

## **Proposed Marsh Lane School: Potential Road Problems**

### **1. B3073 Fairmile Road**

- 1.1. Very heavy traffic going in both directions most of the time but particularly in the early morning and late afternoon means that any traffic trying to turn right across Fairmile into Bronte, Flambard, Walcott or Suffolk to reach the school will need oncoming traffic to give way and will cause major hold-ups for traffic heading towards A338
- 1.2. Junction with Suffolk and access road from shops is already a difficult junction which traffic turning either left or right out of Fairmile into Suffolk will make worse
- 1.3. Arcadia Road is part of rat run from The Grove via Canberra Road which means people will be trying to turn left into Fairmile and then immediately right into Suffolk or right across Fairmile and left into Walcott

### **2. Suffolk Avenue**

- 2.1. Narrow road made worse by parked cars
- 2.2. Tendency towards speeding along whole length of road
- 2.3. Dangerous bend at junction with Hampshire Close
- 2.4. Dangerous bend at junction with Marsh Lane just before school entrance
- 2.5. Right turn onto Fairmile almost impossible in early morning traffic and difficult at any time

### **3. Walcott and Flambard**

- 3.1. Narrow roads made worse by parked cars
- 3.2. Right turn onto Fairmile almost impossible in early morning traffic and difficult at any time

### **4. Marsh Lane from Suffolk to Bronte**

- 4.1. Narrow road will be unable to cope with children being dropped off from cars
- 4.2. Tendency towards speeding along sections of road

### **5. Marsh Lane from Fairmile to Suffolk**

- 5.1. This could become a rat run. It is also possible that sat-navs will direct cars and delivery vehicles along this unmade road

### **6. Bronte Avenue**

- 6.1. Narrow road made worse by parked cars
- 6.2. Tendency towards speeding along sections of road
- 6.3. Dangerous bend at junction with Haworth Close
- 6.4. Dangerous bend at junction with Vilette Close
- 6.5. Right turn onto Fairmile almost impossible in early morning traffic and difficult at any time

In connection with the speeding issue, a petition with 84 signatures was presented to DCC in January 2013, urging traffic calming for the whole of Suffolk, Marsh and Bronte. Speed counts were taken a few months later, but nothing has ever been done. In the meantime the neighbourhood still suffers from speeding motorists on a daily basis with some of the worst offenders mothers on the 'school run'.

We should also mention the RTAs that occur. These include someone speeding, losing control, mounting the pavement and demolishing a BT kerbside box. The worst incident was end June 2012 when there was a multiple collision at the junction of Marsh Lane and Walcott Avenue, which saw two drivers hospitalised, one of them in the neurological unit at Southampton. Again, speed was a determining factor.

Jim Biggin

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