

Notes of the meeting with Naomi Winnifrith & Moira Dorey of The Swan School held at OXSRAD on the 26th August 2020 at 6:00pm.

Present:

Parish Council:

Duncan Hatfield Pat Hall Louise Milford
Peter Williams Mary James Charlotte Vinnicombe
Alistair Morris

Governors of The Swan School:

Naomi Winnifrith Moira Dorey

Tim Cann (Clerk) took notes

Duncan Hatfield welcomed everyone and each introduced themselves.

Naomi thanked the Councillors for agreeing to the meeting and said that most were aware of the initial issues over the building of the school however things need to move on, hence why they had reached out to the Parish Council. All at the Swan School were looking to have open communications to better manage the traffic and parking.

Moira stated that a good travel plan can have a positive impact on the school and the community. On-site parking was limited but that was the decision of the City Council.

Work has already started with the students to install the 'No Cars' mindset and give them the skill set to be confident about cycling to and from school.

94% of year 7 students live within 2.5 miles of the school making cycling possible.

45% of year 7 students live within .75 miles of the school.

The School has to provide some parking.

To be allowed to drop off on site a permit is needed.

242 students registered for September term and to date not one has asked for a permit.

The Swan Travel Group are active and have produced leaflets showing routes for cycling to school from different part of Oxford.

Cherwell School is one of the top cycling schools in the country and this is looked to be the benchmark for the Swan School.

Many staff cannot afford to live in Oxford so have to travel in however has been made clear from the start there is not the capacity for all the drive and park on-site so they are expected to bus or car share if possible.

Naomi pointed out that what is currently unknown is whether parents will be worried about their children going to school by bus with COVID-19 still an issue.

They had a virtual meeting with City Councilor Mary Clarkson and County Councillor Mark Lygo to air issues and concerns.

Moira informed the meeting that the temporary school entrance was marshalled and the same will happen with the main entrance although the site will still be shared with GalifordTry until about December.

The students are expected to be onsite by 9:10 and school ends at 4:35 which is different from St Nicholas Primary School.

There is a map showing where the students are coming from across Oxford, the catchment area is virtually the same as Cherwell.

Marston Ferry Road is already No Stopping so hopefully there will not be issues with parents just parking up.

There are already issues with parents dropping off in the Oxford Road, in and around the Mortimer Hall, so it needs reinforcing that part of the Oxford Road is Access Only.

When formulating future travel plans it needs reminding that the village needs some protection and road around St Nicholas School (Raymund Road, Arlington Drive etc.) already have issues on a daily basis with parents dropping children off.

Concern about Meadowbrook College, with other sites closing and all being relocated to Meadowbrook this will be an issue. Moira stated that Meadowbrook was a completely different organization from the Swan School.

Naomi suggested a further visit, perhaps from the Head Teacher, and when open days are permitted the Parish Councillors could be invited.

Naomi stated that they are keen for students to do volunteer work within the Community.

Duncan suggested another meeting possibly in two months.

The Clerk to contact Meadowbrook College to see if anyone from there would like to visit the Parish Council or talk.

Meeting closed: 7:06pm