

PARAGRAPHS OMITTED FROM STATEMENT FROM SHIVA PAGE

I am concerned that in a recent Liveable Neighbourhood (LN) meeting I was told by the team that they “couldn’t find” any advice on accessible fonts for reports & information or indeed for producing maps with appropriate colouring for visually impaired or people with learning difficulties. I am concerned that this meeting about Mount Road took place in Odd Down rather than Whiteway. I was told they couldn’t find an accessible building near Mount Road for that time. No bus information was provided for Mount Road residents to get to Odd Down. I’m concerned that after 2 hours the pressing issue the locals identified, of racing cars late at night, wouldn’t be addressed at all by the LN proposals. I’m concerned about whether the real issues in the community that need addressing to make a “Liveable Neighbourhood” are being ignored and instead pre-decided options that aren’t the local priority at all are funded while decade old issues remain underfunded. Especially when a lot seems to be about wooden planters that add clutter to pavements that in Mount Road are barely fit to walk on & have been neglected for decades. I am shocked that LN staff felt it was appropriate when I was raising inclusion problems to tell me to “try & focus on the positive”. Even more shocking is I still haven’t received an apology for the rhetoric that was used both by the LN team leader & council staff at a community forum even when I asked for one & explained why what they had said was ableism. I am shocked that no notes or minutes were taken in the LN meetings & not recorded or remote access provided either. This means those who couldn’t attend for whatever reason are excluded from plans for their community. It means disabled people still shielding couldn’t take part. The lead of LN saying “deaf people can ring the council” & suggesting to a Cllr there was a system in place just summed up the lack of understanding of the exclusion disabled people face daily.

I am concerned that at the Entry Hill LN meeting there was little or no representation from Foxhill residents. No leaflets through our doors. When it will impact us living in Foxhill hugely with displaced visitors parking & diverted traffic. We already live with 13% more HGVs in Bradford Road since CAZ. How is it fair to divert more traffic into the same road? A road that is to become part of a children’s cycle route no less. How is mixing novice cyclists with HGVs safe?

I am concerned that for the next Net Zero transport meeting I have now been told there isn’t space on the agenda at the first meeting to discuss access, equality & inclusion. This isn’t acceptable. Especially when there has been so little minutes representation from the low waged or disabled community in meetings & in decisions.