

Forum Questions

The last meeting of the Kings Barton Forum on 17 March was cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak. Prior to the meeting, the Kings Barton Residents Association provided a list of questions for the Forum these are listed below, along with updates where available.

Q With regards to the fatal accident that occurred on Andover Road in January, what are the results of the Police investigation? What measures is the Council going to adopt? We are concerned that inadequate speed limit, lack of lighting and lack of safe crossing point may have been among the major contributing factors in this tragic incident. We insist that there is urgent need to implement safety measures on Andover Road and Andover Road North. We would like to receive guidance from this Forum Committee on where to refer this urgent matter in order to bring this forward.

A The legal investigation into the accident is complete – the completion of the Coroner's report marks the end of the investigation. HCC's Accident Reduction Team has been conducting an investigation, including a pedestrian survey carried out in March. The investigation has led to the investigation of highlighting the crossing point with florescent yellow bollards and cutting back vegetation around the existing signage and providing new signage. The team are also reviewing the existing speed limit, but this is subject to a technical assessment of its likely effectiveness and consultation, including taking in board the views on the police.

Q The Winchester Movement Strategy includes a Walking and Cycling Implementation Plan which is currently being drafted by the City and County Councils' consultant. The Kings Barton Resident's Association would like to be consulted on the draft Walking and Cycling Plan for Andover Road. When can this consultation meeting take place?

A The Walking and Cycling Strategy is actually an LCWIP – Local cycling and walking infrastructure plan – This plan looks at the main routes into the city centre.

With regards to consultation, we have completed the first phase of works which included engagement with the key stakeholders in the city centre such as the Winchester Walking Group and the Winchester Cycle group. This engagement will continue as the Plan develops. We have no date yet for public consultation.

KBRA can be made aware though that walking and cycling routes from Kings Barton to the city centre have been reviewed within the Plan.

Q We understand that there are delays in the handover of the roads in KB. This is causing frustration among the residents mainly for having road surfacing that still needs to be completed and street lights that don't work. Can the Forum Committee be more transparent on this matter and reassure the residents that this constitutes a high priority in their agenda? When can we expect these works to be started and completed?

A 3. The adoption of highways is entirely the responsibility of the Hampshire County Council Highways team. The Forum has no direct involvement in this process and it is not within its purview to prioritise the work.

In my role as Implementation Officer I attend the Highways adoption meetings. It is my understanding that the adoption agreements for the minor roads (excluding the avenue) are relatively close. Agreement on the exact specifications for the Avenue area also expected to be agreed shortly. The next meeting between HCC Highways and CALA is on 13 October. I will provide the Forum with an update at the meeting..

Q CALA confirmed that dog bins will be installed in Phase 1B by the end of March, however the installation of warning signs against fouling at the entrance to the development and along the footpath by Wellhouse Lane would help against this issue. Can CALA/WCC provide these?

A The City Council's welfare officer has regularly visited Kings Barton and met with local residents when he has received complaints about dog fouling (most recently early this year). It is his professional opinion that putting signs up do not act as a deterrent when there is not a significant problem – they only work as a warning that an area is being monitored when there is a serious problem. He does not believe that signs would be appropriate at the moment.

Q It was agreed at a Forum meeting last year that regular site visits would take place between the representatives of the Kings Barton Forum, Castleford Management and Vivid, in order to see for yourself the issues raised by the RA. There has been only one last August. Can we agree a date for the next visit, possibly to take place by the end of May?

A Obviously COVID makes this difficult at present but Chris Hughes is happy to explore options for site visits.

Q We understand that the cycle path to Courtney Road will be a sealed surface only from the railway bridge, the rest being Fittleworth Stone / Hoggin gravel. The authority on cycle paths, Sustrans, state that a gravel path is really quite unsuitable for cycle traffic and will very quickly deteriorate. Unsealed surfaces are more expensive over the lifetime because of maintenance costs in comparison to sealed surfaces, moreover the gravel breaks up and becomes a hazard. Can the whole path be a sealed surface?

A It was agreed at the reserved matters planning stage that the paths within the development area would be unbound Hoggin type paths.

Q Are there any updates regarding the Park and Ride Light? If the project were not to ahead, what are the alternative uses of the land that could be considered?

A It is a planning condition for CALA to deliver the Park and Ride Light by the 650th occupation at Kings Barton therefore it must be delivered under the current planning consent. .

Q Could CALA provide an updated map of the areas handed over to Castleford?

A Awaiting update.