COLDEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING FORUM

DISABILITY ACCESS ASSESSMENT

Introduction

This document is to start the process of providing a comprehensive assessment of disability access within the Neighbourhood Area. We hope that it will be considered, amended, and approved by Brighton and Hove disability groups, for inclusion in our Neighbourhood Plan.

We will also consult other groups on our consultees list.

1. Dropped Kerbs

The City Council are continuing to install dropped kerbs. **Action**: Monitoring

1. Pedestrian Crossing Points

Excluding any plans for pedestrian crossings at Bluebell Heights, there is currently only one controlled crossing within the Neighbourhood Area at the junction of Coldean Lane and Lewes Road.

We consider that a pedestrian crossing is required on Hawkhurst Road at the junction with Beatty avenue. **Action**: Consultation for possible inclusion in the Traffic Management plan.

1. Pavements - Wheelchair etc access
2. Often pavements are obstructed by vehicles parking on pavements and/or builders leaving materials on pavements. There is observational evidence that there are a significant number of people in Coldean who rely on wheelchairs, mobility vehicles etc. Therefore we consider this to be a priority concern**. Action:** consult with Sussex Police/ Council Highways department.
3. The current council policy is not to weed pavements. This leads to uneven surfaces and split paving slabs. Some residents spray weedkillers on the pavement outside of their properties, thus defeating the purpose of non-weeding. **Action:** Consult with ward councillors
4. Disabled Parking Bays

a). Outside Beatty Avenue parade of shops

b). Outside Coldean Library/New Larchwood Medical Centre/Cafe

**Action**: Consultation for possible inclusion in the Traffic Management plan.

1. Access to Open Spaces

a). Highfields at Highfields road. Currently Coldean Independents’ Group have council funding for restoration of the steps, handrail and a new bench. **Action:** Monitoring

b).Highfields (Ditchling Road) All access points along the northern perimeter of the developed area of Coldean are elevated above street level and the car park on Ditchling Road is at a lower level than Highfields and is enclosed, in part, by an earth bund. The height restriction barrier should be removed as it prevents access for some vehicles used by disabled people[[1]](#endnote-1). **Action:** include as aim of the Neighbourhood Plan and consultation with South Downs National Park Authority

c). Coldean Woods (north). Measures contained in the Bluebell Heights plans or S106 agreement do not include any provision for public disabled parking for access to the woods and Stanmer Park. **Action**: Consultation for possible inclusion in the Traffic Management plan.

d). Coldean Woods (south). Parking in Park Road Shops/Coldean Lane is an issue that has been mentioned in our “Vision” meetings. A designated disabled parking bay would be appropriate. **Action**: Consultation for possible inclusion in the Traffic Management plan.

Nothing in this document should limit any plans arising from the Traffic Management process that is consistent with the aims of providing best available disabled access.

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| SUMMARY |
| FACILITY | YES | NONE | ACTION |
| Park Road Shops/Cafe | √ |  | 4d |
| Beatty Avenue Shops | √ |  | 3a |
| Community Centres |  | X |  |
| Pharmacy | √ |  | 3a |
| Churches | √ |  | Integral parking/Access |
| Public Houses | √ |  | 4d |
| Medical Centre | √ |  | 3b |
| Dentists |  | X |  |
| Allotments (The Charltons) | √ |  | On street parking review |
| Allotments (Coldean Lane | √ |  | On street parking review |

1. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)