



Whitelands Way Action Group

Minutes taken from the meeting held on Thursday 8 October 2015.

Chair: Claire Pickett

KRA Representatives: Graham & Fiona

Meeting Purpose:

To discuss the parking challenges along Whitelands Way and to discuss recommendations which are in the interest of all residents.

Key Discussion Points:

1. Residents have received inconsistent information during the sales stage in regards to the parking status of WW and not all residents deeds contain a clause restricting parking.
2. Contractors parking along the road are doing so without consideration for others and are not observing the basic Highway Code rules. The KRA have already spoken with Linden homes regarding this and an improvement has been noted. Matthew Reeve from Countryside has requested that all complaints regarding this matter are addressed to Countryside first and they will contact the developer directly.
3. Group consensus that restricting parking along WW entirely will push the problem to other areas of Kingsmere. Parking is increasing becoming a problem along the side roads of WW and restrictions will only aggravate this further. Both residents and their visitors will find alternative roads.
4. Ticketing or towing vehicles parking along WW is not supported by the KRA or residents and they urge Countryside to explore other options with the WWAG before implementing this approach.
5. Lack of visitor spaces across the development but especially for WW residents.
6. Residents are not parking sensibly leading to much of the frustration with WW. Cars are often parked opposite, and within, close proximity of junctions causing blindspots.

Additional discussion points (not exclusively to parking):

1. Lack of Speed signs along Whitelands Way
2. Design of bus stops
3. Query whether the bus service to Bicester town centre will continue. To be picked up outside of this group

Conclusion from meeting:

The group are supportive of residents and visitors parking along Whitelands Way as long as this is done safely and in line with the Highway Code. This approach is deemed to be the most sensible, predominately based on the concern that restricting parking will lead to further issues across the development.

Recommendations (so far) to be presented to Countryside:

- Removal of the current No Stopping Signs
- Dedicated visitor spaces for WW visitors
- Removal of part of the shrubbery along WW (DW end) to widen the road making space for dedicated parking bays
- Use of yellow lines to stop parking opposite and around junctions
- Research other developments and understand what solutions and initiatives have been implemented to address parking challenges

Please note it's imperative that all recommendations are future proofed and will be continued once the road ownership is passed to the council. Also it's essential that as the development grows Countryside must ensure that the current parking challenges are factored into the planning stages for further development with builders ensuring the issues are not compounded further.

Next Steps:

- Leaflet to be circulated to residents to provide an update of the meeting and to seek further comments by Friday 13 November 2015
- Compilation of feedback
- Sub groups to be formed to take ownership for the actions
- Meeting with all developers