



BRIAN SEYMOUR-SMITH

Labour Party Candidate Foley Park and Hoobrook

Dear Resident

I am writing in my capacity as the Labour Party Candidate for Foley Park and Hoobrook in the forthcoming District Council Elections on Thursday 3rd May 2018.

During my recent campaigning, many local residents have made me aware of several pedestrian walkway issues which needed to be urgently resolved. The first is the pathway leading from the bottom of Kestrel Close onto the main Worcester Road. The pathway was covered in leaves and other items. I am very grateful to Wyre Forest District Council who immediately responded to my request on your behalf to have this area cleared and made safe. I shall monitor this situation to ensure it remains so.

The second issue is much more complicated, and I appreciate has been looked at before by your local Tory MP and local councillors without success. It is disappointing that no further action was taken. Therefore, I am asking you to join me in calling on Worcestershire County Council to urgently make safe and clear the main footpath which runs alongside and up to the Severn Valley Railway Bridge on the busy main A442 Worcester Road leading into Kidderminster.

Like you, I want action taken before someone is very seriously injured or killed by the heavy passing traffic which constantly use the main road. The Worcester Road is an extremely busy road. The A442 dual-carriageway narrows as it meets the Severn Valley Railway Bridge. This means traffic, and heavy lorries, are then suddenly forced into an almost bottleneck situation. This forces the vehicles and particularly those drivers who do not know the road, to sometimes mount the pavement to avoid a vehicle collision. For you as pedestrians walking on the footpath at the very narrowest point, this leaves you vulnerable to a potentially life-threatening situation, especially those of you who are elderly or parents pushing baby-buggies.

I understand the problem has come about because over long period of time, earth has eroded from the embankment overlooking the pavement. Foliage has grown up from the spillage, narrowing the footpath. Because no proper action has been taken to remove this overspill, it means the footpath has become extremely narrow at one very dangerous point which is no more than a baby-buggy wide.

I am therefore seeking the Worcestershire County Council to:

- Clear the earth mound on the footpath to its original width, providing ample room for pedestrians to walk along the footpath.
- Build a wall (as previously suggested) to stop the earth from collapsing onto the pavement. This needs to be done with the agreement of adjoining private properties who must also share major concerns about this problem.
- Erect metal fencing along the side of the footpath adjacent to the main road.
- Erect barriers and clear signage which clearly warns about the dangers for traffic approaching the Severn Valley Railway bridge.
- And a meeting held with you as local residents in a suitable location to listen to your concerns and to talk about how and when this work will be carried out, together with all local recommendations taken into account.

I have written online to Worcestershire County Council and requested that urgent action is taken to resolve this situation.

To find out more about the Wyre Forest Labour Party go to our Facebook Page or our website www.wyreforestlabour.co.uk

You can also contact me directly by email at br467@btinternet.com

Yours Sincerely

Brian

Brian Seymour-Smith

