

# Area Committee 4

## Supplementary Information



**Date:** Thursday, 18 November 2021

**Time:** 6.30 pm

**Venue:** Conference Hall - City Hall, College Green,  
Bristol, BS1 5TR

#### 4. Public Forum

Members of the public were invited to make a written statement ask a question or present a petition and is about a matter which is the responsibility of the committee concerned. **(Pages 2 - 21)**

The following requirements applied:

- The statement is received no later than **12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting** 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- The question is received no later than **three clear working days before the meeting** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 5pm.

**Issued by:** , Democratic Services  
City Hall, Bristol, BS1 9NE

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**Date:** Wednesday, 17 November 2021

# Agenda Item 4

Public Forum statements received for Area Committee 4

Ref No	Name	Title
PS01	Mr & Mrs Bridges	Soundwell Road
PS02	Montpelier Parks Group – Becky Atkinson (planning to attend)	Montpelier Park and Albany Green
PS03	Mr Michal Ostromecki & Miss Anna Balcerek (planning to attend)	Soundwell Road
PS04	Glynis Tony Collins	Soundwell Road
PS05	Jeremy Jones	Soundwell Road
PS06	Mr & Mrs S A Harris	Soundwell Road
PS07	Sarah Cemlyn (planning to attend)	St Andrews Park proposal
PS08	Fern & Jason Bohin	Soundwell Road/ Grantham Road/ Broad Road improvements
PS09	Jim Reid	Soundwell Road/ Grantham Road
PS10	Stacey Downton	Soundwell Road

## PS01

In response to the Area Committee meeting, regarding traffic calming in Soundwell Road and surrounding area,

We would like to state that any traffic calming in Soundwell Road, should not include diverting buses or other traffic along Grantham Road.

It would be wrong to move the Soundwell Road issues, into Grantham Road and devalue the houses. There are lot of elderly and infirm people living in this road, so plans of that nature would be entirely unacceptable.

Speeding is the main problem, so the installation of speed bumps, electronic speed indicators and slow signs, could be the answer.

Crossing Soundwell Road is becoming increasingly dangerous, so a pedestrian crossing is certainly needed.

I would also like to state that some problems in Grantham Road are :-

1) Vehicles sometimes travelling the wrong way.

This is in part due to signage at the entrance to Grantham Road, not being clear enough, the signs need to be larger and closer to the road.

There is a need for signage on leaving the Grantham House and Grantham Court car parks, indicating drivers to turn left.

2) The Top Nosh has become a transport cafe, often frequented by drivers of large vehicles and lorries. As well as ignoring the yellow line restrictions in the area, some vehicles are regularly driven onto and across the pavement, outside the cafe to park.

The solution is more parking enforcement, or installation of a couple of extra bollards or railings on the cafe corner, to protect pedestrians and make it safer to navigate this often busy junction.

I have attached photos, taken recently, highlighting the problem.

Thank you.

Mr and Mrs Bridges





## Montpelier Parks Group Statement

Montpelier Park and Albany Green are well-used and well-loved community spaces, but have been in a state of decline with drug and sex litter problems and increasing crime incidents in and around their boundaries. The parks are the only publically accessible green spaces in Montpelier, a densely populated area, and serve as a 'back garden' for many members of the community.

There is a strong desire within the community for new play equipment as there is currently no provision for children over the age of 5. With plans to further improve the parks with community gardens, seating and regular events we hope to improve the lives of Montpelier residents for many years to come.

There are some anomalies in the proposal received by the area committee that I would like to rectify, in case they affect the decisions made at today's meeting.

Most importantly, our application for CIL funding is for two parks:

- £115,000 for complete replacement of play equipment in Montpelier Park, where the existing equipment is very much at the end of its life and is due for extraction. A large play structure was removed in 2019, leaving little provision for children. We have already secured £25,000 of funding towards the cost of this.
- £35,000 to provide play equipment for children over 5 in Albany Green, where there is only pre-school and MUGA provision since the recent removal of a play structure. Anti-social behaviour has been a problem in Albany Green, and Police Sergeant Tom Tooth has advised that encouraging more families to use the Green will disperse groups undertaking illegal activity or disturbing the community.

