



Leybourne Park Residents Association meeting with Parish Councillor David Thornevell – 21st may 2024

David Thornevell.

We appreciate the walk around yesterday, though remain dismayed at the lack of effort to address our concerns. Many outstanding for 5 years +

While it is noted 'it is not all your responsibility' we are looking for representation and advocacy from the Parish Council to help push our agenda forward.

Millions of pounds is coming to KCC from Panattoni, alongside Hundreds of Thousands from our development. None of which is being ear marked for what we need as a residential community, now living next to UK's largest industrial site.

Bullet points from the meeting

- Our primary concern and efforts revolve around pedestrian safety especially at the Papyrus Way / New Hythe Lane roundabout.
- KCC has active strategies to promote and increase safe travel so we believe the Parish Council should be supporting these strategies in their planning.
- KCC have confirmed that the area close to Blu3 is suitable for installation of speed bumps (it fits the criteria of being away from residential properties and in an area with street lighting) but that funding submissions will need to be made.
- Kent Police have also shown support for installation of speed bumps as this will deter the joyriders that we have seen running up and down NHL to the industrial estates.
- **In order to bid for funds for installation of speed bumps, the Parish Council needs to include this proposal in their Highways Improvement Plan. Without this submission, the council cannot consider any such proposal.**
- Accordingly - our efforts to the PC are to gain their commitment that they will include this proposal in **this year's** HIP.

- Re pedestrian crossings - We continue to push for installation of such a crossing on NHL to aide pedestrian safety of the increasing number of persons who work at one of the many employers in the area - and walk to and from the railway station. Likewise for families utilising the Leybourne Lakes country park. Now we have been informed there will be no bus service anytime soon, we would like to push for the preferred location.
- Bus services - we feel the PC needs to push KCC further around their plans now that information has come to light that there is insufficient funding in place to reintroduce the 71 service to NHL. Who is responsible for this oversight and what actions are being taken to resolve this issue?

We have over 1000 residents, many elderly and school children, not only not having access to public transport, but being left with dangerous road crossing to leave the development.

These are the bones of the areas we are keen to see progress from the Parish Council.

We urgently await confirmation of a date for a pan-stakeholder meeting with partners from KCC, TMBC, the Parish Council, Panattoni and Arriva to understand what steps are being taken to address these concerns.