

Appendix 2

Devonshire Place Area, Claughton & Oxton Wards

Summary of Consultation

12 Howbeck Road

I live in Howbeck Road, proposed site of a speed hump. While I have no objection to speed humps or a 20mph speed restriction I fail to see how this will alleviate the situation that arises during the "school run".

The problem during the "school run" is not one of speeding traffic but of heavy congestion resulting in minor grid locking in the various roads adjacent to Birkenhead High School, St. Anselm's College and Redcourt.

A slight aside but the same situation applies on Shrewsbury Road in the vicinity of Birkenhead Boy's School.

Might I suggest that parking restrictions being applied for the duration of the "school run" so only one side of the of the affect roads can be parked on will better ease congestion and perhaps a one way road system may also be beneficial in reducing traffic congestion.

24 Devonshire Place

I feel introducing speed bumps in this area will not alleviate the current problems. Introducing a 20mph speed limit is a welcome change but I feel a one way system would be far more beneficial. The problems concern traffic becoming blocked due to parking and then subsequently vehicles being unable to move freely along the road in both directions. A one way system would enable traffic to flow freely and safely, not just in Devonshire Place but in all surrounding roads. Why can a one way system not be introduced from the junction of Manor Hill/Egerton Road through to the junction of Devonshire Place/Palm Grove? Would this not also be the cheapest option available as it would not require as many speed bumps to be installed.

Flat 3 Grosvenor Place

Where are the speeds bumps going to be postioned ? lots of people park in this narrow road and it is residential for 2/3rds. Bumps would mean less people could park, which would be inconvenient. Why has this road been selected? I have lived here for 20+ years and speeding is not an issue.

Objection - Depends on answers to the above questions

112 Grosvenor Road

I am writing with reference to the above named scheme with some comments and requests.

To begin may I say that I am, in principal, in favour of these proposals. It has, since I moved here in 2000, become increasingly busy around the Grosvenor Road/Manor Hill area, especially at school opening and closing times and I welcome any scheme

to make all of the roads you list safer. My daughter, whilst walking home from the girls' school was almost hit as she walked home by a parent in a 4x4 who suddenly pulled out of Grosvenor Place without looking properly.

There is a definite need to slow down the traffic at other times. I've noticed drivers use Grosvenor Road as a bit of a race track; it's nice and straight and outside of school times is relatively clear of parkers (except for the section where Abbotsford/146 Grosvenor Rd is, coming towards the junction with Manor Hill, that's always been a pain to navigate as residents don't use their driveways). However, I believe the volume of traffic, combined with the high levels of parking is just as much an issue.

I have to deal with inconsiderate parking outside and opposite my property on a daily basis and am concerned that if you place a high/wide speed hump within the area of the entrances to (110)112/65/67 this is going to cause me problems entering and exiting my driveway during peak times. If I have to factor in any possible pitch (due to the camber of a speed hump) to my manoeuvres, this may cause extra risk to my vehicle and those frequent, multiple and often inconsiderate parkers who regularly make accessing my driveway and getting off/onto the road itself difficult. Please could you avoid placing any prominent road humps close to/right outside the driveways of 110/112 65/67 for that reason? I have absolutely no objection to its being placed across the road in line with the boundary between my property (112) and my non-adjointing neighbour at 114, it will reduce inconvenience/risk and is opposite is a long stone wall which will inconvenience no one.

One objection I would have would be if the humps in any of the areas of the proposed scheme are the same as those on Egerton Road. I believe these would be quite inappropriate for the area as many times I have witnessed drivers just swing into the middle of the road to avoid them. This, in my opinion, could constitute a risk to other vehicles and children, residents or pedestrians trying to safely cross the road. I am perfectly happy if they are like the traditional sleeping policemen i.e. a continuous raised, round topped speed hump.

In addition, is there any additional scheme that could be put in place to reduce the high volumes of parking at school times? I agree with the need to protect pedestrians and property at times of high traffic volumes, but really the parents who bring their children to school in cars are a significant part of the problem as they park inconsiderately, cause jams and reduce traffic flow. Could part of Manor Hill, where the grass verges are, be widened? Are any of the roads suitable for one way? Could those parents be approached again to take advantage of the scheme previously offered to them by the church at Alton/Beresford Road to use their car park instead of the surrounding roads? Please could you liaise with the relevant department (if it is not your own) in this matter?

Thank you for your time and I hope you will consider my concerns and proposals.

52 Frankby Road

I don't support the installation of road humps.

However, I do support the introduction of 20mph signs and roundels and it is good to see another 20 mph area being installed.

69 Manor Hill

I live at 69 manor hill and next door to birkenhead high school.

