

55 sigs. Submitted by Councillor Knowles  
at Council 24.2.05 → 55 residents  
Traffic Panel.

**Dr Simon Hodes**



Mr Adrian Knowles  
Ward Councillor for Hatch End  
Members Room  
Civic Centre  
Harrow HA1 2UH

21 February 2005

Dear Mr Knowles

**Re: Traffic in Evelyn Drive, Pinnerwood Park Conservation Area**

Further to our recent correspondence, please find enclosed a copy of the petition thus far.

There are more signatures on the way.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

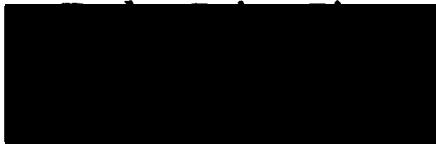
Once again thank you for your help and interest.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Hodes".

Dr Simon Hodes

## Dr Simon Hodes



Road Traffic Safety Panel  
Harrow Council  
PO Box 37  
Civic Centre  
Harrow HA1 2UH

May 16<sup>th</sup> 2005

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Traffic in Pinnerwood Park Conservation Area**

I am writing regarding the traffic on Evelyn Drive, and I am most grateful to the Council, and in particular Mr Heale at the traffic department, for taking this matter so seriously.

I apologise for being unable to attend in person due to work commitments, and am grateful to the panel for considering this statement and petition in my absence.

I have lived on this road for over 4 years now, and am disappointed to say that the volume, speed and size of vehicles using this route is increasing dramatically. I noted that there was traffic-monitoring equipment at 2 points along the road during the week ending 13<sup>th</sup> May 2005. I must state that one was sited in an area of the road that is generally quite parked up, and therefore where vehicles are much slower, and neither was sited at the fastest section coming down the hill. There were also road works at several points along the road that week, which would have further served to slow down the traffic. Although the monitoring may accurately reflect the number of vehicles using this route it will not accurately reflect the true speeds of the vehicles.

The existing traffic calming measures are 3 "speed cushions" in a line, which can be straddled by all but the smallest vehicles, and have little impact on most family cars, 4 by 4's, vans, small lorries, motorbikes and mopeds which clearly use this area as a "cut through" and are often seen driving down the road at speed.

Please find attached a petition about the traffic. I have not been able to speak to all of the local residents, but nevertheless this petition represents a large number of the properties along this route and reflects the level of local concern.

The reasons for asking the Council to take further measures are outlined below.

**Safety** – there is a school at either end of this road, namely Grimsdyke and Pinner Wood. Apart from those people ordinarily residents, the traffic is a danger to the school children and their families. Please also consider the comments of the Head Teacher of Grimdyke School, and the letter from Mrs Long at 73 Evelyn Drive, copies of which are attached. The latest accident was on 25.2.2005 when a car once again mounted the curb at the Evelyn Drive/Woodhall Gate Junction, leaving skid marks and shattered glass on the road and pavement.

The current "speed cushions" are about 8 years old, and appear to be

inadequate. They were installed, it seems, after considerable public pressure in 1997. Vans and lorries easily straddle them, and they have no impact whatsoever on motorbikes and mopeds. According to the council's last "before and after" data from October 1994 and November 1992 the speed cushions did have an impact on average traffic speed and flow. It seems to the residents, however, that volumes and speeds have increased dramatically since that time, and I wonder if this will be confirmed by the recent data collected by Mr Heale.

- **Speed** – as this stretch of road is long, wide and straight, many cars and vans pick up speed coming down the hill from the mini roundabout at the junction with Blythwood Road, which causes the danger at the junction with Woodhall Gate.  
**Use as a cut through/"rat run"** – this quiet conservation area is being increasingly used as an alternative route to the Uxbridge Road.
- **This is a designated Conservation area** – the high speeds of traffic and associated noise is polluting this otherwise peaceful residential road, which has been designated as a Conservation area by the Council. There are strict planning laws imposed upon the residents here to preserve the area, so it would seem only logical that the Council should have a duty to protect the area from noise pollution and excessive traffic levels.

**Congestion** - at the Pinner Hill Road end of Albury Drive despite the recent introduction of a small section of double yellow lines. Vehicles using the business park on Pinner Hill Rd are left parked on both sides of Albury Drive all day, and are the main cause of the problem. This is compounded at school rush hour. The traffic spills back into Pinner Hill Rd, causing a hazard coming round the bend, and the residents find it difficult and dangerous to exit their own driveways at these times.

There is a strong feeling amongst the local residents that there needs to be more restrictive traffic calming measures along the road, and also further parking restrictions at the Pinner Hill end of Albury Drive. Please note that this is NOT an official bus route – so in theory there should be no reason NOT to install any calming measures required to reduce or solve the traffic problem.