The proposal in the meeting pack mentions toilets and car park being installed, which isn't the case for our parks.

Becky Atkinson (planning to attend)

We're the owners/occupiers of a terraced house on Soundwell Road. We've been living here since November 2012. Everything we describe below relates to our experience from the last decade, and problems are undoubtedly getting worse since we moved in. This stretch of Soundwell Road becomes impossible to cross for pedestrians during morning, lunch and late afternoon hours. There are several factors causing this:

1. The stretch of Soundwell Road between Two Mile Hill Rd and Top Nosh cafe is very narrow allowing only single traffic to pass yet it is a 2 way traffic road. The road is in the shape of a crescent, essentially making it a blind spot street. Everyday there is very heavy traffic including full size HGVs and Bristol buses crossing this road. On a daily basis, these heavily polluting vehicles get stuck on that narrow stretch of road, causing arguments between drivers in a public space, often involving verbal and physical abuse. There are reports of residents' cars being damaged by traffic, some of the residents began parking their cars on the pavement to avoid the damage, therefore creating another problem for pedestrians
2. There is severely increased traffic during morning & lunch hours due to popularity of Top Nosh cafe, it's well known "builders" favourite. We see scaffolding trucks, lorries and vans parked on pavements and double yellow lines. The junction of Soundwell Road/Broad Road/Lodge Road/Grantham Road is completely taken over by large vehicles, obstructing visibility to pedestrians and other drivers. Heavy trucks destroy pavements when driving onto them and block the passage for wheelchair users & prams. We would like to add that we absolutely do not blame Top Nosh cafe for any of these incidents, it is simply a consequence of illegal parking, unfortunately mostly by clients of the cafe. This illegal parking is allowed to continue despite numerous appeals to Parking Operations by residents. (Photographs are attached below).
3. North extension of Soundwell Rd blends into Lodge Road (B4048), and this stretch between Ingleside Road and Top Nosh cafe becomes very wide. This allows vehicles to increase their speed well beyond city limits. These fast travelling cars and lorries approach the junction described in Point-1. During school hours, parents with children hopelessly try to cross Soundwell Road as they face lack of visibility, dangerously speeding vehicles, and violent altercation between drivers. The perfect example of this life threatening process is an accident from 28<sup>th</sup> April '21 when a speeding car overturned on its roof - this happened when pavements were full of children coming back from school. (Photograph of the incidents attached below).
4. Lack of parking is an additional yet related issue. We're proponents of parking restrictions like the "Residents parking only" scheme, however the main challenge is illegal parking and such restrictions would not change a thing, as the law is widely ignored by the drivers, who face no consequence of dangerous parking.

We, the residents of this part of Soundwell Road, are desperate for solutions for a safer and less polluted environment. Living here becomes unhealthy mentally & physically, we are very tired and the thought of moving somewhere else is becoming louder every day. Such feelings destroy communities, causing isolation and impact on stress levels.

We understand that it is not our job to teach professionals how to do their job. However we have some hints, which should be considered:

1. There should be additional pedestrian crossings. One exactly opposite mail box / Top-Nosh / Voi-parking across Soundwell Road. Even customers of Top Nosh cafe would slow down traffic when crossing there. Crossing would not reduce any parking area as this is already a double yellow line stretch anyway. For the crossing to be implemented below point needs to be considered.

2. Squaring off the corner of Soundwell Rd and Broad Rd. The rounded and widened shape of the junction encourages cars to take a “racing line” and drive on the wrong side of the road at excessive speed. This is very dangerous for cyclists, scooters and pedestrians crossing the road.
3. The second crossing should be on the very south part of Soundwell Road (by Pizza Hut). This should be a natural and safe way to cross Soundwell Road as there is already a crossing on Two Mile Hill Road.
4. Possibility of turning the road into single-way traffic on the stretch from Two Mile Hill to Ingleside Road should be considered.
5. Converting the above stretch of road into a low-traffic zone with mechanisms for slowing down the traffic.
6. The wide part of the road (between Top Nosh & Ingleside Rd) could be used to create additional parking spaces, if the cars were allowed to park at the right angle to the pavement. There is enough space to do this and it would create safe, legal parking spaces for customers of the Top Nosh cafe.
7. We support the proposal made at the recent community meeting with Cllr Nicola Beech & Cllr Steve Pearce, to ban heavy goods vehicles on this part of Soundwell Rd.

