

I am aware this application has raised significant concerns by residents regarding how the drop off/collection of attendees would be managed who have then contacted myself as they feel their concerns are being dismissed by Cllrs representing this ward, these mirror my own concerns as a resident and parent

The proposed 'one in one out' drop off point can only be accessed from one of two roads and it's important the logistics of this conservation area are known as it impacts the application and details may not have been offered or fully explored

- **South Street** which already has a very high volume of traffic during the school run for Bosmere School will be increased as Bulbeck Road car park which is currently used as a drop off for 'park and stride' will soon be demolished. There is very little available on street parking on the estate as a whole, getting in and out of the street for parents/care givers and residents is generally only passable one at a time in many places - therefore many people exit the estate via Town Hall Road from Grove Road. HBC are also about to move Blue Badge parking to the entry point on South Street exasperating the one vehicle passing at a time issue.
- **Town Hall Road** which narrows further halfway at a bend and again leads to vehicles having to pass one at a time with a narrow pavement on one side only. It's on a staggered crossroads and vehicles exiting on to East Street have to drive forward into the road to see left. This small junction is currently within 500 meters of three existing schools, Glenhurst, Fairfield and Bosmere so is extremely busy. Also on the junction is Royal Mail's sorting office and Beechworth Road opposite is used as a rat run by Amazons drivers pushing more traffic to this already hazardous junction.
- **Grove Road** is being offered up as the 'holding area' to enable the minibuses and taxis (for up to 70 attendees) 'one in one out' access to the gate to the rear car park - much of this road has solid white line and double yellow line restrictions. To suggest that vehicles arrival will be timely staggered is impossible due to a fluctuating flow of traffic in the area, students being ready to be collected at set times, lack of usable road space to offer a 'holding area' and it's absolutely not enforceable as residents in Leigh Park and the surrounding areas are now witnessing due to a similar proposal that was put forward for the Amazon Depot in New Lane, Havant and despite ongoing Liaison Panel Groups to address the issue, everyone now is aware the proposal could not be enforced and was never workable. They rightly foresee exactly the same issues with this application but with additional risks.

It's approximately 50 yards from Town Hall Road to the proposed gated entry, an average vehicle length is approximately 5-6 yards long which means even if there was a perfect case of a staggered drop off time over a 45 minute period, it would take just a handful of these vehicles to then back up into Town Hall Road and potentially on to East Street waiting to access the site which could then be blocking access to and from the whole estate. The intended attendees to the site have additional needs, some may use wheelchairs or require support to access/exit the vehicles safely and into the building, this takes time and cannot/should not be rushed and would naturally add to the turnaround time to make space for the next vehicle.

- **Lower Grove Road** This private dead end road leads off from Grove Road and residents are concerned the vehicles may cause congestion , unintentionally block their entry/exit from the road and be used as a turning point despite clear signage. To the right of the rear gate to the site is the well used Hayling Billy Link Path which users may experience hindered access if a convoy of vehicles is present
- **East Street** has the only alternative access point to the Car Park for the proposed site and if this was then to be suggested as an option would also present risks. The access to this car park is on the side of the bridge over the Billy Trail with poor visibility when travelling West or turning right into the car park when travelling East. The Bus stop for the 700 double decker bus arrives at least every fifteen minutes outside The Spring also reducing visibility at the staggered crossroads and massively hinders the Lollipop Man who I am aware is retiring after 24 years at the end of this school term and we believe unlikely to be replaced who during his exceptionally long service, experiences near misses and vehicles failing to stop on a daily basis. The loss of a school crossing patrol at this location could be devastating to all and many including myself fear a catastrophe could be likely. The small private car park from East Street that leads on to the main car park can be difficult to navigate and is only passable one vehicle at a time and could then result in traffic queuing on East Street to access the site.

Many RTAs have already been recorded at the junctions at South Street, Town Hall Road and this entry point on CrashMaps.co.uk and no doubt would be confirmed by Highways own data.

With so many logistical challenges, my intention is to ensure the planning committee are aware of these high risk factors in relation to this application and are thoroughly considered. Public engagement from the applicant has been poor at best with few residents being able to recall public notices and despite Cllr Munday's public announcement at the hustings prior to this year's local elections in St Faiths ward that a meeting with the residents and applicant would be offered prior to any potential approval of the application, within days of his election then communicated with those residents that it would not now be possible. He also announced that any drivers of the minibuses or taxis who did not conform to access arrangements to the site would have their private hire licences revoked - again something else he has no authority to impose or enforce.

It's clear that HCC Highways also have concerns regarding this element of the application and whilst we all would agree that Education Facilities should be increased locally and there is a need for more facilities for Children and Young Adults with additional needs in particular, I am hopeful that an alternative location is sought by the applicant that wouldn't present such significant logistical risks and would look to support an application at a more suitable location

Kind Regards

Cllr Sharon Collings
Leigh Park Central and West Leigh