The traffic problems encountered are not speed related. There is severe congestion and insufficient parking facilities to accommodate a large school. Speed is naturally restricted due to the volume of traffic when children are dropped off and collected each day.

The school has increased extra curricular activities creating parking issues when school closed.

There has been nonstop building works for the past 3-4 years and construction vehicles add to the issues.

Objection:-

1. The amount of road humps seems to be excessive.
2. Humps will not ease volume of traffic.
3. Laying of Humps will disrupt traffic and will involve more builder's vans, lorries and cars.
4. Parking has never been

23 Grosvenor Place

I don't really feel the need for speed humps in grosvenor place as its a road where cars don't come up very fast, i feel a speed restriction is fine as cars would go about that anyway.

Any chance of parking restrictions in grosvenor place? As its a narrow road & inconsiderate people parking opposite my drive (from the school normally) make it extremely difficult to get out of my driveway.

38 Foxdale Close

Another waste of B# because nobody can exceed 20mph at the best of times! This is because there is a lot of congestion with traffic at certain times of the day (school arrival/departure). There is very little traffic in between these times, so what is the point? The B# would be better spent on traffic wardens being in attendance permanently as the parking is more likely to cause an accident than the speeding! The access to my road has been completely blocked on many occasions and I have complained about this to the police, council and the school. IT'S STILL HAPPENING!!! When the traffic warden is visible, no offences occur, but as soon as the attendance stops, they park wherever they like!!! During school holidays, there is no problem whatsoever.

Objection:-

- 1) Waste of money-speeding is not the problem here. At school starting and finishing times, it is chaotic because the roads are blocked with parked cars. It is practically impossible to pass when cars are illegally parked or just stopped!!! Humps will make this problem worse!! This will not address the issue for safety at school times.

2)Instead-In my opinion, the road to put humps in is Alton Road. I have seen cars speeding down this wider road frequently at all times of the day and night.

3)Safety-I think more authority presence is needed at school times to prevent illegal/thoughtless/selfish parking and therefore keep traffic moving safely. You say parking is permitted on the humps as long as it doesn't cause a hazard to other road users or pedestrians BUT if double yellow lines are being ignored NOW, do you think people will honestly care about parking on the humps? Even if they did, that means there will be LESS parking places.

Please reconsider your proposals with this in mind.

43 Manor Hill

Reference to consultation notice:

Forms part of a planning condition associated with development of BHSA , was this formally conveyed to residents affected at any time?

Why was this notice not issued prior to recent local election - who decided on timing, and why?

How many traffic accidents have there been in the last four years in the areas affected and how many people were injured. Are any of the roads covered by the proposals deemed to be amongst the top 5% of roads in the Borough for frequency of accidents?

What is the average speed of vehicles during term time, and in the peak traffic periods associated with school collection / drop off - NB not during the rest of the day - when was the traffic study undertaken.

What is the cost of the construction of the measures.

How were the location of the humps calculated

When will the work be undertaken - if approved, and what would be the timescale.

Which councillors are members of Birkenhead Constituency Committee, and where appropriate did they excuse themselves from voting if they were governors of any of the schools concerned?

Are the funds allocated for the scheme ring fenced, would they have to be surrendered if the scheme did not proceed?

Objection:-

I refute the need for traffic calming - I am unaware of any speed issues during term time, or indeed accidents.

It should be noted that this is effectively using a sledgehammer to crack a walnut, since the suggested problems only arise for 30 mins twice a day, 40 weeks of the year, yet the negative impact of speed humps will apply continuously for the residents affected (the council and its employees see fit to introduce time sensitive measures in the vicinity of Prenton Park re match days, but appears to lack the intelligence or imagination to customise a scheme to reflect the short term problems associated with schools).

Fundamental problems associated with the school relates to parking and the result of this is congestion and self imposed speed restrictions - I would be extremely

surprised if the average speed of vehicles rose above 10 mph during school rush hours.

Problem appears to arise from the lack of a well thought out drop -off / collection policy from the schools, and unless this is resolved, then proposals merely reflect a sticking plaster for the difficulties encountered. The imposition of speed humps on the numbers mooted will in reality reduce the perceived space for parents to park and thereby merely cause further problems, heaven forbid that it reaches the levels currently experienced by residents in the vicinity of Birkenhead Sixth Form College. My fundamental objection is that the proposals do not address the fundamental concerns and will not correct the problems which these are projected to resolve, and as such a more balanced and considered solution should be submitted.

69 Forest Road

Given the volume, speed and selfishness of many drivers I am in full support of your proposed action. Forest road has long been a safety concern, with speeding cars oblivious to pedestrians/cyclists/residents; the junction with Howbeck road and St Aidens Terrace are particular concerns as the road is used as a 'rat run' at peak hours. Added to this is the heavy traffic that now supplies the growing schools, therefore I would be quite happy to have a bump outside our house if other home owners object.

