

# Press Release

**From Councillor Barry Stamp  
Stafford Borough Councillor  
Church Eaton Ward**

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**Use: Immediate**

## **Councils Accused Of “Fudging” Village Road Safety Problem**

Haughton Parish Council's decision to back a County Council's proposal to confirm the new road layout outside Haughton shops has been described as a “fudge” by the Village's Borough Councillor.

Barry Stamp said he was disappointed that neither the Parish nor County Council had listened to the concerns of local residents and traders who all said the layout was dangerous.

“Since the new road layout was introduced outside the shops in Haughton a few months ago I have been bombarded with complaints from residents about how dangerous it is. This view has been supported by the A518 Action Group, Bradley Parish Council, and also the 300 people who signed a petition raised by Haughton Post Office. I was therefore disappointed to hear that despite these objections the new scheme is to be confirmed. It clear that vehicles turning into the shops are moving out over to the opposite carriageway to make the turn, while others are having to block the new pedestrian crossing while waiting for a break in the oncoming traffic. Even drivers leaving the shops are facing dangers. Many are again forced to cross onto the opposite side of the road to complete their manoeuvre or are driving over the verge to exit safely. It is unbelievable that despite this the County Council say there are no problems. They are suggesting that to allow the flow to be reversed the exit from the shops would need to be narrowed, which would of course cost money. However, what they conveniently forget is that they widen this part of the road in the first instance to put their new traffic scheme in place. The more cynical residents will no doubt be asking whether the County Council do not want to reverse the traffic flow as they do they will be admitting their first plan was wrong. What is clear is that the current layout is dangerous and that by making minor adjustments like marking out car-parking spaces differently will not take these dangers away. Many local people will be very disappointed with the stance both Councils are taking, and I for one will be continuing to support their campaign to get the situation changed,” said Barry Stamp.

Further details from: Councillor Barry Stamp

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