

BYPASS NOT A27 THROUGHPASS UPDATE TO MEMBERS

NUMBER 35 – SEPTEMBER 2019

Message from Jack Delbridge, Chair of the group.

Welcome to e-update number thirty-five.

It was reported in the Herald that at the Arundel Bypass Consultation launch, Valerie Stephens, a Highways England senior project manager for the A27 (including the Worthing Bypass) confirmed that “improvements” to the A27 at Worthing and Lancing are still being considered.

This means that we still are likely to have a fight on our hands to get a proper bypass for Worthing, Sompting and Lancing. I hope that this encourages you to renew your membership of the group if it is due and also to attend our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 11th September.

If you wish to renew your membership on the evening, you will be able to do so from 7.15pm by payment of the minimum £5.00 either in cash or by cheque, made payable to ***Bypass not A27 Throughpass*** or earlier by post to ***Bypass not A27 Throughpass*** at PO Box 4989, Worthing, BN11 9AJ. Thank you.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on

Date: Wednesday 11 September 2019

Time: 7.30pm

Location: St Michael’s Church Hall, Hayling Rise, High Salvington, Worthing.

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks from Chair Jack Delbridge**
2. **Chair’s Report**
3. **Treasurer’s Report**
4. **Election of Committee and Officers**

All of the current committee are willing to stand for election and the people who have been carrying out these roles are listed beside the roles:

Officer	Name
Chairperson	Jack Delbridge
Secretary	Nigel Kerridge
Treasurer	Debbie Hopkins
Membership Secretary	Steve Hopkins
Press Officer	Ian Newman
Committee member:	Ann Delbridge
Committee member:	Caroline Baxter

Committee member	Jenny Kerridge
Committee member	Alan Robb
Committee member	Scott Taylor
Committee member	Mark Cranford
Committee member	Michael Fisher

Any member may make a nomination for any post – nominations should be sent to the following email address bypassworthing@gmail.com before 4 September.

5. **Any Other Business**
6. **Close of Official Part of the Meeting**
7. **Informal Question and Answer session**

PLEASE NOTE...

If you have neighbours and friends who are interested in what we are doing and want to support us, there will be an opportunity for people to join the Group **before** the AGM.

The AGM will be for Member households only but new members will be very welcome. Please bring them along to join, or print the membership form off the website for them. We look forward to seeing you there.

LETTER TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT

I want to show you a copy of a recent letter that I sent to the new Secretary of State for Transport Mr Grant Shapps MP on 27 July. No response has been received as yet.

Dear Mr Shapps,

Congratulations on your appointment as Secretary of State for Transport.

I was encouraged to learn that the new Prime Minister has been promoting investment in our country's infrastructure including roads. Worthing, Lancing and Sompting have been crying out for investment in a proper bypass for over forty years. We hope that you'll be the person who can finally make this happen.

Worthing, the largest town in West Sussex, is the only major town on the south coast that does not have a bypass. Traffic is constantly queuing all the way through Worthing, Sompting and Lancing from both the east and the west. If there are any roadworks or accidents on or close to the route, it becomes completely gridlocked not only on the A27 but in all the surrounding areas. This has a huge effect on businesses, residents and commuters alike. The situation will only get worse now that planning permission has been given to build a new IKEA store, school and 600 new homes at New Monks Farm at Lancing.

Pollution levels along the A27 are very high and at Grove Lodge Roundabout, where Worthing College is situated, Worthing Borough Council's own monitoring report shows that the levels are up to 70% above the legal limits for the Grove Lodge cottages just before the roundabout. This area is used by many of the College's 1500 students to walk to their place of study.

The only realistic solution to increasing pollution and traffic congestion in Worthing is a “bypass”. The residents’ action group which I lead has put forward a suggested route using Long Furlong (an existing road), joining the A24 to Washington (an existing dual carriageway) and then using the A283 bypassing Steyning (an existing road) re-joining the A27 at the Shoreham flyover. We were provided with a costing by Highways England for this route in an email dated 16 September 2017 from Peter Phillips of between £500 million and £600 million.

I would like to know what action you propose to take to invest in a bypass for Worthing, Lancing and Sompting. Why should an area with a population of around 120,00 people have to suffer daily lengthy traffic congestion and high levels of pollution shortening the lives of many residents when a bypass is the best and most obvious solution?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Jack Delbridge

Chair, Bypass Not A27 Throughpass Residents’ Action Group

OUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Please remember, our email address is bypassworthing@gmail.com

Thank you for continuing to support us and we’ll continue to keep you up to date with what we’re doing. As always, any comments and ideas are always gratefully received.

Jack