21 Grosvenor Place

We have lived here for 34 years and have never had problems with speeding traffic. At school times the traffic can't move fast due to the volume. We are not happy to have the inconvenience of speed humps for what amounts to approx. 5 hours a week and 39 weeks a year

When the school is open. It will encourage cyclists of which we have a lot of to cycle on the pavements. We are happy for 20 mph signs to be installed but feel that yellow lines will only move the traffic down our Road and we do have problems when cars park opposite our Drive as we cannot get in or out. We are also concerned that car catalyts can be damaged by speed humps and are expensive to repair.

2 Grosvenor Place

1. How much is this scheme costing and would the money not be better spent on properly maintaining the roads and pavements in this area?
2. How many convictions for speeding have there been in Grosvenor Place in the last 5 years?
3. How many convictions for speeding have there been in the area covered by the scheme in the last 5 years?
4. Has anyone from the Birkenhead Constituency Committee visited the area in person to assess whether this scheme is required?
5. What is the problem this proposed scheme is aiming to address?
6. What criteria have been used to determine which roads should be included in this proposed scheme?

7. Has a traffic survey been conducted in all the roads included in the proposed scheme and if so what were the results?

Objection

1. I object to this scheme based on the cost to rate payers of the ill thought out and total unnecessary scheme, given the level of traffic in the area and the absence of any speeding problems.

2. I object to this scheme based on the introduction of ugly speed control road humps that are unsympathetic to the area, which lies between two conservation areas and contains a number of listed buildings.

3. I object to Grosvenor Place being included in the proposed scheme. I have lived in the road for over 20 years and I have never been aware of any issues with traffic - either volume or speed - that would warrant the introduction of traffic calming measures.

61 Forest Road

My wife and I, fully support this scheme. We suffer from vehicles being driven up and down Forest Road at speeds well in excess of the current speed limit. This is detrimental to road safety and it is only a matter of time before we experience a serious accident in Forest Road as result. We know from the recent experiment with a 20 mph limit that without enforcement a speed reduction plan will not work. In the previous experiment drivers very soon reverted to driving at excessive speed when they realised that there was no enforcement of the speed limit. We do not like speed bumps but accept that in the current financial climate there is no other viable way of enforcing a 20 mph limit.

45 Grosvenor Road

After attending the meeting at Trinity Church on the 18th May, I & my wife are in favour of speed restriction & speed control humps. We have one reservation as to the position of the hump outside 45 Grosvenor Road.

60 Forest Road

I wish to voice my total support for the proposed scheme. I believe this will have a marked effect on the abysmal standards of driving in and around the area of my property. current unregulated speed combined with difficult road conditions and narrow space has contributed to countless accidents both minor and serious and will eventually result in serious injury (or worse) to pedestrians especially schoolchildren making their way along Forest, Howbeck and Grosvenor Road to the various nearby schools.

These measures should be implement as soon as possible as the safety issues present at the junctions of the above roads constitutes an ever present and serious risk to drivers and pedestrians using these roads.

ANON

Sorry for the long message, but I am annoyed and will not be in at nights if you do call. I refer to photos a bit later in my really long email, I have attached just 3 from one morning of looking out the window for 15mins when it wasn't busy.

I have lived in Devonshire Place since 1982, there has not been ANY recorded accident involving a school child at St Anselms or the Girls School any of the residents know of. There have not even been any car crashes I know of or the neighbours can think of. Only one occasion a fire engine couldn't get past a woman that left her car blocking the road, so they smashed a window and moved it.

We do get cars driving down the road with two wheels on the pavement as they don't want to damage their wheels. This did result in a neighbour being run down about 15years ago after stepping out of his gate.

The problem has nothing to do with speeding cars and I wish people would understand this. Speed humps would serve no purpose and are a total waste of money. If you look at the types of vehicles driven in a fashion parade around here, the humps will have NO effect on a 4 wheel drive vehicle. What good is a speed hump in a heavily congested road in which cars can only move at 5 to 10mph at peak times. The only reason it is congested is because of inconsiderate and lazy parents who insist on driving right up to the school door and having no regard for other road users, school children or residents. I have great difficulty getting out of my drive as idiots park across it and opposite, including Happy Als coaches that used to just block everyone.

I regularly see women drivers opening the doors in to the road to let children out, then standing there blocking traffic in some arrogant self satisfying way...only moving when they see fit. It's a case of, "I will open the door on to the road and stand in the way because I can".