With Regards,

Mr Michal Ostromecki & Miss Anna Balcerek.







PS04

We as residents on Soundwell Road are highly concerned about the safety of people living on this street.

My husband and I have been a resident since 1986 and over the years the increased traffic has been ridiculous.

The main problem we have is allowing buses and hgv lorries using such a narrow part of this road.

We have endless traffic jams, increased violence from irate car drivers, speeding cars etc trying to get through before the large vehicles.

We have had 2 vehicles written off over the years, countless times damage occurred to vehicle and some drivers not stopping.

Crossing the road for able people is horrendous, let alone children, elderly or disabled people.

We have recently encountered a speeding car that has overturned at a time when schools finish. How someone wasn't injured or killed is unbelievable

Residents are now completely at the end of their tether living in a war zone (it feels like that on a daily basis!!)

We would like to see a traffic calming system implemented for our safety, and a group of residents have meet with Nicola Beech and Stephen to air our views

We ideally would like a one way system in place, or no entry from Two mile hill and road made into a cul de sac as it currently is due to works this weekend by Bristol water. Buses and lorries are diverted via Downend Road and no traffic is non existence and life is bliss.

PLEASE PLEASE TAKE TIME TO LISTEN TO RESIDENTS WHO ARE FED UP AND IN FEAR OF INJURY OR DEATH.

WE HOPE YOU AS HUMANS FEEL THE COMPASSION TO HELP US.

IM SURE IF YOU HAD TO LIVE LIKE THIS YOU WOULD HOPE SOMEONE WOULD LISTEN

many thanks for taking the time to read this

Regards

Glynis Tony Collins

PS05

I am a resident of Soundwell Road near the junction of Broad Road and Top Nosh cafe and as a resident, I want long over-due improvements made to this street.

When you visit Soundwell Road, it soon becomes apparent that road users are prioritised over residents and pedestrians. When I say "road users", I refer to passing traffic, which has no care for the resulting environment that is created for the residents.

Traffic speeds down this road unchallenged and unabated. The 20mph signs mean nothing. The road is a gradual curve with vehicles, often vans, parked on both sides of the street. There is NO crossing point.

All of this creates an incredibly dangerous situation for people trying to cross the street - especially from the west side to the east. How are we meant to cross the road safely with small children? What if you have limited mobility? What about night time when traffic moves even faster?

And then there is the issue of HGVs, which often barrel down the road. One has to ask why so many of these vehicles, which are wholly inappropriate, are using this road instead of a number of surrounding roads which have yellow lines, are wider and have less parked vehicles. The answer is simply because it saves them a minute of time and they are allowed to by the council. I dread to think of the air that my child is forced to breathe in due to these polluting vehicles. We don't have the benefits of a clean air zone here.

I am sick of having to hold my breath every time I try to cross the road with my child. I am sick of asking people to slow down, only to be verbally abused. I am sick of being beeped and aggressively passed when I dare to try to park in a space on my street. I am sick of returning to my vehicle, only to find that it has been struck by yet another vehicle, with no note left. Who pays for the damage?

In summary: We need traffic calming measures. We need a crossing. We need a weight restriction to stop HGVs. We need far better enforcement of illegal and dangerous parking by commercial vehicles. We need signage that makes road users THINK.

We residents are tired and we need your help to make this somewhere that we can feel safe and proud to live again, rather than feeling like we live on a transit route and that we don't matter. We have already witnessed a number of accidents on this road - one of which was extremely serious. It is not a matter of IF someone is killed or seriously injured, it is WHEN.

I would like to add the following supporting photographic evidence to my statement.

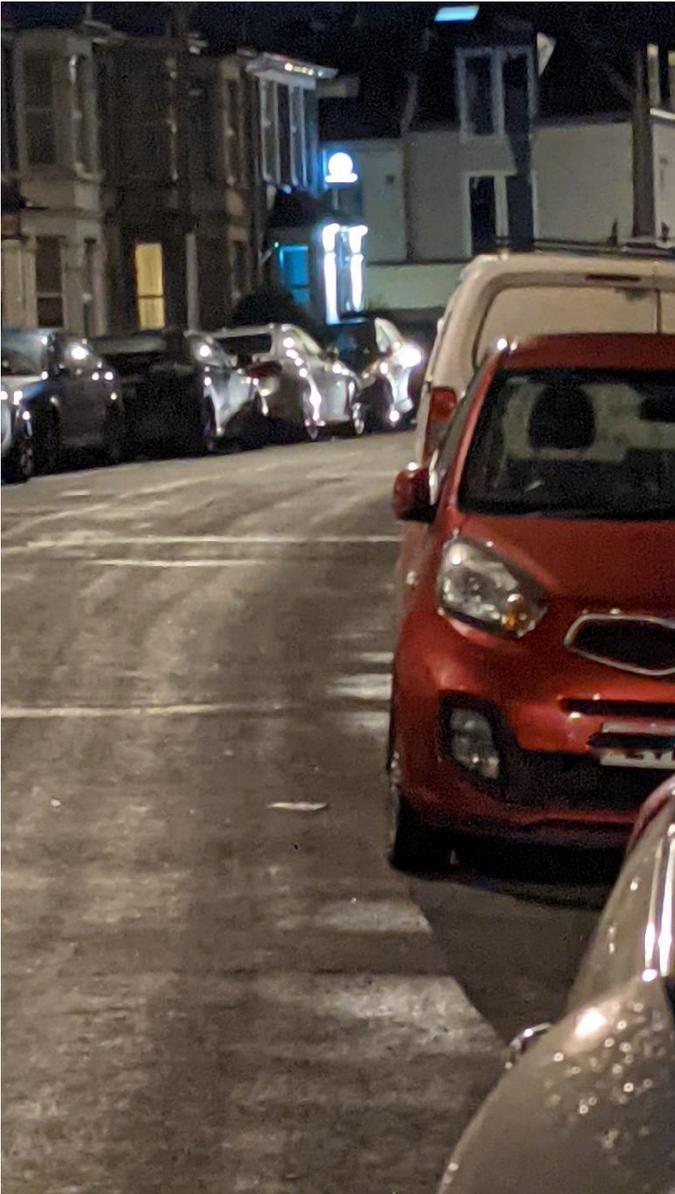
They illustrate some, but not all of the issues that we as residents experience such as dangerous parking by HGVs, HGVs and cars coming head to head, road rage, trucks manoeuvring into a local business and blocking the road. The night photograph is to demonstrate how dangerous it is to cross the street with a blind bend and no crossing.

Jeremy Jones  
Resident of Soundwell Road









PS06

Soundwell Road. Reasons why we want our road to be safer and our experiences we've had that support this

Why - High increase of traffic along Soundwell Road and all sections of the junction.

- Dangerous, illegal parking around the 3 junctions.
- Complete non-observance by drivers of road markings and signage.
- Years of speeding day and night along Soundwell Road.
- No safe pedestrian crossings.

Experience

Years of complacent pavement and double yellow line parking, with no effective prosecutions.

Obstructions to cross roads safely. Elderly, disabled and blind also in neighbourhood.

Speeding around keep left bollards eg woman falling from moped late at night over our garden wall and laying injured on the grass.

Our car was written off in the early hours when another vehicle smashed into it after turning into Soundwell Road from the keep left bollards.

A car mounted the keep left side pavement, crashed into and demolished neighbours Victorian brick gatepost.

Have seen worn away road surfaces, speed bumps, sinking and fractured paving and kerbs, through years of neglect.

Mr & Mrs S A HARRIS

PS07

Friends of St Andrews Park welcomes the fact that the St Andrews Park proposal is being considered by the Area 4 Committee. However, we have a concern about an element in the Public Document Pack for the meeting, which implies that Friends of St Andrews Park might be expected to find a further £4,965 itself.

The concern relates to two paragraphs on at the end of page 27 and top of page 28 of the Pack, as follows.

["i. Please describe the project you want to deliver (200 words maximum) (attach any plans, drawings etc as an appendix): This bid is for the next stage 3 involves trim trail and step repairs. The original bid included extended MUGA goal end, will now be removed from this bid. However, we would also recommend replacing the safety surfacing for the trim trail, which would cost a similar price to the MUGA goal end

We have been working with the group on a phased delivery for modernisation of this play area, which they have put a lot of work into. Stages 1 and 2 were both externally funded successfully. Stage 1 was completed in 2019, and stage 2 is due to be completed this year. It was commented that toilets are a priority for this park. Cllr Wye, requested, due to ASB in park, whether this bid could include signage for the toilets. Which may add an additional £1.5K to the costs. The cost of £15K is the original cost, sufficient for the remaining project alone. If the signs were added (£1.5K), plus 10% delivery fee and 10% Contingency added, the project total cost required is £19,965. Meaning there would be a shortfall of funding of £4,965 the group would need to find. ii. where will it be delivered? Ashley".]

Our particular concern is the highlighted last section of the first paragraph on page 28, indicating that if the toilet signage and new safety surfacing for the trim trail were added, to quote: 'there would be a shortfall of funding of £4,965 the group would need to find'.

We understand this to mean that if the project includes replacing the safety surfacing for the trim trail, which the Council is now recommending as an addition, and the toilet signage which Councillor Wye has requested, that Friends of St Andrews Park would need to raise a further £4,965. Unfortunately, we do not consider that this is feasible.

We have already raised around £120,000 for the play area redevelopment via four grants since 2019, two from Ibstock Enover Trust, one from Enover Community Trust, and a Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government fund grant, plus a crowdfunding appeal earlier this year. We cannot credibly or easily go back to the community again for further crowdfunding just now, the government fund was time limited, and of the two trusts, one has now closed, and having received nearly £45,000 from the other this year, which remains to be implemented, it seems unlikely they would be receptive to a further application so soon. As the two items referred to were not in our original outline proposal, it seems problematic to expect Friends of St Andrews Park to pay for the resurfacing work which the Council now deems necessary, and the signage requested by Councillor Wye. It is important to say that in principle we welcome both of these developments, but not if FoSAP is expected to find the funds.

Thank you for considering this statement.

Sarah Cemlyn, Play area convenor, Friends of St Andrews Park

Submitted on behalf of Friends of St Andrews ParkPS08

PS08

### **SOUNDWELL ROAD/GRANTHAM ROAD/BROAD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**

The above roads have had years of serious neglect from Bristol city Council in regards to road safety; resident parking and speeding.

#### **CROSSINGS**

There is no designated crossing. The junction by the Pizza Hut is an accident waiting to happen. There is a large volume of people crossing here and there is no other point/safe place to cross. As both a car driver and a pedestrian this junction is lethal. A crossing of some sort needs to go in this area of the road.

#### **ILLEGAL AND DANGEROUS PARKING**

Over the years residents have attempted to address these with various reports and photographs to the council about the amount of illegal parking that occurs – especially around Top Nosh café and on all the other double yellow lines on Grantham and Soundwell Roads.

There doesn't appear to much of a deterrent to this except the occasional visit from Enforcement Officers who have been observed to not issue tickets to those parked in a dangerous and illegal manner. This in turn does not encourage visitors to establishments to be respectful of pedestrians and residents. There have been numerous pictures sent as evidence to demonstrate this. Also those who park on the double yellows hinder the sightline from Soundwell going into Grantham by Top Nosh; they block the pavements; the bus stop; and this causes massive jams and lots of altercations between drivers on the road. Some bollards put outside Top Nosh and the surrounding pavements would stop this but it would have to be finely balanced in regards to then not pushing problematic parking onto the surrounding streets – hence the need for some sort of resident/restricted parking.

