

## Knowle Dorridge & Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum

### Summary of Analysis of Answers to Transport & Infrastructure Questions in Residents' Survey for NF Meeting 12.10.2016

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Q29 – Important comments about public transport. 672 comments received. 204 of general nature – 68 say satisfactory, 21 not satisfactory, 31 had mixed views. 110 comments about rail. 20% were satisfied, 11% not satisfied with London services to / from Dorridge. 10 say not satisfied with parking at Dorridge / Widney Manor stations. 8 not satisfied with frequency of later evening services B'ham to Dorridge. Parking for rail users had over 70 comments – 35 said not adequate & 13 suggested a new car park. 82 comments about bus services – most frequently about routes and frequency.

Q30 – 51% of residents who rarely or never cycle said they would cycle within the villages if there were more routes, 40% to go to / from Solihull. 20% suggested other routes – most mentioned were to B'ham, alongside the railway line (start & end points not specified) to Blythe Valley BP & to NEC. When read free text comments it is clear that respondents want more than just routes & lanes – they want clear separation between themselves & motor vehicles & paths that are continuous & take them to meaningful places

Q32 – Parking – general concerns are school parking, commuter parking, availability & for shopping.

Q34 – Car Parks used regularly. Top places for difficulty were station, station overflow, Tesco at Dorridge & BH Co – Op. 149 comments counted. The q. allowed residents to list other places used regularly. Top mentioned location was BH PO on the streets nearby or on the forecourt outside. Some 30 comments about car parks were by non-users explaining non – use. Knowle centre was mentioned most often as a place that was avoided – 10 said they walk instead but 4 said they avoided Knowle altogether because of the difficulties with parking.

Q33 – Parking, traffic volumes that cause inconvenience, danger or environmental damage; danger spots. Most comments about danger spots. 1899 comments received. Top mentions (all with 65 or more mentions) – schools, Station Rd, Knowle ( ! ), Poplar Rd, Lodge Rd, St John's Cl, Widney Rd, Longdon Rd, Mill Ln, Dorridge station, Arden Academy, Warwick Rd, High St, Manor Rd, Tesco, BH Shops

Q35 congestion – 354 comments – 317 location listed. Top 5 – Browns Ln, Lodge Rd, Widney Rd (various sections) Mill Ln, Hampton Rd

Q36 – sustainable transport – the q. that brought the most comments about future forms of transport & cleaner methods. 1576 comments received. Top 5 – improvements to cycle infrastructure, improve bus services / public transport, encourage electric vehicles, improve parking at Dorridge station, more frequent trains

Q37 – improvements to roads / junctions, parking provision, transport choices; what is priority ? 1795 comments. Top 10 suggestions –

1. More / better parking for rail commuters
2. More off – street parking in Knowle

3. Parking restrictions on Poplar Rd
4. Improve junction Station Approach/ Dorridge Rd/ Avenue Rd to include reinstating roundabout & a taxi / drop off zone
5. Multi – storey car park behind Sainsburys FS
6. Improve St John's Cl
7. More parking at BH Co – Op
8. Improve junction Hampton Rd / Lodge Rd/ Warwick Rd
9. No parking on pavements
10. More / better cycle lanes/ paths

We had comments on themes of – road / junction improvements, easing traffic flow, speed reduction, travel to / from schools, parking for commuters, shoppers, workers, residents, street parking, pedestrian facilities – mainly requests for crossings – cyclist facilities, public transport, amenity for residents, greener technology, other.

Possible policies for the Plan could include :-

- Policies which prescribe parking space numbers for new homes, new business premises, new public buildings.
- Support for dedicated continuous paths for cyclists which separate cyclists from motor vehicles
- Specify roads / junctions which should be improved to accommodate growth anticipated by Solihull Local Plan. Top candidates would be major roads & junctions most mentioned in survey answers
- Support for continuous footpaths / pavements on new housing developments and for pedestrian friendly streets that encourage people to walk more & preserve village feel that residents said they value.

[ N. B. Comments made in room on 12. 10.2016 :-

- Future proof policies needed
- Parking for medical facilities. The health service reforms will generate more travel outside KDBH & Solihull for specialised services, and more need for parking at local surgeries for less specialised services including mental health.
- School places. Academies can choose admission criteria and are not limited to accepting only children from KDBH. ]