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05/12/24

Patrick Stroud

29 St James Road

Torpoint

PL11 2BL

27th November 2024

Question Submission to Next Torpoint Council Meeting

Ref: Oakwood Academy Parking and Access Issues.

Dear Council

Yet again today the area around the entrance to the Oakwood site was blocked by vehicles dropping and collecting students without any thought for other road users or pedestrians.

In the afternoon the car park was full with vehicles and others were attempting to enter the small carpark but vehicles were blocking the pavement and the roadway by leaving the rear of vehicles sticking out into the highway.

This resulted in pedestrian's having to walk out onto the road and I had to use my horn to warn the drivers and pedestrian's that I was trying to drive past.

Vehicles were also parked opposite by the park and also sticking out from the access lane next to the first house of the terrace.

Whilst the council has taken action against the junction issues at the end of St James Road and Vicarage Road nothing has been done regarding the increase in vehicles accessing the Oakwood site parking, which is full at the best of times with their company vehicles and minibuses.

The parking not only in St James Road, Vicarage Road, Barossa Road and Kempton Terrace is full everyday Oakwood is open as they have no provision for staff parking and vehicles are parked blocking junctions and access. With the number of students attending Oakwood this results in more staff who require parking hence the issue around the site is getting worse.

The highway code is clear in what is required but this is not being enforced and is leading to confrontation with people trying to enter the site and residents of the area.

According to Highway Code Rule 243, you should not park near a school entrance — as well as anywhere that would prevent access for emergency services, at or near a bus stop, opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, over a dropped kerb, and in front of an entrance to a property.

The highway code is clearly being ignored by the site and its staff daily without any recourse for residents or users of the area.

Whilst I appreciate people have to learn I cannot find any planning application which was submitted to turn the site into an academy with details of maximum numbers of students which should have been agreed given the limited access to the site.

As the representatives of the residents can you please examine the decremental impact the academy is having on the area and the residents.

Patrick Stroud.