I see people parking over the yellow lines around Devonshire Place and Cloughton Green already in place every morning, taking no notice as they know nothing will be done about it. They worked for the first week, then no one took any notice. Our local police are a waste of time as they ignore what goes on especially when their own colleagues have children at the schools. They should be out every morning issuing fines for people parking on corners, yellow lines, causing a nuisance by beeping their horns etc.

The Wirral CCTV car has even parked in the road on various occasions and put signs out to tell everyone, so no one parked where they shouldn't. Look at the footage from that, a speed hump in a road in which people can only move between 5mph and 10mph is silly. The only reason people want a one way system is because they find it inconvenient to drop their children off and have to find a space rather than double park or just fill up the road. How selfish is that and how corrupt of a parent to

suggest all local residents suffer because of the few idiot parents that are too lazy and stupid to park correctly - or even down the road and walk a few feet. Perhaps members of the Wirral Council with children at the school could have a bit more respect for people and not be so inconsiderate. I would also like to see a stop to a Fire Service car being used to drop children off together with a Wirral Council Van and other official vehicles children are not allowed to travel in.

About 10 years ago we had inconsiderate people parking over the pavements, this caused an obstruction to parents and children using the school. A Wirral Council employee that had children at St Anselms abused her position and decided to send local residents a letter stating that we should all cut trees down and not one part of a tree or plant should overhang a wall, even if it was 10ft in the air as they were blocking people using pavements. She didn't look at the fact that it was cars over the pavements causing a problem. We were all told if we didn't comply - we would be given the bill for removing the trees.

I sent a load of photos a few years ago to Wirral Council when people parked over the yellow lines they spent a fortune on. They said they were not that concerned and didn't want the photos as they would not be able to do anything with them. I was going to put all the photos on to Twitter or various other sites like youtube to show how people are acting like idiots, then suggesting that for their convenience, we all have to suffer. I don't want speed humps or yellow lines as even those will NOT stop the idiots using the schools.

How would the idiots like me to suggest they had speed humps and yellow lines outside their homes just because I found it inconvenient to use their road for 1 hour a day? How come Wirral Council is mis-spending all this money anyway? There are plenty of other things it could be put towards. It's obvious there is still a lot of ineffective supervision within the Council if people can suggest a so-called solution at vast expense to a problem that doesn't even exist.

If you would like some of the photos I will send them to you! It's about time the local residents named and shamed people abusing local residents. As for speed humps, 20mph limits and yellow lines - they are all of no use in this area. The parents that are inconsiderate selfish and rude/abusive drivers with no social skills need to be banned from the road. I am sure with enough fines and points they will be. That's a far more effective way of dealing with the real problem, plus it raises money in fines.

I want the name of the person at the Council that suggested the local residents should be inconvenienced and why. This needs to be investigated as I smell a rat. What would the Council do if we all said the problem was parents with children at the schools and we all suggested that a residents only parking scheme was put in place to stop anyone using the school from even stopping or parking in the road? I

bet they would be annoyed. That is almost what a small group of parents from the Council are doing to us.

Thank you for asking residents, I hope you are going to oppose ANY change. Tell selfish idiots to change the way they drive and park and not involve the persecution of residents and misdirection and waste of public money.

I can't leave my name or address as I know exactly what happens to people that do complain. If I get chance I will take a load more pictures.

Birkenhead High School Academy

At BHSA we welcome and support all of these proposals to improve road safety. We would like to request that due to the volume of school related pedestrians (including those of a very young age) who cross the road at various points on Sandy Way to use the footpath there, it would be greatly reassuring to have a further speed bump at some point half way up Sandy Way so as to reduce the general vehicle speed potential in that whole area please. We see this as just as important to include, if not more so than some of the others. The proposal will certainly slow traffic down, when there is a clear through route, and it is to be hoped that associated inconvenience for drivers passing through, will result in less traffic.

However, at key times of the day, 8.15 – 8.45am and 3.15-3.50pm, our main cause for concern is around volume of traffic, and the behaviours which ensue, raising the risk levels to wholly unacceptable heights. Vehicles become stationary, due to parked cars narrowing the roads, leaving only room for one car to pass, thus causing tailbacks, sometimes stretching for a few hundred metres. Some drivers become frustrated and make unwise choices, endangering pedestrians and other road users. The proposed traffic calming measures will go some way to stopping the speed of these frustrated motorists, but may not alleviate all of the dangers at these key times, as for example, a one way system would.

BHSA is wholeheartedly in support of the proposed traffic calming measures in the Devonshire Place Area, Birkenhead.

26 Devonshire Place

I wish to object to the above proposal regarding traffic calming/20 mph speed limit in the Manor Hill/Devonshire Place area of Birkenhead.

