



**SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN
SPELTHORNE**

**CHENNESTONE SCHOOL
MANOR LANE, SUNBURY.
PETITION – REQUEST TO IMPROVE
ROAD SAFETY**

11 DECEMBER 2006

KEY ISSUE AND SUMMARY:

The petition requests that the safety for pedestrians trying to cross Manor Lane is improved by either a pedestrian crossing or a School Crossing Patrol.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to note the content of this report.

1 INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Members may recall the receipt of a petition signed by 155 parents of children attending Chennestone School was reported to the 19th June 2006 meeting of this Committee. It stated that signs and road crossing facilities near the school are poor and that it is often difficult for parents and children to cross the road safely.

2 ANALYSIS and COMMENTARY

- 2.1 Due to the number of vehicles parked on both sides of the carriageway near the school entrance, visibility is reduced for pedestrians wishing to cross the road.
- 2.2 The carriageway was recently resurfaced along Manor Lane outside of the school. The road markings have also been renewed and updated to include an enforceable "SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR" marking outside the school entrance, to prevent parking and dropping off at this location.
- 2.3 A 20mph speed limit was introduced along the section of Manor Lane between French Street and The Avenue, to include the school area.
- 2.4 Other improvements that have been provided at the school entrance include footway build outs on both sides of the carriageway, providing better visibility for pedestrians crossing the road. These build outs are protected by cast iron bollards to prevent vehicles overrunning the footway at these locations. Tactile paved crossing points have also been installed across the school entrance and on both sides of the carriageway.
- 2.5 There are no other waiting restrictions at this location in addition to the "School Keep Clear" markings.
- 2.6 A School Crossing Patrol used to operate outside this school, however it has not functioned for the past two years.
- 2.7 A site visit on the 15th November observed that the vast majority of parents accompanied their children to school, and that they approached the school grounds on the same side of the road. It is estimated that less than 10% of the number of pedestrians crossed the carriageway outside the school entrance.
- 2.8 Generally, driver behaviour appeared reasonable, with few motorists disobeying the road markings and Highway Code by parking and dropping off children on the School Keep Clear markings.

- 2.9 There are two “children crossing” and “School” ahead signs indicating the school on its approaches, however these signs are old and faded and require replacing with new signs to increase drivers’ awareness.
- 2.10 There is very limited space available to install a pedestrian crossing at this location. It is likely that any proposal would meet strong objections from residents with no off-street parking, that currently make use of any available space in the road.

3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 The School Travel Advisor visited the Headteacher to discuss road safety issues.
- 3.2 This report and minutes of the meeting will be available on the Surrey website and a copy of the report will be sent to the Headteacher and originator of the petition in advance of the meeting.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Replacement signs can be provided within existing budgets.

5 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The reinstatement of a School Crossing Patrol would encourage parents and carers to walk children to school.

6 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no implications.

7 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no implications.

8 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To highlight the entrance to the school, the “children crossing” and “School” ahead signs are improved to increase drivers’ awareness.
- 8.2 The reinstatement of the school crossing patrol would encourage parents and carers to walk children to school. The School Travel Advisor will help the school fill the vacant position for a School Crossing Patroller.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Petition dated 15 June 2006 signed by parents of Chennestone School, Manor Lane, Sunbury.