Clearly it is the Council's decision what measures, if any, you decide to employ. However, having spoken to many residents, suggestions would include:

Making this a 20mph zone. I read with interest on the "Department for Transport" web-site [www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk) a document entitled "Tomorrow's Roads – safer for everyone – Actionplan" which is strongly supportive of 20 mph zones for residential areas with schools.

- Using "right of way" width restrictions – such as those in use on Paines Lane and Blythwood Road.  
Installing full width speed humps - such as those already in place on Marsworth Avenue adjacent. Other examples of full width humps to stop use as a cut through can be seen in many areas of Harrow.  
Resurfacing the existing speed cushions, which have become worn with time.
- To use gated narrowings along the road – such as those in use in Headstone Lane, or other parts of Harrow.
- Considering installing a speed activated warning sign – such as the ones seen on Hampermill Lane Northwood or Nascot Wood Rd, Watford.  
Considering a raised box junction at the "black spot" area Evelyn Drive/Woodhall gate intersection such as the one recently installed on Blythwood Rd.  
Using entry and exit "zones" eg gated single width zones with clearly marked signs "You are now entering the Pinnerwood Park Conservation Area – Please Drive

Safely". The fact that this is a Conservation area is currently not signed.

Continuing the double yellow line on one side of Albury Drive all the way from Pinner Hill Road down to Latimer Gardens to prevent the dangerous bottlenecks in the rush hour.

- Considering the use of speed cameras.
- Considering allowing traffic to turn right at Pinner Hill Rd from the Uxbridge Rd heading West. This is currently no right turn, so traffic is forced to use Hallam Gardens, Altham Rd, Woodhall Gate and Blythwood Road as cut throughs.

Some simple measures would drastically cut down the speed and volume of vehicles using this route, would make the road safer, would likely dissuade some vehicles from using this route altogether, would almost certainly encourage vehicles to use the main roads outside of the "rush hour" periods, and would help preserve the nature of this Conservation area.

Having been in contact with Mr Heale at the Transportation Section at Harrow Council, I understand that there is a "points system" used to decide whether or not a road requires traffic calming measures. Whilst I accept the need for a system to prioritise road traffic safety schemes, I would suggest that statistics can be very misleading. Mr Heale reports only one accident in the last 3-year period. This relies on road traffic accident statistics from a Police database, but relates to REPORTED personal injury accidents only. This is clearly misleading, as there are clearly many accidents will have not come to the attention of the authorities, and once again I refer back to the attached letter from Mrs Long at 73 Evelyn Drive.

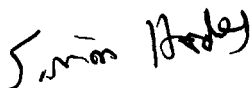
As a GP who also works in A & E, I am all too aware that speed is the main factor affecting the severity of injuries for road traffic victims – for both pedestrians and drivers. The death and injury rates on our roads are still unacceptably high. 3,508 people were killed on Britain's roads in 2003 (a 2% increase on 2002). That is still almost 10 people per day. There are radio adverts on air at the moment read by a child which state "if you hit me at 40mph there is an 80% chance that I will die, if you hit me at 30mph there is an 80% chance that I will live"...

Particularly bearing in mind the locality of the schools at either end of this road, the accident "black spot" at the Evelyn drive/Woodhall gate Junction and the clear level of local concern, I would implore the council to listen to the residents who are concerned at the danger and menace of the traffic using this road before more accidents occur.

I sincerely hope that you are able to do something to help make this a safer quieter road, to help with the congestion problem and to help preserve the otherwise peaceful nature of this conservation area.

Once again my apologies for not being present at this meeting, and thank you for taking the time to consider this statement, petition and attached documents.

Yours faithfully



Dr Simon Hodes

*Cc Mrs Anne Darbourne , Pinnerwood Park Conservation Area Residents Association*

Ms A C Long & Mr R G Smith

Mr William Heel  
Principal Engineer  
Harrow Council  
PO Box 37  
Civic Centre  
Harrow HA1 2UH

27 February 2005

### **INCREASED TRAFFIC IN EVELYN DRIVE**

Dear Mr Heel,

I am writing in support of a petition by Mr Simon Hodes, regarding the need for better traffic calming measures in Evelyn Drive.

