Dear Resident,

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you that Merton Council has been successful in a bid to Transport for London (TfL) for funding for a ‘Safer Routes to School’ scheme along West Barnes Lane and Bodnant Gardens. This road has been chosen because the West Wimbledon Primary School has shown a commitment to promoting sustainable modes of transport, by implementing a ‘School Travel Plan’. In respect of this, the scheme is not proposed in response to a history of accidents, although some aspects of the proposed measures may help prevent future incidents.

The Council is proposing the following measures:

- The introduction of a 20mph zone along Bodnant Gardens between its junctions with West Barnes Lane and Hidcote Gardens.
- The introduction of a domed mini roundabout at the junction of Bodnant Gardens and Hidcote Gardens. This would also involve cut backs and build outs at this junction to cater for the turning manoeuvres at the proposed roundabout. This will act as a speed reducing feature at the entrance to the proposed 20mph zone and would assist drivers when turning around/exiting the area.
- The reduction of the extent of the existing ‘School Keep Clear’ parking restriction.
- To prevent obstructive parking and to improve safety and access it is considered necessary to:
  - Convert the existing single yellow line restrictions at West Barnes Lane and Bodnant Gardens to double yellow lines.
  - Introduce double yellow lines at Bodnant Gardens / Farnham Gardens junction.
  - Introduce double yellow lines at the proposed speed table adjacent to the school entrance and at the school entrance (to replace a section of school keep clear marking).
  - Introduce double yellow lines at Bodnant Gardens / Hidcote Gardens at the proposed mini roundabout.
- The introduction of 2 speed tables (1) adjacent to the junction with West Barnes lane and (2) at the main pedestrian entrance to the school - these features will help concentrate the pedestrian crossing movements to these two specific locations. The features will raise driver’s awareness to these areas where pedestrians may be crossing the road.

The Council believes that these measures will provide a safer environment for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as school children.

How to make your views count

Before proceeding further, the Council would like your views on the above proposals. The decision on the implementation of the scheme will be subject to the responses received during this consultation. Please be sure to complete your prepaid reply card and return it together with any further comments and suggestions you may have by 6th October 2006.

Please Note: In view of the large number of responses received during a public consultation, it will not be possible to reply to each individual respondent.

What happens next

The result of the consultation along with officers’ recommendations will be reported to either the Street Management Advisory Committee on the 15th January 2007 or if appropriate earlier to the Cabinet Member for Environment & Traffic Management for a decision. Once a decision is made you will be informed accordingly via a newsletter.

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