

Heald Green and Long Lane Ratepayers' Association

Watching over the interests of Heald Green ward since 1927

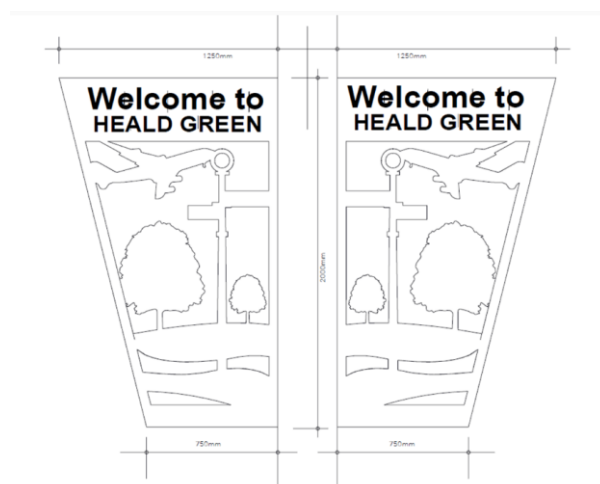


29 September 2023

Ward Highways Meeting

Councillors meet with officers on a quarterly basis to discuss highways related issues, some of the items discussed in the latest meeting which may be of interest to residents are:

- Outwood Drive / the corner of Finney Lane is a problem area for parking, which is dangerous for pedestrians. Cars should not park or overhang the pathway. The shops are being asked to take down the signs which encourage parking there. The council is seeking to paint lines on the path to demarcate where cars can and can't park, which will make enforcement possible and hopefully improve the safety of pedestrians.
- There have been comments on the number of accidents occurring on the Finney Lane / Styal Road junction. This falls within the Manchester jurisdiction, so is not something Stockport Council is responsible for. However, officers looked up the statistics for the number of serious accidents at the site, and there were very few registered, which seems surprising. However, the lack of evidence that the junction is an accident black spot would hamper efforts to implement any changes here. It would seem most of the accidents there have not been registered.
- A number of residents have commented on the difficulties for drivers getting out of Queensway onto Wilmslow Road, the traffic lights are due to be installed later in the year, however councillors have passed on residents' requests for temporary traffic lights until the permanent ones are in place. This will be looked into.
- A guard rail is being installed on the footpath off Gleneagles Estate onto St Anne's Road North to protect children and cyclists who fail to stop from travelling straight onto the busy road.
- Testing is being undertaken on the ground with a view to installing the four new gateway columns. The design was agreed some time ago but has been subject to a number of delays – the four columns will be installed on Finney Lane near the station and near Freshfields. This was the chosen design:



- Drains considered to be a flooding risk are being dealt with, where possible, on an ad hoc basis. The problem drain at the Finney Lane end of Outwood Road has been successfully cleaned. Limited resources mean this is a slow process.
- Some residents were keen to understand if they could apply for permit parking – this is only possible in areas where houses don't have driveways. Those streets with driveways won't meet the criteria to be eligible for such a scheme.
- Double yellow lines are being installed on Preesall Avenue, a consultation is being arranged for double yellow lines on Freshfield and Formby Drive.
- Parking on the new cycle path on Wilmslow Road is not legal and is enforceable – so could result in parking tickets being issued.
- Concerns were raised about the standard of the resurfacing at St Ann's Square, officers will inspect this month before the work is signed off.
- The Totally Local Company will be washing signs, on main roads in the ward between now and the end of March, which they do every few years.
- The Government is also consulting on changes to pavement parking, which could bring much greater limitations to pavement parking, it's not clear at this stage how it would be enforced and who would enforce it. The consultation is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/managing-pavement-parking/pavement-parking-options-for-change>