

A367/Bath Road Junction south of Peasedown St John

Following another serious accident at this junction on the evening of Friday 9th January, I have contacted B&NES officers, and also written to the cabinet member for transport, calling on the council to take immediate action to prevent further accidents which repeatedly occur at the same point on the A367.

There have been too many accidents over the years and now is the time for this junction to be looked at as a matter of urgency. I have asked officers and highways engineers to undertake an urgent review of the junction and assess what is the best solution to improve safety.

The Resident & visitors to Peasedown have complained about the difficulty they have turning onto the main carriageway due to the speed of traffic; often having to wait for long periods before they can do so, especially at peak times. They have also sign a petition with now over 1300 signatures.

The latest accident meant the road was closed and emergency services were called. Including 2 fire engines, 3 ambulances, and a number of police officers.

In the 2008 David Wilson planning application to built 95 houses in Wellow Lane, they submitted an independent traffic report which stated that this junction was already over capacity, and that major improvements were necessary irrespective to whether this development went ahead or not. Detailed in this report were two proposals to improve safety at this junction. One being traffic Lights the other a roundabout. The Wellow lane development has been completed & the houses are now occupied. In the S106 agreement there was £91k earmarked for highway improvements including a sum for this junction. I understand that there is other S106 money from pervious developments which also made a contribution to improve this junction.

But now is 2015 nearly 7 years on and very little has been done to improve this dangerous junction.

With developments under construction in Radstock & others planned for Midsomer Norton, Westfield & Peasedown the traffic volumes using this stretch of highway will continue to raise.

Peasedown St John also has the biggest primary school in B&NES with over 500 children attending, a number accessing this school via this junction.

Now is the time to take action before anyone else is injured or even killed.

I am therefore requesting that in addition to the S106 money already mentioned, additional funding is allocated either from this current budget or include this as a project for funding in the 2015/16 budget to insure that the necessary and urgent safety improvements are implemented sooner rather than later.

Thank you.