This is because it is the volume of traffic at peak school times, together with poor parking and obstructions to the residents, which make it dangerous. In particular, 28 road humps, 7 of which would be in Devonshire Place, is too many for an area where speeds in excess of 20mph are very unlikely at school times. I have lived here for 27 years and have never witnessed, nor heard of, accidents here due to speed.

If imposed on me and other residents locally, I would never be able to drive from my house at any time without encountering these humps. This is yet another burden

forced on residents due to the increased size of BHSA and thus more parent and teacher traffic.

If money is available for road safety, it would be better spent on improved street lighting, which is very old and inadequate, especially for the winter months.

15 Devonshire Place

From our perspective, the issue is not about traffic calming, but about allowing traffic to move freely. At certain times, because of the totally inconsiderate parking from school traffic, the road, Devonshire Place, is virtually gridlocked, and speed bumps would be superfluous. This happens seven days a week – obviously during school drop off and pick up times Monday to Friday, but also weekends and evenings because of the swimming pool business run from Birkenhead High School Academy. Indeed this morning (a Sunday), the roads – both Alton Road and Devonshire Place – had cars parked on both sides of the road, many of which were parked on the pavement. This means that people would have to move into the road to pass, which is particularly difficult for people with disability aids such as wheelchairs, and parents with prams. This will be made even more difficult with the introduction of speed humps, particularly if people are allowed to park on them.

Part of our objections to the original planning permission to Birkenhead High School Academy concerned the parking issues in the neighbourhood. These have not gone away, and often it is very difficult to negotiate getting in and out of our drive because of poor parking and lack of visibility. We would suggest strongly that parking issues be reviewed as a matter of urgency, before investing a considerable expenditure on calming measures.

63 Grosvenor Road

1 The proposed scheme does nothing to solve the volume of traffic coming from the Shrewsbury Road area to the top of Grosvenor Road. If the mooted drop off zone for the Academy was created with entrance off Shrewsbury Road that would decrease the traffic coming onto the minor roads.

2 I am in favour of the proposed 20mph limit as a pilot scheme.

Objection

I am objecting to the speed humps on Grosvenor Road between Manor Hill and Palm Grove.

This section of Grosvenor Road is not greatly affected by any school traffic and when it is, it is only for half an hour in the morning and half an hour in the afternoon. The proposed speed humps would affect school traffic for an hour per day for 38 weeks of the year but would affect me for 24 hours per day for 52 weeks of the year. As a registered disable person with a back problem, these humps will only exacerbate my condition however slowly we drive over them.

The current plan means that whenever I go out in the car, on which I rely, there is no escaping the road humps irrespective of which direction I need to go. If road humps were deleted from my section of Grosvenor Road, I would not have a problem.

63 Grosvenor Road

I agree with the 20 mph Zone proposal.

Objection

Traffic Humps

I object strongly to the proposal to instal traffic humps across the proposed area and with particular reference to Grosvenor Road between Palm Grove and Manor Hill.

Normally the roads within the zone are relatively quiet as confirmed by a short traffic survey I undertook on Tuesday 24th May. Between the time of 11.30 a.m. and 12.00 noon as few as 6 cars and 3 vans went up the road while 9 cars and 1 van went down. I didn't observe any excessive speeding.

Problems arise during the two peak periods relating to BHSA and Redcourt schools i.e. 8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. During these times traffic is particularly intense in the immediate vicinity of BHSA on Devonshire Place. Only a small number of parents park in my section of Grosvenor Road and walk their children to school. This has proved not to be an inconvenience to our residents. The speed of traffic during the peak periods is not a problem as the issue is not one of speed but one of volume of vehicles as they approach the schools. Such volume means that speeds are seriously curtailed.

Given that speed is not a problem in my section of Grosvenor Road, there is no justification in imposing road humps where no problem exists. Just because a "deal" was done with BHSA for further improvements on Manor Hill etc (source: recent Labour election leaflet) the imposition of road humps is not justifiable just because the cost was covered by a deal with the Academy acting in the interests of the Academy but not in the interest of the residents.

Given that the proposed road humps make no contribution to easing the congestion in the area of BHSA at peak times, the funds available should be used to ease the traffic flow via an imaginative scheme on Devonshire Place including consideration of a one way section established in conjunction with the internal drop-off facility within the school grounds.

86 Manor Hill

In connection with the above we wish to state our objection.

It is not humps we require in this area, but a reduction in motor vehicles in order that we, the residents, can enjoy breathing improved air.

Originally, Birkenhead High School had a few hundred pupils. The number is now in excess of 1,000 pupils. It would appear obvious that increasing the numbers of the school would have problems in the future.

We have the problem of many more cars spewing out dangerous levels of pollution affecting dramatically the quality of the air.

