

N.Dickinson statement

GOOD MORNING ....I AM SPEAKING TODAY AS A RESIDENT OF SOMERSET LANE /CLOSE TO WINIFREDS LANE LIVING IN THE HEART OF THE TRIAL AREA.

I AM NOT A TRANSPORT CONSULTANT OR EXPERT NEITHER DO I LIVE ON A NO THROUGH ROAD BUT LIVED DAILY WITH THE VOLUME AND SPEED OF TRAFFIC AND WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT SAFETY ON THE LANES

DATA FROM THE TRIALS COUPLED WITH A THOROUGH AND EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION PROCESS HAVE CLEARLY SHOWN THAT THE ETRO HAS MET THE OBJECTIVES OF A LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND IS SUPPORTED BY THOSE LIVING CLOSEST TO THE AFFECTED ROADS SO I ASK THE PANEL TO REJECT THE CALL - IN AND MAKE THE ETRO PERMANENT.

THE TRIAL CONFIRMS THOUSANDS OF VEHICLES PER DAY WERE USING CAVENDISH ROAD AND OVER 1300 USING WINIFREDS LANE . TO BE CLEAR THIS LANE THIS IS A NARROW LANE SINGLE TRACK NARROW LANE WITH NO FOOTPATH WHERE VEHICLE SPEEDS ARE UNHINDERED ....AS STATED IN THE COUNCIL REPORT “ WINIFREDS LANE IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR TRAFFIC” AND VEHICLE SPEEDS WERE UNHINDERED....IT IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR TRAFFIC. I AM STUNNED BY THE VIEW THAT WINIFREDS LANE SHOULD BE RE OPENED ...AS QUOTED EARLIER IT WAS A LETHAL ROAD.

I JOINED THE LOCAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AND AT THE AGM IN 2020 AROUND 100 MEMBERS VOTED FOR THE AREA TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE COUNCIL'S LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD PROGRAMME . PEOPLE WERE FED UP WITH SPEEDING TRAFFIC AND THE AREA BEING USED AS A SHORT CUT SUBSEQUENT AGM' S AND ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATIONS HAVE CONTINUED TO INFORM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION PROCESS.

IN 2022 I ATTENDED THE AREA CO DESIGN WORKSHOP ORGANISED AS PART OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS AND EVERY GROUP AGREED THAT THE MAJOR PROBLEM WAS .... TRAFFIC COMING FROM GAY ST, THE CIRCUS AREA AND MARLBOROUGH BUILDINGS USING CAVENDISH ROAD / WINIFREDS LANE AS A RAT RUN FOR THROUGH TRAFFIC....

MUCH OF THE NEGATIVE FEEDBACK REGARDING THE TRIAL ED HAS BEEN EXAGGERATED AND THE COUNCILS OWN REPORT STATES THAT THIS DATA CANNOT BE VERIFIED AND USES METHODS THAT ARE INAPPROPRIATE AND WHICH OVERSTATE THE HARM OF THE SCHEME !!

IT GOES ON ....'IN SOME CASES-OBJECTORS HAVE OVERSTATED THE POTENTIAL HARM OF THE SCHEME '

RESULTS OF THE TRIAL HAVE BEEN VERY POSITIVE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS WITH SIGNIFICANTLY LESS TRAFFIC , ABLE TO WALK WINIFREDS LANE SAFELY FOR THE FIRST TIME AND SEEING MUCH MORE WALKING / CYCLING / RUNNING

. AND MORE

ACTIVE TRAVEL IS SEEN IN THE AREA PARTICULARLY ON WINIFREDS LANE TO SUMMARIZE DIRECTLY FROM THE COUNCIL REPORT:

“ THE THREE TRIALS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN MEETING THE OBJECTIVES OF A LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD....THE BENEFITS OUTWEIGH THE MANAGEABLE DOWNSIDES .....THERE IS CLEAR EVIDENCE THE LINKED TRIALS HAVE INHIBITED SHORT CUTS WITH MINIMAL INCREASES TO TRAFFIC FLOWS AND TRAVEL TIMES ON ALTERNATIVE ROUTES ..... “!!!

SO WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS??

A RETURN TO THOUSANDS OF CARS PER DAY RAT RUNNING ON CAVENDISH ROAD ....AND 1300+ ON WINIFREDS LANE

OR REJECT THE CALL-IN AND MAKE THE ETRO PERMANENT .....AN ETRO DELIVERING ON ITS OBJECTIVES WITH ONLY MANAGEABLE DOWNSIDES !!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME