ITEM 4 PETITION TO RUNNYMEDE BOROUGH COUNCIL (Traffic Management) FROM RESIDENTS OF KNOLL PARK ESTATE CHERTSEY

Ref: No. ME - 202042 Knoll Park Road, Chertsey, Issue: Road Safety

The residents of the Knoll Park Estate are petitioning the council for their support in restoring residents ability to safely access and egress from the estate by enforcing Rule 243 of the Highway Code with the provision of marked prohibited parking zones on both corners of the junction of The Knoll with Knoll Park Road, Chertsey.

Since 2014, the end of the recession has seen increased numbers of staff working on the Hanworth Lane Business Park with insufficient allocated parking with their employers within the Business Park. Increased users of Chertsey station and senior pupils of William Perkins School using their own vehicles to drive to school. This has resulted in the west side of The Knoll being completely parked up every week day by 0900, with vehicles constantly parked right up to and often past the corners of Knoll Park Road.

This is causing significant blind spots both ways when trying to turn out of Knoll Park Road as drivers are unable to see oncoming traffic from the right. The risk of collision is further exacerbated by the bend in The Knoll and the variation in traffic speeds coming from Business Park drivers, from excessively high speed (50+ mph) driving at the start and finish of business days to learner drivers. Therefore, with no ability to see oncoming traffic from the right or estimate the likely speed of a vehicle that may be approaching residents are obliged to creep out way too far into The Knoll to check for traffic from the right, increasing the possibility of a collision with traffic coming from the left (off A320 roundabout) as neither driver has an adequate and safe line of sight due to the parked vehicles.

The proximity of parked vehicles to the drop down kerbs also prevents pedestrians, particularly young children, wheelchair and mobility vehicle users from having any possibility of seeing a vehicle turning into the estate from The Knoll.

The residents fully understand that parking provision is a difficult and often contentious issue and understand that others wish to park near to their place of work or study, but as drivers are continually failing to park considerately in The Knoll and are putting residents' safety at risk we feel it requires formal action by the appropriate Council Authority in order to avoid the growing probability of a significant accident at this junction.

With the oversubscription of available parking space on the west side of The Knoll vehicles are now starting to park on the opposite side at all times during the day creating obstructions and delays for commercial vehicles needing to access the Business Park and delivery vehicles needing to access the Knoll Park estate. It cannot be sensible or sustainable for large lorries to be navigating their way around and between parked cars directly before a crossing point heavily utilised by school students at peak times of the day. We would ask the council to monitor this situation and consider an option of imposing parking restrictions to avoid parking on both sides of The Knoll and the issues this will cause both to this road and the A320 if traffic gets even more backed up due to vehicles not been able to move through The Knoll unobstructed.

Attached is the petition signed by the Knoll Park residents, which we ask is given serious and prompt attention.

For more information or to share your views please contact the petition coordinators: Theresa Cook, 14 Crown Rise or Mags Thomas 8 Crown Rise, Chertsey, KT16 9L

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