Since we cannot ban cars completely, efforts should be made to introduce measures to reduce traffic – encourage more walking, if possible, to and from school, and the use of buses to bring pupils to and from school.

Humps will slow down traffic but they will not deter the amount of traffic in this area. They are also unsightly and could have a detrimental effect on house prices.

No road humps but cleaner air for pupils and residents who lived in the area before the school increased its numbers.

32 Devonshire Place

I wish to support the Devonshire Place after school pick-ups and especially of an evening. I consider the proposals of bumps in conjunction with a 20 mph zone will slow down the traffic and will keep the children that live locally the freedom to be outside of an evening in a safer environment. In addition I believe the proposals will also ensure that all school children of the 3 local schools are safer than they currently are.

I do however accept that the bumps may cause local residents some concerns. However I feel any concerns as to how the proposals may affect us must most certainly be outweighed by the benefits of keeping many children safer.

I would ask that the speed bump currently located outside 32 Devonshire Place be moved down the road towards the outside of my boundary (by 0.4 m) .

I appreciate very much the considered approach the Council have taken in devising a very sensible scheme which places the children.

33 Grosvenor Place

The main problem in Grosvenor Place and surrounding roads is not speeding, but inconsiderate parking and too much traffic at school times. Double yellow lines at the top of the road (junction with Devonshire Place and Manor Hill) would solve the problem of people parking on the corner. In my experience (I have lived in Grosvenor Place for nearly 30 years), this is the most congested spot, with extremely poor visibility because of corner parking. These are all narrow roads and parking opposite residents' gateways is also more of a problem than speeding. I would suggest possible residents' parking permits, or a one-way system, or more double yellow lines - with a preference for the last two measures.

Objection

1. Speed humps: I consider these to be unnecessary as speeding is not a problem in Grosvenor Place. There will be disruption when the humps are installed, I think they are unsightly and potentially damaging to vehicles.

2. 20mph zone: I would say this may also be unnecessary for the same reason, although I have less of a problem with this proposition.

2 Claughton Green

have lived at this address for more than 30 years. There has never been a speeding problem in this area, the problem is illegal and inconsiderate parking by the people dropping off and picking up children from the Girls Academy and Redcourt. The problem has become worse year by year due to ever increasing numbers of pupils at both schools.

At school dropping off and picking up time it would be impossible for anybody to even do 20mph

in Devonshire Place. It is impossible for even an emergency vehicle, fire engine, police car or ambulance to make progress due to the selfishness and brainlessness of the twice a day visitors to this area. This problem needs to be addressed before anything else and speeding is also not a problem outside of school hours either so in my opinion speed bumps are a waste of time and resources.

Objection

I wish to formally object to these proposals as I believe there is no necessity for speed bumps in this area and the problem of illegal and inconsiderate parking needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

I have no problem with a 20mph speed limit but as stated in my comments this will have no effect on safety at school arrival and departure times as it is not possible to do 20ph at these times.

1A Howbeck Road

I think the 20mph limit for the area is a good idea.

Why is a road hump being placed in the short section of Howbeck Road (about 100m)?

While not objecting to a speed limit on the road, I would point out that traffic rarely exceeds 20mph and is even less likely to do so with the area becoming a '20 mph zone'.

Objection

I object to a road hump being placed in Howbeck Road.

Alton Road (no road humps) is just as much a conduit to the area of the schools as Howbeck Road so it seems reasonable that the two roads be treated in the same way.

75 Grosvenor Road

I should like to support the proposed traffic calming scheme for the Devonshire Place Area and also the Speed Bumps .

140 Grosvenor Road

On the 18th May 2016 we attended a local resident's meeting to discuss the proposals to introduce road safety improvements in the Manor Hill and Devonshire Place areas in Birkenhead.

The safety improvement proposals were presented to the meeting by Councillor George Davies, supported by a Wirral Borough Council Officer.

It was a very good meeting, with the opportunity for us to listen to other residents in the adjoining roads in the area highlight their problems, & for us to put forward our own safety issues & concerns.

Living close to 3 schools in Grosvenor Road for 38 years, we have seen a steady increase of inappropriate vehicles using our road; 4 wheel drives, double decker buses, car transporters, heavy goods vehicles resulting in a number of minor road accidents & near misses due to speeding vehicles & irresponsible parking by parents taking their children to school which we know have gone unreported.

Both my wife & I would like to register our agreement with all the safety proposal improvements, 20mph speed limit signs & road humps to improve safety in our area & wish to convey our thanks to Councillor George Davies & his team for all his/their efforts in conjunction with the local schools to improve road safety in our area.

