



Rawdon Matters

**AIRPORT
LINK ROAD
CONSULTATION
PLEASE
RESPOND
TO LCC AND WYCA**

**CONSULTATION
ENDS 12/04/2019**

Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority have launched a second consultation on a potential Link Road to Leeds Bradford Airport.

Rawdon Parish Council urges you to oppose these proposals which would not achieve the stated aims but would do untold damage to our countryside.

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Reporting suspicious behaviour to the Police

Link Road Consultation

“Connecting LBA”

Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority continue to pursue their plans to build a Link Road to the Airport across the Green Belt that separates Rawdon From Horsforth.

We believe their plans are misplaced and would be of little if any benefit to airport traffic and local roads.

Rawdon Parish Council has conducted an extensive traffic survey with a sample size of over 20,000 vehicles. Our analysis shows that at the evening rush hour (which coincides with one of the peak times for traffic arriving at LBA):

- **The percentage of traffic travelling north on the A65 (south of Harrogate Rd) which is bound for LBA is 1.9%**
- **The percentage of airport traffic on that route is: 5.17%**
- **The percentage of traffic on Bayton Lane bound for LBA is: 1.98%**
- **The percentage of airport traffic on that route is 3.5%**

Rawdon Parish Council believes this demonstrates that if a Link road were to be built it would only benefit a very small percentage of airport traffic and would have little impact on existing congestion.

SCOTT WILSON REPORT

“Leeds City Council commissioned leading infrastructure analysts, Scott Wilson, to conduct a report into Leeds Ring Road which also considered the same Link Road route. It was delivered in 2005 and concluded (based on 4.5 million passengers): It is evident therefore that future year trip generation associated with the airport is relatively minor and that any infrastructure provision would need not only to serve the airport but also the wider network. It is evident from the modelled flows above that the airport link road is not providing a major benefit to the wider network.”

The proposed airport link road links the A65 north-west of Horsforth Roundabout with the A658 at the Whitehouse Lane Roundabout thus providing a shorter and quicker alternative for A65/A658 traffic. However, analysis of the model demonstrates the principal movement corridors in this area to be A65 Guiseley-Yeadon-Rawdon-Horsforth and the A658 Pool-Yeadon-Bradford thus reducing the potential for diversion onto the airport link road. Consequently, flow volume on the link is low.”

Rawdon Parish Council agrees with them and believes our traffic study supports their conclusion and demonstrates that it is still valid.

Rawdon Parish Council opposes all three options.

The stated aims of the Link Road are:

- **To reduce journey times to the airport by car and bus.**
- **To improve journey time reliability for the bus service from Leeds City Centre**
- **To facilitate increased patronage of the bus service from Leeds City Centre.**

Rawdon Parish Council believes that all three proposals would fail significantly on all three aims.

Leeds City Council's website also states:

“Apart from improving road access to the airport, which is likely to generate more traffic as it continues to grow, the options aim to reduce existing issues caused by peak-time congestion by helping to filter vehicles either along the new link road or more effectively along a wider and improved A65/A658.”

Rawdon Parish Council does not believe that the proposals will succeed in this aim because the route in question does not suffer from significant congestion caused by traffic using the A65. (Between Rawdon Crematorium and Harrogate Road.) and, as concluded by Scott Wilson, flow volume on the link would be low.

MORE DETAILS ARE SET OUT IN THE CENTRE PAGES 

RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION

Please respond to West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

By Email connectinglba@leeds.gov.uk

**You can view the plans and add your comments on line:
www.leeds.gov.uk/connectinglba**

If you prefer to submit a written response please address it to:

Freepost, Consultation Team (WYCA)

PLEASE RESPOND BEFORE 12/04/2019

MORE DETAILS OF WHY WE OPPOSE THE LINK ROAD PROPOSALS:

Including failure of the proposals to deliver their stated aims:

Our full detailed submission along with full details of our traffic survey can be found on our website www.rawdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The proposals would fail to reduce journey times to LBA by car or by bus

