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The Chairman
Gerrards Cross Parish Council

Dear Sir

Traffic Lights in Gerrards Cross

Unfortunately I was abroad at the time when a public consultation exercise was held concerning the multitude of traffic lights in Gerrards Cross. It is topic on which I expressed my views in the Buckinghamshire Advertiser almost a year ago. It is certainly a subject, upon which many local residents have serious concerns. Sadly I am committed to another meeting when the Parish Council Annual Meeting is to be held so I am unable to be present personally.

I hear that Bucks County Council produced a very lengthy Report suggesting four options, of which leaving things as they were was one. This can be disregarded since the vast majority of residents have grave concerns about the current situation.

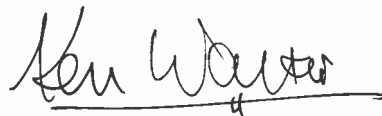
I was a member of the Working Party at the time of the construction of Tesco and we were informed that if traffic lights were installed they would be “intelligent” lights and therefore able to adjust to varying traffic conditions. All I can say is that the traffic light system, which has resulted must have a very low IQ.

I understand that one of the options was to instal a round-a-bout at the junction of Station Approach, Packhorse Road and the entrance to Tesco and this is very similar to the suggestion I made in my letter published in the Bucks Advertiser on 19 July. It should be economically viable to place hoods over all traffic lights at that junction as well as the traffic lights in Station Road and construct a temporary round-a-bout for an experimental period when traffic flow will be improved. The pedestrian lights outside HSBC Bank and Natwest Bank on Packhorse Road should be retained and enhanced with an audible sound to help partially sighted people to cross.

Signs should be incorporated at these pedestrian lights to give a clearer indication to pedestrians when to cross. In many countries (and I understand in parts of London) flashing countdown indicators showing the number of seconds left can be installed. It should not be beyond the wit of man to update this pedestrian crossing to the standard often found in third world countries.

I fully support all efforts made by the Parish Council and others to get something done. At the moment, it is a mess and most frustrating to both pedestrians and motorists.

Yours faithfully



Ken Walker