79 Grosvenor Road

We would like to take this opportunity to confirm that we are fully in support of the proposals to introduce the road safety improvements, as outlined in your letter of the 11th May 2016. The area of Grosvenor Road between Manor Hill and Forest Road in particular has become a "rat run" with cars speeding and also driving along the pavements. This road is not designed for such high speed and we are extremely concerned both for the safety of the children who walk along the road to and from school, but also the adults including ourselves. We have on occasion walked out of the path to find a car coming towards us on the pavement with the only reason we can see is that they did not want to give way to a vehicle coming in the other direction. The bumps and the enforcement of a 20mph zone will make them reduce speed and in some cases find a more suitable route. The speeds in the part of Grosvenor Road are excessive and it's a miracle that there haven't been any more serious accidents, although there have been a number of collisions at both the junction of Grosvenor and Manor Hill and then on the three way junction of Howbeck, Forest and Grosvenor Roads.

We have lived in our house in Grosvenor Road over 17 years and over this time the traffic has increased dramatically, this has increased more over the last few years since the speed bumps were placed onto Egerton Road.

Over the last six months cars parked outside our house have been crashed into, scraped and twice wing mirrors smashed, as the motorists will not slow down or give way to each other which has caused us considerable cost and inconvenience. Our concern is that on day this may be a child or an adult trying to cross the road and they don't stop for them, cars can be replaced people can't.

I have lived in this road prior to my marriage and as a youngster used to play outside quite happily without fear of being hit by a car or suffering the verbal abuse that has become common practice for drivers using this road, when we are just trying to either leave our path or actually park here.

The road is used by large coaches/buses along with articulated lorries as an alternative to going over the bumps on Egerton Road. The road itself is quite narrow and not suitable for this type of traffic, again the bumps will slow down the larger vehicles or they will find alternative more suitable main road routes.

We do have concerns also that when there is an event on at the schools that the parents should be encouraged to park in the school grounds where possible, as there is a tendency with some to double park which does cause problems. We have had to phone Birkenhead Girls School in the past as both ourselves and our neighbours have been unable to leave our premises as visitors to the school have parked over our paths and walked away or large vehicles have become stuck in the

road. Could alternative parking for such events be offered, for example, in the tennis club on Shrewsbury Road or the car parks at St Anselm's School?

We would like to thank Councillor George Davis for the support that he has given us over the proposals, the time he has taken to listen to our concerns and speak to the schools on behalf of the residents.

Please do convey to the planning committee our whole hearted support of the proposals and should your need us to attend and meetings to answer questions or need any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us. It will definitely make us feel safer in this road if these measures can be introduced as soon as possible.

17 Farndon Way

Letter of objection No. 1

I am writing to object to the implementation of a 20 mph speed limit affecting Manor Hill, Devonshire Place, Sandy Way, Claughton Green, Grosvenor Place, Grosvenor Road, Forest Road, Hanover Close, Foxdale Close and Howbeck Road. Considering the volume of traffic, the parked cars and the fact that all these roads are short, narrow and bendy, excessive vehicle speed is not normally a problem here. The problem is simply that there are too many cars on school days and a 20 mph speed limit does not address this issue! It will only make the congestion worse!

Already the life of local residents and visitors is greatly disrupted by the heavy traffic generated by the local schools. It is also inconvenienced by the extensive double yellow lines and school markings prohibiting or limiting stopping. Now the Council is seeking to add a further layer of misery with a 20mph speed limit which will be effective over a wide area and apply not simply during school days, but night and day, 365 days per year! Not only will this scheme and the associated speed bumps greatly annoy and inconvenience locals, but it will be a complete waste of money with no tangible benefits. It won't, for example, make the roads any safer!

If the council has a sum of money earmarked for road safety, can I suggest that it would be better spent, if they focused on more mundane matters such as street lighting, pavements, road pot-holes and the re-newal of painted road markings and other signage.

17 Farndon Way

Letter of objection No. 2

I am writing to object to the installation of a series of speed humps affecting Manor Hill, Devonshire Place, Grosvenor Road, Grosvenor Place, Forest Road and Howbeck Road. Considering the volume of traffic, the parked cars and the fact that all these roads are short, narrow and bendy, excessive vehicle speed is not normally a problem here. The problem is simply that there are too many cars on school days and a 20 mph speed limit with speed humps does not address the issue! It will only make the congestion worse!

Already the life of local residents and visitors is greatly disrupted by the heavy traffic generated by the local schools. It is also inconvenienced by the extensive double yellow lines and school markings prohibiting or limiting stopping. Now the Council is

seeking to add a further layer of misery with a 20 mph limit enforced by 28 speed humps. These will be effective not simply during the school days, but night and day, 365 days per year! Not only will this scheme greatly annoy and inconvenience locals but it will be a complete waste of money with no tangible benefits. It won't, for example, make the roads any safer.