#### **TRAFFIC CALMING/PARKING**

Lodge Road/Soundwell needs traffic calming or a one way system. Grantham Road is also one way but would need a traffic calming system as they already use the road as a rat run and like a runway. Grantham Road is also used as a free carpark for businesses that park and then don't move all day to the massive frustrations of residents who struggle to park. And residents from other roads are now using it to park as they are fed up with the damage done to their vehicles on Soundwell by the bus; massive HGV's and car drivers who don't care. The road is too narrow to accommodate both side parking and this amount of traffic.

Ideas to consider:

Considering Bristol encourage greener ways of getting to and from work, implementing either a 'Restricted Parking' or 'Resident Only' Parking system would encourage more car sharing and less cars on the road.

Various charities have called for easing of zebra crossing rules (TheGuardian.com 7th November 2021) where a crossing would be 'paint only' on side roads. Research has showed these make drivers slow down significantly and more likely to stop. This would also encourage more parents to walk their children to school. Living Streets, Guide Dogs for the Blind, The AA have called for them to be introduced. If not this then a full zebra crossing somewhere near the Lodge Road junction is needed.

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods – Modal Filters ([Sustrans.org.uk](https://www.sustrans.org.uk))

From:

Fern and Jason Bohin

PS09

My name is Jim Reid and I live on Grantham Road, Kingswood, Bristol BS15.

Grantham Road is a one way street going from Soundwell Road to TwoMileHill Road. My worry is the amount of vehicles that go down the wrong way on our road. Not only do they go down the wrong way but they go very fast and don't even slow down at the bend in the road. They have no view of what is coming the other way at the bend in the road and if another vehicle was coming the right way up Grantham Road there could be a serious accident.

Grantham Road is a 20mph speed zone and it is also a worry the speed that vehicles come up Grantham Road. I think that the 20mph signs are very small and maybe 20mph signs should be painted on the road as well to make it more clear that the road is a 20mph zone.

Yours sincerely

Jim Reid

PS10

I highly support the CIL application made by Councillor Beech on behalf of the residents in the Soundwell Road area.

The illegal parking, speeding and road rage in this area is having a negative impact on resident property and well-being on a daily basis. We'd appreciate any support in ensuring our community can be protected and safe from harm.

Best,  
Stacey Downton

Statement in support of CIL and S106 proposal No. 5: St George Park – Play Area Fencing

Submitted by: Laura Quaiter - Play in St George Park

**Play in St George Park** (PlayinSGP) is a community-led project established in 2020 to redevelop the existing play area within St George Park, working in association with the Friends of St George Park.

A refurbishment of the existing play area is badly needed. Much of the existing play equipment within the park is tired and nearing the end of its natural life. There is no equipment for older children, no separation of equipment for different ages and not enough space or equipment for the growing local population.

Our vision is to extend the play area, remove the existing equipment and install new play equipment suitable for a wider age range of children. We will deliver this by engaging with the community to ascertain needs, securing support and creating community-led design.

During 2021, PlayinSGP held 2 consultation events on the redevelopment of the play area and conducted a consultation survey, which received 500 responses. There is very strong local support for the project and the Facebook page is followed by 419 people.

Half of the survey respondents don't feel the play equipment currently serves the needs of their child with a particular gap for toddlers and older children identified. The extended space would be used to create clear zones for different ages and abilities, significantly increasing the usability of the area for local families. The survey showed an overwhelming support for the extension of the existing fenced area, with 90.4% in favour.

The need for refurbishment of the play equipment was identified during BCC park inspections dating back to 2016 but has not been actioned.

The proposal for fencing represents the first phase in the redevelopment of the park and is a discreet phase of work which can be progressed whilst consultation, design and securing of funding towards the wider park redevelopment is conducted.