

BYPASS NOT A27 THROUGHPASS UPDATE TO MEMBERS

NUMBER 6 – JANUARY 2017

Message from Jack Delbridge, Chair of the group.

Welcome to the e-updatenumber six. Happy New Year. I hope that you and your loved ones had a wonderful Christmas and will have a great new year ahead.

We expect to hear the details of the Highways England proposals to change the A27 in late spring / early summer. . It is your continued support for the campaign against any extra lanes of traffic on the existing online route and enthusiasm for a proper bypass to the north of Worthing using existing roads that will ensure success. Support very much appreciated by your committee.

Raising awareness at Christmas

In December, we wished residents in Worthing town centre, Broadwater and Findon Valley a happy Christmas by giving out 2 specially designed Christmas cards which included membership forms to raise awareness of plans to change the A27. Your committee would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped to hand out the cards.

The impact of a new IKEA store

In addition to another 600 new homes likely to be built near the A27 at New Monks Farm at Lancing, the Herald reported in the 19 January edition, that IKEA are considering building a new store near the A27 at New Monks Farm at Lancing. Whilst I am sure that many of us will welcome the job (and shopping!) opportunities that this would bring, the additional traffic could cause even more chaos for hard pressed users of the A27. Everyone who uses the road already struggles to battle with solid traffic jams from the Southwick Tunnel all the way through to the Coach and Horses just outside of Worthing nearly every day of the week. A proper bypass for Worthing and Lancing would stop the through traffic getting held up by people wanting to visit the new IKEA. You can read more at the following link

<http://www.juicebrighton.com/news/brighton-news/ikea-hold-back-on-sussex-plans/>

Air quality

With an ever increasing number of vehicles using the A27, the impact of air pollution must become a priority for all Worthing residents. This must become a major factor in our fight for a bypass. The health of you and your family are already at risk and this cannot be allowed to continue. We will be addressing this point more in the next few months. In the meantime, you may be interested to see the following link which shows pollution levels at Grove Lodge throughout the day. http://www.sussex-air.net/AQNearMe/Monitoring/Graphs.aspx?SiteCode=WT2&SiteName=Worthing&Period=Seven_day

Please also see the link to a summary report of nitrogen oxide levels in the UK published by the Air Quality Expert group.

<https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/aqeg/nd-summary.pdf>

Spread the Word

This year will be a crucial year – the options for the changes to the A27 through Worthing and Lancing will be announced. Until we hear what the options are, this is the calm before the storm. The committee and I want to ensure we're in good shape to campaign effectively against expanding the road to increase traffic through our residential areas and to publicise the benefits of a proper relief road and to help achieve this, would you please do two things to help.

1. Speak to your neighbours and friends, tell them about the A27 and encourage them to join. A membership form is attached to this email.
2. Write to the local newspaper to give your views about how important it is for Worthing and Lancing to have a proper bypass. Information to help you craft your letter can be found in the Get Involved page of our website www.bypassnota27throughpass.org

The A27 at Chichester

Chichester has been in the news recently. An option for a northern route for the A27 was mysteriously omitted from the consultation conducted by Highways England. Chichester's local MP, West Sussex County Council and Chichester District Council all joined forces to back a demand for running the consultation again – this time with the inclusion of a northern route. You can read about this in the following news article.

<http://www.chichester.co.uk/news/new-a27-consultation-could-delay-whole-chichester-scheme-highways-england-says-1-7753210>

Thank you for your continued support. We all know that Worthing Deserves Better. Together **we can** achieve a better solution.

Jack