- The routes proposed do not affect at all the journey times for traffic that does not and would not use them. That is over 90% of airport traffic.
- They do not reduce journey times for the majority of bus routes which do not and would not use them.
- They replace a section of the route which does not suffer from significant congestion related delays, minimising any benefit.
- Whilst shortening the route would potentially reduce journey times for the small proportion of airport traffic that would use the route, it also introduces an additional junction into a route with a very high traffic flow. The need to interrupt that traffic flow at that junction will introduce additional delays that are likely to negate any advantage gained and that will further delay the vast majority of traffic on the A65 causing a significant net increase in journey times for all traffic with potential to further disrupt Horsforth Roundabout.
- They are still wholly dependent on Horsforth Roundabout.

The proposals would not Improve Journey Time reliability for the bus route from Leeds City Centre.

- The section of the bus route the Link Road routes replace does not suffer from significant congestion related delays. The average journey time at rush hour is less than three minutes longer than in free traffic. Little improvement in journey time reliability is therefore possible.
- The variations in journey times are caused along sections of the route that are not positively affected by the link road. (For example the queue for Horsforth Roundabout along New Road Side.)
- The introduction of an additional junction into the A65 will introduce additional delays for the traffic of which the bus route is part and which determines the reliability of bus times. This is certain to have a detrimental effect on journey time reliability.

The proposals would not facilitate increased patronage of the bus services from Leeds City Centre

- As no significant improvements in the factors affecting bus patronage are likely, there is no reason to suppose bus patronage would be improved.
- The provision of a railway station at the airport operating directly from Leeds City Centre and beyond with significantly shorter journey times than is possible by road along the A65 means that the bus service along this route is likely to suffer a reduction in patronage, albeit to the overall significant benefit of airport users and commuters.

The proposals do little to reduce existing issues caused by peak-time congestion by helping to filter vehicles either along the new link road or more effectively along a wider and improved A65/A658.

- As can be demonstrated by referring to the typical traffic flows accessible through Google Maps – the route the Link Road proposals replaces does not suffer from congestion caused by traffic on the A65. There would be no benefit to traffic flow on the affected section of the A65 whatsoever.
- Rawdon Parish Council traffic study shows that only 15.73% of traffic arriving at Bayton Lane traffic lights originates from the affected section of the A65 and would gain only a very marginal benefit as a result.
- Rawdon Parish Council believes that the inclusion of a junction with Layton Road increases the likelihood of rat running along Town Street and Brownberrie Lane. It also increases the potential use of Over Lane, Well Lane, Carr Lane and Layton Lane as vehicles 'switch' between parallel routes.

Poor Value For Money

- Due to the negligible benefits offered by the Link Road proposals and the very high costs projected, Rawdon Parish Council believes the proposals represent very poor value for money which could be used far more beneficially elsewhere.
- All three options depend on traffic accessing the routes via Horsforth Roundabout. Rawdon Parish Council believes that the airport and other road users would enjoy a far greater benefit if the money were used to alleviate the problems of the A6120 and its junctions with other routes.

SUPPORT FOR AIRPORT RAIL STATION

West Yorkshire Combined Authority is also consulting on a 'Parkway Station' which would provide rail access to LBA and act as a Park n Ride facility for commuters from Otley and the surrounding areas.

Rawdon Parish Council believes that although use of rail to access the airport is not likely to exceed 15% of users, it is still far more beneficial than the link road proposals and **supports the proposal for a Parkway Station.**

Reporting Suspicious Behaviour to The Police

Rawdon Parish Council is aware, as we are sure Rawdon residents are, of an increase in suspicious activity that seems to relate to cars being stolen by thieves first stealing the keys.

Groups of youths have been reported prowling in cars apparently looking for cars to steal. At the last meeting of the Council the Police attended and assured us that they have been allocated extra resources and overtime to deal with the issue and extra patrols are in place.



The Police though need our help. Catching the culprits depends on one of two things: catching them red handed or gaining intelligence as to their identities. The PCSO told us that there are far fewer reports to them than appear on social media. When they do get information directly they are able to take rapid action - for example the notorious Black Golf was seized by the Police the day after its registration number was identified. Many other vehicles reported turned out to be on legitimate business - such as delivery couriers for on line shopping.