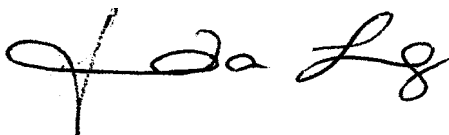
Over the past 5 years that we have lived here, we have noticed a marked increase in traffic along Evelyn Drive. Of particular concern is the greater number of cars who fail to observe the 30 miles speed limit. This is a major concern because we have two small children under 6 and we are trying to encourage them to walk along Evelyn Drive to the local school, instead of taking the car. The current speed humps provide no deterrent, as the speeding cars are able to go straight over them without having to slow down.

We feel it would be more appropriate to install the same traffic calming measures that are present in Paines Lane i.e. road narrowing with give way signs.

Another problem is the corner we live on, the intersection of Evelyn Drive and Woodhall Gate. We have seen six accidents in five years, two of which resulted in our fence being knocked down. The main reason for these accidents is that the cars driving south along Woodhall Gate fail to see the give way sign and plough straight into whoever is driving along Evelyn Drive, usually at too fast a speed to see what is coming. The last accident, only a few weeks ago, resulted in one driver mounting the pavement, driving along the pavement for width of our block and ending up across our neighbour's driveway. If anyone had been on the footpath, which fortunately they weren't, there would have been a fatality.

Better traffic calming measures in Evelyn Drive would also help reduce the number of accidents on our corner.

Yours Faithfully,



Amanda Long

# GRIMSDYKE FIRST & MIDDLE SCHOOL

London Borough of Harrow - Education Department



Headteacher:

MRS J LUCKRAFT, B.A. Dip.Ed

Sylvia Avenue,  
Hatch End, Pinner,  
HA5 4QE

Tel: 020 8428 1324  
Fax: 020 8420 1623

Dr S Hodes



22 February 2005

Dear Dr Hodes,

Thank you for your letter concerning traffic in the Pinnerwood Park area.

As you will probably be aware there is a considerable traffic problem around Grimsdyke School, particularly at the beginning and the end of the school day. The school is situated on an estate where the roads were not designed to carry the volume of traffic which they are now required to do and congestion is an inevitable consequence.

Repeated requests to parents for considerate and safe parking away from the designated restricted areas and residents' driveways is not successful although I have had some response from publishing the car registration numbers of persistent offenders.

The school community is asked to operate a voluntary "one way system" at peak times in Sylvia Avenue but this is not always observed. Speed is not generally a problem as there are too many cars causing obstruction for any vehicles to move rapidly.

Unfortunately there never seem to be sufficient traffic wardens available to visit the school environs at the beginning and end of sessions and so no real enforcement of parking restrictions is carried out.

We have tried a number of measures to alleviate the problems – encouraging the use of the local car park in Shaftesbury playing fields, promoting multiple collection of pupils after school, provision of a sheltered drop off and waiting area for parents and requests for parents to park in The Avenue and use the footbridge over the railway. Nothing has reduced the volume of traffic in this area at peak times and the consequent danger to pupils.

I hope this information is of use to you. Please contact me if any clarification is required.

Yours sincerely,

J. Luckraft  
**Headteacher**



Mr William Heel  
 Principal Engineer  
 Harrow Council  
 PO Box 37  
 Civic Centre  
 Harrow HA1 2UH

February 2005

Dear Mr Heel,

We, as residents of the Pinnerwood Park Conservation area, are concerned by the increasing volume, speed and size of vehicles using Albury Drive and Evelyn Drive.


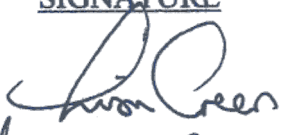
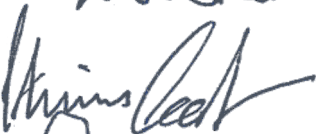
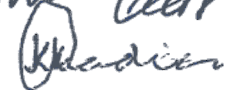
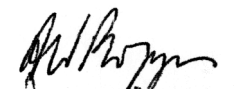


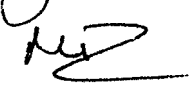

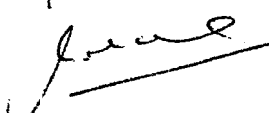
We feel that the traffic is a danger to both the residents and the local school children.

We also feel that the noise pollution is detracting from the nature of the Conservation area.

The current "speed cushions" appear to have little or no impact on the traffic.

We respectfully ask the Council to take measures to address the problem.

Yours faithfully

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	
Lisa Green			16/02/05	
ELIVE COENJOR			16/2/05	
K. K. KUKADIA			16/2/05	
RITEN K. KUKA			16/2/05	
SAPNA KUKADIA			16/2/05	
D. K. KUKADIA			16/2/05	
A. PHIPPS				19/2/05
S. PHIPPS				
J CASS				19/2/05
M. CASS				19/2/05
Wendy Hill				19/2/05
JOHN CRUSH				19/2/05