

# **Report of the Strategic Director Place to the meeting of Bradford West Area Committee to be held on 19 September 2018**

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## **Subject:**

**SCHOOL GREEN, THORNTON – PETITION REQUESTING ‘ACCESS ONLY’**

## **Summary statement:**

This report considers a petition from residents of School Green, Thornton requesting that the road be made ‘Access Only’ for residents.

**Ward: 23 – Thornton & Allerton**

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Steve Hartley  
Strategic Director Place

## **Portfolio:**

**Regeneration, Planning and Transport**

Report Contact: Andrew Smith  
Principal Engineer  
Phone: (01274) 434674  
E-mail: [andrew.smith@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.smith@bradford.gov.uk)

## **Overview & Scrutiny Area:**

**Environment and Waste Management &  
Regeneration and Economy**

## **1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report considers a petition from residents of School Green, Thornton requesting that the road be made 'Access Only' for residents.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Background information is given in Appendix 1.

## **3.0 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 Local ward members have been consulted.

## **4.0 FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

- 4.1 Any recommendations for the future promotion of schemes would be subject to the allocation of an appropriate level of funding from the Safer Roads budget.

## **5.0 RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

- 5.1 Any potential risks arising from options considered are detailed within the report appendices.

## **6.0 LEGAL APPRAISAL**

- 6.1 There are no Legal implications associated with the officer recommendations other than the Council's general powers as Highway Authority and Traffic Regulation Authority.

## **7.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

Due regard has been given to Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 when investigating these matters.

### **7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

### **7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

There is no impact on the Council's own and the wider District's carbon footprint and emissions from other greenhouse gases arising from this report.

### **7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Details of recorded collisions are provided in the appendices.

### **7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

None

**7.6 TRADE UNION**

None

**7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

Ward members have been consulted on the petition.

**7.8 AREA COMMITTEE WARD PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

None

**8.0 NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

None

**9.0 OPTIONS**

- 9.1 Members may propose alternative recommendations on which they will receive appropriate officer advice.

**10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 That no further action be taken on the request for 'Access Only' on School Green.
- 10.2 That the request for a point closure on Allerton Lane be added to the list of schemes awaiting funding from the Safer Roads budget.
- 10.3 That as and when funding is allocated to Allerton Lane, a public consultation exercise be undertaken prior to the commencement of any formal legal process to implement a point closure.
- 10.5 That the petitioners are informed accordingly.

**11.0 APPENDICES**

- 11.1 Appendix 1 – School Green - Background information and location plan.

**12.0 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

- 12.1 None.

**Petition – School Green, Thornton (56 signatures)**

**Background information**

1. The petitioners have requested:

*“We, the undersigned, petition Bradford City Council to make School Green, Thornton a private access-only road for residents.”*

2. The submitted petition also includes a number of written testimonials from residents that highlight the following issues:

- Damage to vehicles & Property
- Excessive vehicle speeds
- Vehicle driving partially on the footway
- Concern for the safety of children and animals
- HGV traffic
- Anticipated increase in traffic associated with nearby new housing site
- Noise
- Verbal abuse from passing motorists
- Congestion
- Difficulties in crossing the road due to traffic volumes
- Driveways being blocked

At the request of the lead petitioner, this was presented to the meeting of full Council on 17 July 2018. It was resolved to refer the matter to the Bradford West Area Committee.

3. School Green is wholly residential and forms a link between Thornton Road and Old Road, before leading into Allerton Lane which ultimately routes through to Allerton Road at the western edge of Allerton. There are a number of other roads that provide a link to Allerton Lane, namely Old Road and (via Old Road) School Green Avenue, Hoyle Ing Road and Spring Head Road/Brooklands Avenue. All these other routes are wholly residential with the exception of Old Road, the eastern section of which is semi-rural and also has a public house.
4. There has been 1 recorded collision resulting in injury on School Green in the last 5 years
5. The petition was presented to the Council at a meeting attended by residents, ward members and highways officers. At the meeting residents raised the issues listed in paragraph 2. There was also discussion about the impact of singling out School Green for a closure in that it would simply lead to a transfer of through traffic to adjacent routes. The general consensus was that a closure on Allerton Lane would be the only measure that would fully address the issues highlighted without leading to a migration of through traffic.

6. Traffic surveys were undertaken at the School Green/Old Road/Allerton Lane junction in March 2018 for a 12 hour period from 08:00 to 18:00. The results in respect of School Green are summarised in table 1 below:

Table 1: School Green 12hr traffic flows

Direction	Total vehicles	Of which HGV* or PSV**
From Thornton Road	1997	14
Towards Thornton Road	2096	10

\*Heavy Good Vehicle - 7.5T+

\*\*Public Service Vehicle – buses or coaches

7. In order to safely implement a point closure on Allerton Lane there would need to be adequate provision for vehicle turning (to avoid un-safe lengthy reversing manoeuvres). This would require the acquisition of non-highway land.
8. It is anticipated that the implementation of a point closure on Allerton Lane would impact on traffic levels in other areas. As such a public consultation exercise would be recommended prior to the formal promotion of any such scheme.

## Recommendations

9. That no further action be taken on the request for 'Access Only' on School Green.
10. That an item for a point closure on Allerton Lane be added to the list of schemes awaiting funding from the Safer Roads budget.
11. That, as and when funding is allocated to Allerton Lane, a public consultation exercise be undertaken prior to the commencement of any formal legal process to implement a point closure.
12. That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

