



Renfrewshire
Council

Telephone :

Fax :

My Ref :

Contact :

Date : 5th March 2009

RECEIVED 12 MAR 2009

Wendy Alexander MSP
Abbey Mill Business Centre
Mile End
12 Seedhill Road
PAISLEY
PA1 1JS

Dear Wendy

GLASGOW ROAD/OLD GOVAN ROAD, RENFREW, GAP RE-OPENING

Thank you for your letter dated 23rd February 2009 concerning the re-opening of the above gap, combined with the installation of traffic signals.

I had heard separately that Mr George Weatherhead denies giving the position of the Dean Park Residents Association with respect to the above issue at a meeting with my staff and Councillor Bill Perrie early in 2008. Two staff from my office were at the meeting and our recollection was that the issue was discussed after detailed discussions on Afton Drive. The impression my staff drew from the meeting was that Dean Park Residents Association was not opposed to the re-opening of the gap but rather there were individuals on the group who held very strong views on this. We understood that a letter would be issued stating that the Dean Park Residents Association did not object to the installation of the traffic signals, although as discussed in my last letter, we never received this.

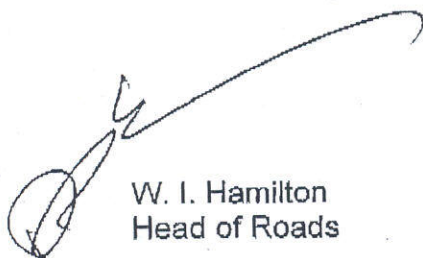
Clearly it is unfortunate that we have a different view of the outcome of the meeting and I would not wish to contradict Mr George Weatherhead who is someone we hold in high regard and has been dedicated and fair in his representation of the people of Dean Park.

As discussed in my last correspondence however, the position of the Dean Park Residents Association with respect to re-opening the gap was not definitive. When the statutory process commenced however, the Dean Park Residents Association did not submit an objection. Had they done so during this stage, clearly the Council would have entered negotiations with them. In view of the nature of the Traffic Order, which is a lessening of restrictions as opposed to an increase, (ie. drivers are getting more freedom to use the network as opposed to less) and in accordance with the regulations, the Council would have the power to determine the Traffic Order without recourse to a Local Public Inquiry.

The Council's position on this has been consistent since the original Public Inquiry some years ago into closure of the gap. That is that the Council would support the gap being opened in the circumstance where there is full traffic signal control to address road safety.

I regret therefore that there is no possibility of further consultation with the Dean Park Residents Association and indeed the traffic signals will be in operation shortly. I hope my response is of some assistance but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if you wish to discuss this in greater detail.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. I. Hamilton', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

W. I. Hamilton
Head of Roads