

Cllr K Aspden
Cllr A D'Agorne
City of York Council
West Offices
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Earswick Parish Council
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3 November 2021

Dear Cllrs Aspden and D'Agorne

Earswick Parish Council wish to formally place on record its concerns regarding the proposals for dualling of the A1237, York Outer Ring Road, and associated roundabout upgrades as presented to the Executive on the 30th September 2021.

The Parish Council has been in discussion with the Council's Major Project Team and its consultants regarding this scheme since 2015, however it is clear from the report that aspects of what had been discussed over several years have been completely ignored.

Earswick is unique in that it is the only location along the A1237 where the proposed new section of the road is being moved closer to dwellings, resulting in an adverse effect on air quality and increase in noise pollution. Measures outlined in the report will not entirely mitigate against these problems and are not as previously agreed with representatives from the project team. The Parish Council would stress the need for improved and enhanced noise and environmental measures to include:

- A sound barrier on the proposed new bridge over the River Foss;
- Acoustic barrier/fencing along the full length through Earswick;
- Use of semi mature trees as opposed to saplings;
- Noise reducing tarmac;
- The extension of these measures to the East side of the Earswick/Strensall Road and not just the West side as currently proposed.

The Parish Council has made several requests for the new dualling sections to be relocated to the south of the existing A1237, which would help protect residents closest to the ring road, but were told this was not possible due to the position of a water main on the south side. However, this is the same water main that exists between Monks Cross and Little Hopgrove where the report now proposes to move the new road from the north to the south by constructing an "urban" dual carriageway instead of a "rural" dual carriageway for environmental and habitat reasons. The Parish Council is extremely disappointed that Earswick residents are not being treated in an equitable manner and would ask that a similar consideration be given to the new dualling sections being constructed through Earswick.

The proposed location of the cycle and pedestrian crossing at the Earswick/Strensall roundabout is dangerously close to the junction and both the Parish Councils of

Earswick and Strensall believe the crossing proposal is an accident waiting to happen, with the potential for traffic to be coming off the ring road at speed directly into a location where cyclists and pedestrians will be forced to cross Strensall Road to/from the underpass. The Parish Council urge the project team to relocate this crossing further north along Strensall Road, as previously discussed.

The Parish Council is disappointed that, despite repeated requests, no traffic modelling has been carried out on the effect on traffic coming from Strensall and Earswick wanting to join or cross the dual carriageway. The proposals as they stand will inevitably result in longer travelling times for such traffic and longer queues of standing traffic, resulting in increasing carbon emissions in a built up area. The Parish Council asked the Major Project Team if traffic lights could be installed on the Earswick roundabout for use at peak times but were informed that installation of traffic lights would slow down journey times and have the opposite effect of the aims of the project. Under the new proposal, traffic lights are to be installed at the Wigginton and Monks Cross roundabouts to facilitate pedestrians crossing the dual carriageway. Yet again the views of residents of Earswick are being ignored and they are being treated differently to other areas of York that are being affected by these proposals.

The Parish Council would appreciate you looking into and addressing their concerns as soon as possible please. They look forward to hearing from you in due course.

In the meantime, the Parish Council would like to extend an invitation to the Executive members to meet with them in Earswick so that they can see for themselves the issues affecting our residents.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Fisher
(Clerk to Earswick Parish Council)

pp
Earswick Parish Council

cc: Cllr N Ayre
Cllr D Craghill
Cllr I Cuthbertson
Cllr C Runciman
Cllr D Smalley
Cllr A Waller
Cllr P Widdowson
Cllr P Doughty
Cllr T Fisher
G Frost
M Farnham