

## Highways England responds to Parish Council proposals for A247

The Parish Council has written to Highways England drawing attention to the possible impact and benefits to the Village depending on the precise nature of the schemes chosen. (See previous article)

We have voiced opposition to the proposed opening up of the slip roads at Burnt Common as suggested by the promoters of development at Garlick's Arch on the ground that this could make the Street in West Clandon (A247) a more attractive cut through.

We are however promoting upgrading work on Merrow Lane/Park Lane as an alternative and non-residential route to the Street if work is undertaken to improve the railway bridge at Merrow to allow full height heavy goods vehicles and a connection is made to the A3. Both of these are likely to be required if the development at Gosden Hill goes ahead but it is our view that the work could go ahead in any event, albeit without the benefit of developer contributions.

Further into the future the aspirational road scheme mentioned in the Local Plan to link the Burpham and Burnt Common junctions will provide an opportunity to resite the proposed slip roads away from the A247 reducing still further the attractiveness of West Clandon as a through route.

Highways England have agreed to consider our proposals as the schemes are developed and have confirmed that we will be specifically consulted on any proposals likely to affect the Street and given us a named contact in the Highways England National Office (now fortuitously based in Guildford)

Meanwhile the Parish Council is keeping a log of incidents on the Street for use in evidence when and if the opportunity arises. Residents witnessing problems are invited to post these on the village email or send them direct to the Parish Council. See Contact details above