

Circular From West Park Residents Association

'Connecting Leeds' COVID-19 transport response

The council via ['Connecting Leeds'](#) has been soliciting ideas for making our streets better for walking and cycling and maintaining social distancing during the Covid-19 pandemic. The idea is to identify dangerous pinch points, new cycle routes, dangerous areas near schools, etc., and this accounts for various temporary bollards and barriers that you may have seen that make more room for pedestrian or bicycles. Here's an extract from the [webpage](#):

'The council's aspiration is to make cycling and walking for shorter journeys a natural everyday travel choice. This starts by giving people the space they need over motorised vehicles to keep safe on our streets, whether on their bike, wheelchair, pushchair or on their own two feet. Only when people feel safe, will they enjoy the convenience of active travel, which will support their own health and wellbeing.

We will continue to seek feedback on our plans when they are implemented and suggestions for where additional ones may be needed can be made via this website.'

You can add your own suggestions for improvements directly onto the website.

More on Plans for a new Airport Terminal

Menston is even more in the firing line from proposed changes to Leeds Bradford airport than West Park so it's well worth having a look at the Menston [website](#) for information about the impact of the proposals.

Alan Elsegood is a committee member of both the Menston Community Association and the LBA [Airport Consultative Committee](#) and he has written an authoritative paper about the plans and their impact. It is [referenced](#) on the Menston website but a copy is attached with this circular and is well worth a read.

Local Lib Dem Councillors oppose the LBA plans

Cllr Jonathan Bentley and Cllr Chris Howley write as follows in their 23-06-2020 newsletter:

"We have carefully considered the issues and reached the following conclusions:

1. There can be no doubt that the intention of the airport is to increase both the number of flights and those operating at unsociable hours. The airport's CEO has stated that he wants to see passenger numbers grow from the current 4 million a year to 7 million. This will require between 150 and 200 aircraft movements a day and will have a massive detrimental effect on those living under the flight path including many residents of Weetwood.
2. Air travel is, of course, highly damaging to the environment. Proposals which support expansion of flying are difficult to justify and are not consistent with the Climate Emergency which the Council declared last year.
3. The airport's application claims that the expansion will result in more local jobs. We share the widespread view that jobs based on the growth of the

carbon dependent aviation sector are not sustainable jobs. The alternative is long term green investments which are proven to be very effective in stimulating increased economic activity, environmental benefits and employment opportunities.

It is for these reasons that we have decided to oppose the plans for the expansion of the airport.”

About West Park and the Residents Association

Click here to visit the [WPRA website](#). There's a section for recent news plus lots of local reference information. Click here to visit [WPRA on Facebook](#).

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WPRA Membership

To join WPRA or to renew your subscription, please mail your cheque for £5 (payable to "Spen Lane and West Park Residents Association") with your name, address, and phone number, to WPRA, 26 The Ring Road, West Park, Leeds, LS16 6EJ, tel. 2785174. The subscription year is from one AGM to the next (effectively April to April).

WPRA Policy on Planning Alerts

We circularise notifications of planning applications that the committee think are likely to be of general interest to the membership. It's then up to the individual to decide what personal action they wish to take, if any.