They would like any information to be relayed to them as soon as possible and they we could help by reminding you of ways to contact them.

The numbers are well known, **999** in an emergency or **101** for non-emergency.

There are several ways you can report things to the Police on line:

www.westyorkshirepolice.uk/report-it

takes you to a page which lets you report a variety of things from drug dealing to lost property



www.westyorkshirepolice.uk/101LiveChat

Lets you chat on line to a 101 Agent



Live Chat is available when the image below is shown:

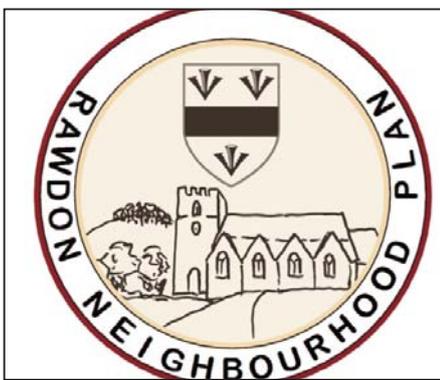
101 Live Chat is Online
Click Here

Other News from Rawdon Parish Council

We wanted to give as much information as was practical regarding the Link Road consultation so that doesn't leave much room for anything else. Here is a short summary of some of our other news.

Jubilee Hall Parking Consultation

Our consultation event was well attended and we were able to gain a lot of valuable information. We have taken in what you told us and in conjunction with the Scout groups who use the hall we have created some revised plans. The biggest change is that a smaller car park is now proposed to reduce impact on the field and residents.

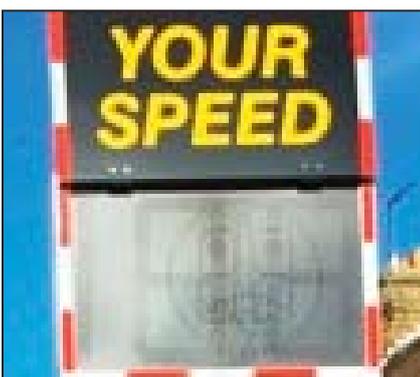


Neighbourhood Plan & Green Belt

Although the need to engage with Leeds City Council's seemingly constant consultation exercises has slowed down the work on the Neighbourhood Plan we have still made progress. We hope to have a plan ready for examination before the summer. We hope you agree that the success of our Green Belt defence has vindicated our approach and been worth the extensive effort we put into it.

Missing Names Plaque

We are pleased to have been able to arrange for the fixing of a plaque with the previously missing names to Rawdon Cenotaph, in the Memorial Gardens. The plaque was unveiled by the Deputy Lieutenant on the 100th anniversary of the armistice, in time for the busiest Remembrance Sunday parade and service we have seen to date. The addition of these 16 names completes the list of 99 Rawdon residents lost in WW1.



Speed Indicator Devices

By monitoring the data which our 5 current SID devices gather we can see how effective they are. Average speeds where they are deployed are reduced although we have seen some eye watering maximum speeds! We are always looking for other locations to deploy SIDs where residents tell us they would welcome them. We are looking at extra sites already but would welcome any suggestions for future locations.

Biggest “Rawdon Shops at Christmas” to Date



Last year’s Rawdon at Christmas event saw bigger crowds than ever. We hope to make even more improvements for next year and to see you all there.

Email Issues

Our email issues have not yet been solved.

Some emails sent to councillors at: rawdonparishcouncil.gov.uk addresses may not have been received. Some councillors are more affected than others.

If you have emailed and not received a reply we apologise.

We are still working with our IT supplier to rectify the problem but in the meantime if you have not received a reply to an email please forward a copy to the Clerk who will ensure it is passed on.

Rawdon Parish Council

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Parish Council Website

More information about Council activities, meetings and minutes of past meetings, can be found on our website:

www.rawdonparishcouncil.gov.uk