

Agenda Item 13 July Meeting – Downlands Way Improvements.

Following the debate in the April meeting, Cllr Bustard and I visited site to determine what changes were required.

Improvement to the Downlands Way shopping area was a project identified by the Neighbourhood Plan (12.9 P65) and there has long been a problem with pedestrian access from the Wenthill Close junction along the Downlands Way (eastern) pavement because of cars parking on the pavement.

I have met RoadWays of Hailsham (a highways contractor) to highlight our current issues at the shops and to request plans and quotations for potential solutions.

Parking Car widths have expanded over the years, and the current parking spaces are restrictive. There are currently 7 spaces each side of “Your Shop” with one of those being designated for disabled parking. A need had been identified for a further parking spot for the disabled and wider spaces generally.

The attached overall plan (13.1) of the area shows potential for white lining which would offer:

South Side: 1 disabled and 6 regular spots (2 positioned perpendicular to the main area with a patio area shown.

North Side: 1 disabled and 5 regular spots with an extra area to the north which could be used for motorcycles.

This plan only reduces the parking spaces by 1 whilst still providing an extra spot for the disabled.

Pedestrians White lining along the pavement from Wenthill Close with a disabled icon would allow passage for both wheelchairs and pushchairs. 13.2 refers

Patio area & Further Improvements Sketches and plan for the patio area are shown at 13.3 and 13.1 respectively. Whilst the area will remove car park spaces, two more can be created facing north to south once the patio is in place. A decision will be required on the type of barrier/fence used.

A quotation has been received for disabled access ramps to all shops along the parade (ramp to Your Shop on a different level and not needed). Because of services and damp-proof courses, individual ramps will be appropriate.

Quotations for work (exclusive of VAT) are also enclosed at 13.4:

White lining £641 x 2 = £1,282

Ramps for disabled access £9,530

Café Seating area £13,907

Proposals:

1. White lining. Accept quotation of £1282 and proceed with lining to pavement (13.2) North area of car park and south area of car park *excluding* 2 perpendicular spaces (13.1)
2. All other improvements. Suggest further visit to site to consider any omissions or amendments on the quotation and the nature of the patio barrier.

3. Once other improvements are finalised
 - A) Consult with business owners
 - B) Put the work out to tender
 - C) Investigate grant funding available.

Phil Burgess

Clerk to East Dean and Friston