

Item 8 Road Issues in Rhu

LF provided short introduction for new members ref continuing safety concerns for pedestrians-Pier/Station Roads. Been ongoing for years and minutes reflect strength of feeling. Situation worsening due to increase in traffic and examples of dangerous driving. Pedestrians walk on shared width of road where pavement provision is not fit for purpose. (**both roads.**) This and more has been discussed for **many,many** years!!

Coach House to Lineside Walk pavement is too narrow for a standard sized pushchair, which tips off the edge. No room for older child to walk holding onto pushchair. Nor two pedestrians walking abreast.

Traffic passes within centimetres at 30mph or more on this section Upper S.Road.

Parents voice concerns locally for their child's safety eg walking to primary school/ using the route to bus stops to access transport to Hermitage Academy. Youngsters are being driven to school to alleviate parents' fears and similarly to access Park/ Beach/shop. They strongly voice their opinion that a vehicle provides a greater degree of safety in a collision.

Walkway Update

Now evidenced growing numbers of residents/visitors are using a stepped pedestrian walkway between Laggary Park and Torr Crescent to distance themselves from the hazards of Pier/Station Roads where possible. Issue- although previously well maintained this stopped some time ago. The walkway has steps of different heights, some loose/ wobbling, tree roots bursting through tarred surface in some places. Vegetation is overgrown across the path and lighting is not effective. Pedestrians are scratched across faces/ bare arms by thorns. There is no handrail for those who need one. Residents report slipping/tripping/ falling due to rotting leaves on ground. Good lighting is needed in winter months.

LF has used the council reporting system(very straight forward) and Roads Dept has responded quickly to fix steps etc. However maintenance has stopped over last couple of years. Council official insisted this route was not their responsibility.(It was being left to become no longer fit for purpose.) LF provided evidence to the contrary. That matter has been resolved.

LF has now:

Ensured Maurice Corry has been made aware of situation. He offers support if needed. Engaged with Roads&Amenities to address concerns and discuss possible solutions. Following Dept inspection LF notes a much improved ethos. Raymond Kane has been prompt in communications, passed issue to relevant officer and kept LF updated. LF attended RSCC meeting 11 June as a member of the public to update Council and Maurice Corry of Raymond Kane's recent communication.

Raymond Kane has met with George Morrison following a site visit, and has now confirmed "that some remedial works are required to improve the route" and has instructed:

- 1 The vegetation be cut back and removed
- 2 Sections of the footway be relaid to remove undulations uneven surface.
- 3 We are still in discussions regarding the installation of a handrail , over its length, and must first cost the associated works before committing funds. We endeavour to confirm this prior to any surfacing works being undertaken to ensure that these are programmed accordingly. I will respond favourably to this and Maurice Corry, elected member appeared pleased with how this was being addressed at this point.