

Ref: Objection to APP/20/01031 regards road safety concerns

Please find attached a 44 second video clip capturing a recent near miss incident as I drove around one of the blind bends on Lower Road (NOTE: recorded date and time shown is incorrect). This is certainly not the first time I have needed to take action to avoid a collision on this section of the road due to lack of visibility.

On this occasion the closing speed was very low (approx. 15mph) and provided sufficient time to prevent an accident. Luckily no pedestrians or cyclists were on the road at the same time. The legal speed limit on this bend is 30mph (resulting in a closing speed of 60mph). Had either party been travelling at this speed then I am certain serious harm would have resulted.

The local residents have raised their traffic safety concerns along Lower Road with HBC on many occasions. A number of near misses has previously been reported but there continues to be a lack of understanding and responsibility for the safety of residents. This video is yet another recorded example of the dangers already present on the blind bends of Lower Road and any increase in traffic will obviously create greater levels of risk for the local residents and the many visitors to the area.

Please add this video evidence, graphically showing the current danger on the blind bends, to the APP/20/01031 objections and please also consider what a 41% increase in traffic levels, as predicted by the proposed development, would mean for the local resident's safety.

The "impeccable" safety record presented by Bargate is highly disputed by the local residents. A number of declared previous accidents has been provided to HBC and, along with this near miss video, provides a clear record of the current dangers already encountered on this section of the road. Any increase in traffic flows will only lead to greater danger and harm to all who use Lower Road.