

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
Sent: 04 December 2025 19:03
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories: [REDACTED]

Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0360 Site Address: Endon High School Leek Road Endon Staffordshire ST9 9EE Stoke-On-Trent Comments by: Sarah Bell

From:
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Phone:

Email: [REDACTED]

Submission: Objection

Comments: Ref: SMD/2024/0360

RESPONSE TO: ¿Proposed Car Park and one-way system. Relocate pedestrian Access. Existing

surfaces, Grass, and Asphalt.¿ Endon High School ¿ A53 Endon.

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to object solely to the location of the proposed pedestrian gate and barriers. The plan to create a new car park is a good idea, and needed for the parents, staff and pupils.

I want to set out some much-needed perspective in support of my elderly mother (Ann Holdcroft¿s) objection submitted last year 19/08/24, and also 24/04/24. She is the high school¿s immediate neighbour and has been for over 30 years.

Historically, many years ago, my parents were approached by the high school who requested to remove my parents fencing and put up railings to make their site safer. My father agreed to this on the understanding that the high school maintained the upkeep of their hedge that would grow through the railings. After my father passed, my mother found she was constantly requesting that the hedge was maintained. The high school agreed to maintain the main section of the hedge along the railings, but said they had checked the plans and the part of the hedge beyond the railings, extending towards the kerb, belonged to her and she was responsible for the upkeep. We have been assisting her to keep all hedges cut, including the school hedge as this is now incredibly tall (there is a step up to the high school land, so the hedge stands approximately a foot higher standing in her drive. It is only trimmed once a year. It blocks out all the light into her kitchen and has grown over her garage. We cut the small hedge multiple times a year, to ensure visibility (you can see on the photos she provided ¿ it is stepped to allow visibility). I personally cut this all the way back to the property line as much as possible. At no point has her small hedge been accurately represented on any of the plans, neither original or revised.

Unfortunately, during the last few years pupils have taken to sitting in, and vandalising her hedge while waiting for the gates to open, or leaving school at the end of the day. She has contacted the high school on multiple occasions to inform them about this. I've spoken to pupils myself, and so has she, and we have been met with difficult and disrespectful behaviours from those we've spoken to. She fears that this will worsen even more. At 72 she should not have these worries. She should not fear her neighbours.

Pupils already congregate at this part of the kerb, and it does cause access issues now. This is going to be exacerbated by the corralling of pupils waiting to get into school within the barriers and hedge to 175. It will become a severe bottle neck, not only for my mother accessing her home, but also pupils of other schools using the pavements trying to get to school.

None of the plans submitted on the local authority portal are accurate. There is a scale bias in favour of there being more room than there actually is in the location from the end of the driveway to 175 towards the school. The plans suggest that the pavement in front of 175 being much bigger than it actually is. I would implore anyone making a decision on this planning application to actually visit the site and see the space for themselves & please do this at peak times.

I must also point out that the railings at the location of the proposed pupil gates are currently severely damaged. I believe this was done by a bus reversing into the school. This activity will still occur, in fact, there are numerous deliveries to the school that reverse up the driveway. Is this really a safe location for a pedestrian gate?

My mother requested information regarding where pupils will be crossed to get into the pupil gate. This is a really important point, as if the crossing point remains opposite to the current pupil gate they will still have to cross traffic exiting the car park. If the crossing point moves to be in front of the suggested pupil gate it will syphon a huge number of pedestrians directly in front of the driveway to 175, and a very narrow kerb.

I'm really disappointed at the lack of open communication regarding these plans from the Shaw Trust to my Mother. They have not reached out to try and explain anything at all.

Before any decision is made it is imperative to consider not only the safety of the pupils when within the school grounds but also the pupils, neighbours, and other pedestrians outside the grounds, of which it seems there has been little consideration.

Many thanks,

Sarah Bell

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