

VILLAGE ASSISTANT ANNUAL REPORT 2019

TRAFFIC (A Conundrum I know)

Over recent years the volume of vehicles both moving and parked has dramatically increased.

At the same time public transport has diminished.

Speed of early morning traffic is somewhat breathtaking.

GRAFFITI

The 4 bridges over the canal have had varying degrees of this. Same could be said of all canal bridges from here to Chester.

STREET LIGHTING

One close to chicane in Pepper Street not working. More difficult to get such things fixed now including graffiti.

VANDALISM

Apart from the sand digger on play area and what looked to me like a number of attempts to set grass alight on bike track during the exceptional summer nothing else to report.

LITTER/PLAYING FIELDS

Again, I'm pleased to say general litter is nothing like 10 years ago. The seat opposite the shop attracts some but Faulkners Lane has had a big increase. It is very difficult to manage due to blind bends and no pavement.

I try to litter pick on Saturday mornings as traffic is lighter and Friday is "Household collection day".

By far the biggest problem is the play area/bike track bins. During the last 12 months the bike track bin I think has been emptied twice. Last September being the last. I pick out with my stick what I can reach but the rest has laid there for months. Bins on play area this last month have been full to overflowing within days of me removing excess.

It's obvious children's parties take place with Pizza and all kinds of food packaging crammed into bins. I do my best to bag and remove but these bins are not emptied regularly enough to cope with volume.

I have mixed feelings re the posts erected to protect the 1st field. In the cricket season this was used as an overflow car park for play area visitors. End of season football finals will attract many vehicles and I can foresee parking problems in Pit Road and grassed areas around and about.

I have witnessed damage caused by vehicles in past winters, but pity a less dramatic solution could not be found.

Derek Garner

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