

David Lagzdins

Subject: FW: School Bus petition

From: Cllr John Edwards-Winser [<mailto:cldr.edwards-winser@sevenoaks.gov.uk>]
Sent: 16 May 2016 11:40
To: David Lagzdins
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David

Ref your call this morning:-

Mrs Smith will be on holiday on the 26th so will be unable to present the petition, so her daughter (Gabby) will present it in her place.

Basically the petition will be about the two school buses that use Darnets Field (a cul-de-sac off Telston Lane), as a place to turn round and wait with their engines running for 15-20 minutes, polluting the atmosphere and disturbing the neighbours, both in Darnets Field and in the flats adjacent to Darnets Field. They also very effectively block the junction - which is opposite Knighton Road, making it extremely difficult both for Mrs Smith and her family to exit their driveway and for others to exit Darnets Field. Until recently the buses used to travel up Pilgrims Way West from Otford, turn round in Twitton Meadows and then return to Tonbridge via Otford, stopping at the end of Telston Lane. About 5yrs ago Arriva decided to alter the normal bus route so that it went via the estates and Rye Lane instead of down the main road (Pilgrims Way West) - but they used smaller buses that were suited to the route. The new contract run by Go Coach took over the Arriva route and the school buses seem to have followed suit - except that they cannot negotiate the estate roads and so reverse in to Darnets Field to turn round and then go back down Telston Lane - which due to parked cars is now a single carriageway road..

The local "corner shop" opposite Darnets Field is also suffering from parents that park and wait, thereby blocking the road and preventing passing trade, on top of which she is also inconvenienced by lots of children waiting in her shop during inclement weather and not buying anything, at the same time filling the shop and driving away any foot trade that she would normally be making.

There are two buses that use this cul-de-sac, Go-Coach their 433X service and Autocar their 403 service. One of these buses take children to Tonbridge and the other to Tunbridge Wells.

Regards
Cllr. John Edwards-Winser
Member for Otford & Shoreham
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