

To Whom I may concern

I would like to lodge my objection to the proposed quarry on the edges of the villages of Cookley and Wolverley.

I am aware that many people have already talked about environmental concerns and children's health and breathing. As a person living in Cookley with a lovely variety of birds in the garden and a daughter with asthma I share these concerns. However I would like you to consider to other reasons.

Road Safety concerns documented by the council

My two children attend Wolverley High School. We were written to by the head, Mr Thomas last year, to be informed that, the local council have declared the road to the school as 'unsafe for walking'. This was the case without the extra lorries/traffic entrance that would be caused by the quarry. This is not just an emotional parental opinion, this is a documented fact. The council have arranged for Diamond Buses to double their buses on the 9S route because the road is currently not safe and pavements not adequate. This situation is clearly only going to get significantly more dangerous for children walking from school into cookley, and beyond to the other side of the Wolverhampton road, and there are many of those doing so every day. Please do not put our children at risk. (See screenshots of communication from the Head Master attached including map of unsafe routes - confirmed by the council)

Economic impact on citizens and commuters

I work for a global investment bank based in Birmingham and have done for some years. When we decided on Cookley as the place to live, it was clear that the majority of people who moved up from London were recommended to commute from Solihull/Meriden and that side of the city. We felt we'd found a hidden paradise with these wonderful canal villages which were picturesque, quiet and less known - although have the tourist attraction at weekends and holidays as many Birmingham residents come out here on a sunny weekend. The impact on house prices and the increased traffic affecting our commutes is something which will have a knock on on people moving to the village, staying in the villages and also presumably on local businesses. I gather that this quarry is in fact bringing materials and vehicles over from Meriden to come to this side of Birmingham - which seems like a really unhelpful addition to traffic and pollution on the roads as its a long journey for many trucks.

Please do not allow this to put our children in danger and knock us financially - which of course also affects our children.

Many thanks for reading this.

Catherine Cape

Cookley Resident for 14 years.

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< Back

Email



IMPORTANT - Free Bus Pass Application

Wolverley CE Secondary School

Jan 20 2023, 13:24



Dear Parents and Carers

I have been working with Worcestershire County Council to try to improve transport provision for our students, with particular focus on more bus provision and safer walking routes. The council have confirmed to me today that a large number of the routes to school have been judged as 'unsafe routes' and are therefore classed as 'unavailable' walking routes.

These are the following:

Wolverley CE Secondary Unavailable Reason Routes

Wolverley Road between Sion Hill and the Lock Inn Narrow pavement

Lea Lane Landslip into canal

B4189 No pavement

B4190 Lack of safe crossing point to Blakeshall Lane

Please see the attached map with these routes highlighted.

8:16



Back

Email



distance from school

- If your child were to walk to school they would walk via one of the highlighted areas

You will need to apply using the following link:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20605/eligibility_for_school_and_college_travel_assistance/1764/eligibility_for_under_16_school_travel_assistance

I have been liaising with senior officials at Worcestershire County Council and they are aware that this is likely to have a huge impact on demand for buses. I am assured that sufficient capacity will be provided to safely transport any increased number of passengers. In short, there will need to be more buses!

Please also note that students living on the new Park Gate/Lea Castle development will also be eligible, but a new dedicated service will need to be provided for them. Details will be provided by WCC following a successful application.

I am delighted to share this news with you and hope that many existing and new bus users will benefit from this.

Thanks for your continued support.

Mr Bryn Thomas

Headteacher

Attachments

Free Bus Pass PM.jpg

8:16



< Back

Email



Sion Hill and the Lock Inn	Narrow pavement
Lea Lane	Landslip into canal
B4189	No pavement
B4190	Lack of safe crossing point to Blakeshall Lane

Please see the attached map with these routes highlighted.

This means that a large number of our students will be eligible for a **free bus pass**.

If the following applies you are eligible for a free bus pass.

- Wolverley is your designated or nearest school (usually catchment area is the guide but you can easily check postcode eligibility in the link below)
- You live under the 3 mile statutory walking distance from school
- If your child were to walk to school they would walk via one of the highlighted areas

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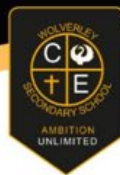
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Done

Would your child's normal route to school include walking along:



- ✓ Wolverley Road from Sion Hill to The Lock Inn (B4189)
- ✓ B4189 past the Wolverley Memorial Hall
- ✓ Lea Lane
- ✓ Franche Road (B4190)
- ✓ From Lea Castle Estate
(Routes highlighted in red below)