If the Council has a sum of money earmarked for road safety, can I suggest that it would be better spent if they focused on more mundane matters such as street lighting, pavements, road pot-holes and the re-newal of painted road markings and other signage.

124 Grosvenor Road

We have seen a steady increase in the traffic using our road for several years now, and especially since the introduction of speed humps in Egerton Road. Since they were introduced motorists seem to use Grosvenor Road as a "rat run". As there are 3 schools near to us, we also have increased traffic, irresponsible parking by parents taking their children to school, motorists driving along the pavement and buses and coaches squeezing through between parked cars and mounting the pavement when turning the corner as the road is too narrow to turn. Speed is a big issue, cars and motor bikes coming from Forest/Howbeck Road quickly gather speed and zoom down past our house, likewise when they come up Manor Hill, they speed up the hill and turn into our road, it is all quite dangerous. We have also noticed an increase in heavy goods vehicles which again has increased since the introduction of the humps in Egerton Road. All the roads in the Devonshire Place area are narrow side roads and were not meant for heavy traffic. In the past we have had meetings about the traffic and temporary 20mph signs were put up, but unfortunately nothing changed, therefore both my wife and I would like to register our agreement with all the proposed safety improvements and hopefully they will bring back calmness to our area. In addition to my comments I would like to ask, if and when the traffic calming measures are introduced, what proposals do you have to enforce the speed limit and the effectiveness of the humps?

29 Grosvenor Place

1. Speeding is not a concern. I have lived in Grosvenor Place for over 20 years and this has never been a problem.
2. Parking in the area is the main problem. The use of speed bumps to restrict speed will mean less parking in the 3 areas where the bumps are to be positioned.
3. Maneuverability- the speed bumps will make turning into drives more difficult- this is already difficult as the road is so narrow.
4. The speed bumps will also take up vital parking space.
5. I do not think a 1 way system is the answer to the parking problems from the school.
6. A small strip of yellow lines (3 metres) at the top of Grosvenor Place (near Manor Hill) would be useful , as people park too close to the entrance into Grosvenor Place.

7. If the scheme went ahead , it would not best serve the interests of the residents of Grosvenor Place. It would cost a lot of money and not resolve the main issue stated for the traffic improvement, being speeding issues.

Flat 3, 29 Grosvenor Place

- 1) I have lived in this area for 26+ years and have not witnessed any speeding issues which are given as a reason for the scheme
- 2) Residential street parking will be impacted detrimentally with the addition of the speed bumps, and this will be exacerbated during the busy times during drop off and pick up for the school, together with the students who park their own cars and those visiting the Carmelite Monastery in Grosvenor Place. I see this as potentially increasing the risk of any accidents rather than avoiding them.
- 3) Any use of a one way system would not help matters as this concentrates traffic flow onto certain roads.
- 4) The costs of the scheme seem to far outweigh the benefits. I feel that the money could be far better spent on maintaining the roads involved, which seem to have been neglected in recent years.
- 5) Double yellow lines at the junction of Grosvenor Place and Manor Hill/Devonshire Place would be welcomed as cars tend to park at the top of Grosvenor Place too close to what is a tight junction and for which visibility is restricted when approaching.

132 Grosvenor Road

My husband and I are very much in favour of the proposed road bumps and the 20 mile an hour scheme presented to us. We have had concerns for the 5 years we have lived in Grosvenor Road. We do, however, feel that there is a need for more along our road and that 2 between the junction of Forest Road and Manor Hill is not enough.

A further issue we have is with private hire buses, used by BHSA, collecting students outside the school. The buses cause major congestion on roads that were not designed for heavy traffic or large vehicles. The bus will not only block the road but will often mount the kerb. A solution, we feel that needs to be put to the school, is that students are collected from Shrewsbury Road. Students would only need to take a short walk up Sandy Way, they could use the bridge over the road therefore ensuring the safeguarding of the students.

We are very grateful that measures are being taken as we have 3 children and have been concerned about the speed and lack of due care drivers take around our roads.

29 Templemore Rd

1. A 20mph zone is welcomed by all with an interest in preventing casualties.
2. A reduction in average vehicle speeds can be achieved by signage, flashing electronic signs, local groups with speed guns, introduction of shared space indicators eg paviers, street landscaping and a hearts/minds campaign aimed at drivers demonstrating the advantages of 20mph.

3. Speed bumps are a crude method of achieving the object, and should be a last resort in my view.
4. Could the traffic calming be phased, fit signage first, then monitor speeds and safety statistics?
5. Incidentally the scheme is unlikely to address the more pressing problem of congestion at school times, have any proposals been made to ease this problem?
6. Or is it assumed that the bumps will create a no go zone for all but essential.