

Staplegrove Parish Council

Dear Ursula Fay,

21th January 2020

The TAU 2 policy requires that Manor Road/Corkscrew Lane should be closed other than for existing local access and that additional measures must be provided to ensure that cycling and walking are safe and attractive means of transport, and with good connections to the town centre etc.

Once again, unfortunately, this requirement has been ignored and the Developers intend to make use of the permission they have for the temporary connection to Corkscrew Lane for up to 5 years or until 250 houses are occupied. Having originally stated that it would not be necessary to use the drop-down road for spine road construction traffic they now claim that it is essential, with lorry loads of building materials, concrete and tarmac being delivered this way. At least they have said that they will construct it so that traffic can only approach and leave the drop-down road from and to the east and Kingston Road, but some might be tempted to turn around at Whitmore Lane to travel through the village.

However, the availability of a £7.2M loan from the District Council, via the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund, should ensure that the road can be completed in a much shorter time than 5 years and the limit should certainly be for no more than the planned 173 houses included within their phase 1a being sold.

But even this time period can only worsen the current totally unsatisfactory safety conditions for those walking and cycling here and there is a definite requirement for a footpath to be established through the northern side of the blind double bend immediately work begins. SCC Highways prepared a scheme for this in 2012 and its implementation would certainly add to the safety of all those passing through this area, by whatever means of travel. Street lighting is also required here.

The use of the drop-down road would be reduced by the provision of a second temporary access to the Link road from Mill Lane in the west. This could be made before it was extended to make the direct connection of the northern Link Road to Silk Mills.