



Walberton Parish Council A 27 Arundel Bypass Preferred Route announcement Press release

Walberton Parish Council, which consists of Walberton, Binsted and Fontwell, is extremely disappointed at Highways England's announcement of the A27 Arundel Bypass preferred route as being the grey option.

How strange that our Parish with over 2,200 residents, who are likely to be the most affected by this choice, was not given any warning of this announcement by Highways England even though we are a key stakeholder. We note that the announcement brochure has a distilled date of 23rd September 2020.

Our residents are in favour of an Arundel bypass but one that has the least damaging effect on our villages and, of course, Arundel.

However, has anyone noticed the lack of hold ups at Arundel since Covid-19? Does Highways England have up to date traffic data?

Grey carves through both Binsted and Walberton and Eastern Fontwell. It cuts our villages off from each other.

Four of our villages' lanes will be closed or dramatically changed.

Has any thought been given to the residents of the 175 new homes of the Avisford Grange development in Yapton Lane? Some of these homes may certainly end up being compulsorily purchased despite having only just been built. The proximity to Walberton and Binsted primary school is of great concern.

Grey will create an increase in traffic on Yapton Lane – already an identified Speed Watch location due to both the volume and speed of vehicles. This in turn will create rat runs through the country lanes of Walberton and Fontwell.

The Council has been receiving correspondence from residents almost every week for the last several months with traffic concerns and this is during the Covid pandemic so what will it be like with this bypass?

The rejected Crimson route has the least damaging effect on houses in both our Parish and Arundel but it would appear that Walberton was the only council to put their head above the parapet and challenge Highways England to consider this with a cut and cover option.

One also has to question why this decision has not been postponed until normal life resumes and current traffic data is available. The grey route was also estimated as being £384 million over budget – how can Highways England justify this additional expenditure in these challenging and uncertain times?

Walberton Parish Council
15th October 2020