

Hilden, Ben - E&R KHS

From: Lucy Jones [lucy.jones@millcroft.co.uk]
Sent: 13 August 2009 12:25
To: Hilden, Ben - E&R KHS
Cc: 'Ben Jones'
Subject: Proposed crossing Ware Street Bearsted.
Attachments: 20090812171508810.tif

Mr and Mrs Ben Jones <<...>>

The Mereworth

96 Ware Street

Bearsted

Kent

ME14 4PG

Dear Ben

Thank you for your letter of the 11th August.

Having gone to some length to explain how you have approach the planning issues we are disappointed that you see that you have chosen to ignore two points raised in our previous correspondence: Fast approaching traffic from a blind bend easterly and our loss of amenity / privacy?

Having seen the behaviour of the traffic throughout the day we feel that the crossing is too close to the blind bend to allow a driver to stop safely and avoid pedestrians crossing, with that particular area of road being very busy with deliveries to the pub and the builder's merchants. Not to mention traffic pulling into Edelin Road and the Bell Inn. I feel a crossing situated there will only add more confusion and chaos to the area, therefore making it unsafe to have a crossing.

I would urge that you reconsider the positioning of this crossing and look to the possibility of replacing the existing island crossing currently situated between Edelin Rd and Averanches Rd. some 50-100 meters to the East which would address all of our **safety** and **amenity** concerns above.

I have attached your site plan indicating our suggested position for this full pedestrian crossing replacing the existing island crossing. This would give greater visibility for drivers to see the crossing and to be able to stop safely.

Would you also please provide us with a copy of your planning application as we do not appear to have received any documentation of which lighting would have been featured in the original design?

I look forward to receiving your response in due course.

Kind regards

Lucy

27/08/2009

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06 October 2009

Our ref: ML/Jones

Kent Highway Services
Mid Kent Division
Doubleday House
St Michael's Close
Aylesford
Kent
ME20 7BU

FAX: 01622 790763

Dear Sirs

Installation of Crossing Facility – Ware Street Bearstead

We acted for Mr and Mrs Jones when they purchased 96 Ware Street and they have provided us with copy correspondence regarding your proposal to install a crossing facility outside their house.

The purpose of a crossing is to assist road users to safely cross the road and keep pedestrians and road users safe. We note from your own website that you usually assess the necessity for crossings and other road safety measures by analysing statistics as to accidents that have previously occurred. Your letter of July 2009 is not very informative and does not give the reasons as to why such a crossing is deemed necessary other than for the benefit of the Edelin Road development.

We are rather surprised as to the proposed positioning of the crossing and any right minded individual could not have considered safety a priority when choosing the location.

The proposed location gives rise to a number of issues:

1. The area is too busy for crossing as there is a lot of traffic to and from the pub and the builders merchants and cars often have to manoeuvre around the lorries
2. There is a blind bend and cars and lorries would have to sharply break once round the bend as the proposed crossing will not be easily visible
3. There is an existing crossing which could be made into a zebra crossing which would be far safer than the crossing proposed
4. There is poor visibility for pedestrians to see oncoming cars because of the location
5. Any caring parent would not allow their child to use the crossing

The proposed crossing is likely to cause more accidents rather than provide safer crossing.

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In addition to the impracticable nature of the proposed crossing our clients are concerned as to loss of privacy and enclose a photograph from our clients' kitchen for you to appreciate the proximity of the property to the pavement.

Our clients would not have purchased the property had they been made aware of the proposed crossing and will be seeking compensation in the event that the crossing goes ahead. Please advise whether any letters or notices were sent out prior to July 2009 and to whom.

Since road and pedestrian safety should be your priority we urge you to carefully consider the residents' knowledge of the area so as to avoid spending money for a crossing which will hinder safety

We look forward to hearing from you

Yours faithfully


Grant Saw Solicitors LLP

cc. clerk@bearstedparishcouncil-gov.uk
Thurnham Parish Council - Mrs S Babington