

Roman Way FOCUS

Liberal
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The Community newspaper for Andover Alamein ward

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ROAD SAFETY AT ROMAN WAY SCHOOL

Alamein Focus team are pleased to report that a number of road safety measures will be introduced at Roman Way School. These include

- A pedestrian controlled crossing across Viking Way between the mini-roundabout and Witan Close. This may take six months as the county council must first carry out surveys and a feasibility study.
- Parking restrictions (yellow lines) outside the school and on junctions to allow children a clear view when crossing the roads. This will be enforced and implemented as soon as possible.
- Speed checks outside the school.
- A review and update of road signs so drivers are clearly aware of the school entrance and the need to slow down.

The History

This is the result of meetings with, and letters to, the county and borough council over the last two months.

6 October: Alamein Focus team were asked to help get a crossing outside the school as council officers had said it would be at least a year away. Campaigners started a petition of parents and residents calling for a crossing as soon as possible. This was reported in the Andover Advertiser on 17 October.

17 October: At a public meeting with councillors and council officers in the church centre the crossing was discussed. Len Gates asked for improved road signs, Barbara Carpenter asked for speed checks.

24 October: Len Gates contacted the county council about the crossing and wrote asking for urgent action. They replied on **12 November** that a feasibility study agreed with county Cllr Tim Rolt was to be done as soon as possible.

27 October: Borough Cllr Phil North issued a press release in support but didn't speak to the campaigners..

31 October: Len Gates asked Phil North for the matter to be discussed at a meeting at Test Valley Borough Council. This meeting was originally to discuss traffic calming on Smannell Road. Cllr Rolt was also invited.

14 November: Campaigners met with Cllrs Rolt and North and highways officers. Council officers confirmed the details of the letter Len had received, agreed to review road signs and bring forward existing plans for yellow lines on roads around the school. They also offered to carry out speed checks on Viking Way. All present agreed the plans were a real improvement in road safety for the area.

The result is the proposals above, achieved by all working together in the best interests of local children. We are grateful for the help given by councillors Rolt and North to the campaign. But, the bulk of the work was carried out by council officers responding to requests from all concerned.

We are therefore disappointed to see that Cllr North has now issued Facebook posts and leaflets seeking to claim all the credit for the above plans. Such schoolboy political point scoring is inappropriate and demeans both him and the residents he claims to represent.

*Len Gates
Barbara Carpenter*