham Tuff of SBC who recently informed me that steps had been taken to obtain a quotation for the necessary work to re-install the parking area. Plough Road is accessible for all vehicles as the transportation of the many caravan trailers to the various sites use this road. Entrance to our original car park from here is flat, causes no inconvenience and most importantly, safe. As far as i can see, there would be very little expense required other than the removal of the two bollards blocking the entrance. We also have daily horse-riders who enter at the Plough Road end and wish to leave at the entrance onto the main road. These horses and riders then need to cross the central road marking (pavement not available to pass on) making this very risky for fear of oncoming traffic.

WITH THE CARS LEAVING COURT TREE DRIVE AND THE VEHICLES ENTERING (OFTEN AT SPEED) IT IS AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN. THEY NEED SAFE AND PROPER PARKING. IT IS AVAILABLE BUT NOT ACCESSIBLE.

Finally, I have been informed that only three letters of support were received from residents following the proposal but may I point out that only three were ever sent. Namely, myself, my neighbour immediately opposite and the property next to him. Every one of the occupants of Court Tree Drive (not to mention the entire estate) are in favour of this proposal of double yellow lines and the re-opening of the car park which we feel is an absolute necessity for the safety of all.

I trust you will give this your urgent attention

Copy sent to Mr. Ken Pugh Mr. Bill Tatton. Mr. Andy Booth.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. Sending pictures under TWO separate emails to clearly show the problem and pictures of the EXISTING car park in Plough Road. Eastchurch. Only a stone's throw from Court Tree Drive.





