

WEST CHRISTCHURCH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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www.wcresidents.co.uk

Marsh Lane School: Planning Application 8/15/0665

WCRA membership is divided in its opinions of this proposal. A number, mainly living close to Marsh Lane, are opposed; equally a number, mainly having children or grandchildren living within the catchment area, are strongly in favour; the majority are in favour but not at any price.

We are pleased that DCC has listened to us and has explored the viability of alternate sites both themselves and by using an independent third party. The outcome of this investigation when combined with the clear evidence that the school is needed makes the proposal to build at Marsh Lane one that we feel we can't legitimately object to.

However we are very disappointed by the traffic management proposals. We believe residents made it clear that they favoured chicanes over humps. The absence of measures to reduce the speed of vehicles in Suffolk Avenue and Bronte Avenue, particularly on the difficult S-bends these roads contain, is regretted. The questionable effectiveness of the set-down and pick-up arrangements concern us. The impact upon the narrow Walcott and Flambard Avenues is a worry.

All of this represents unnecessary danger particularly to children on bicycles. Previously we had been assured that DCC would not put cost considerations before safety. The expressed attitude of "*do nothing and see what happens*" appears to fly in the face of those assurances.

We are thus in favour of the proposal but not with any enthusiasm

6th December 2015