



New Road Layout at major junction in Strathaven!

Councillor Graeme Campbell said in response to the junction change:

I've been aware this junction was due to change as part of the East overton planning application back in 2014. However, the fact it suddenly happened mid-week, in mid-December and 4-years after; really caught me by surprise. Bearing in mind two days earlier: I'd met senior SLC roads officers with CLLR Dorman and the Strathaven Community Council Transport working group, I it was clear this sudden change to the junction caught everyone by surprise and in my opinion, that's is the crux of the problem here:

- No-one had time to prepare for the change in road layout at one of the towns major junctions;
- It came into operation during the mid-winter and it was dark, adding to the problems and;
- Four weeks on, the developer still hasn't put in place the proper road signs and in-fact on Tuesday 8th January (this week) there was still a giveaway sign on Hamilton Road, just adding to the confusion.

The senior SLC officers have apologised for the complete lack of communication but we have got to hold the East overton developer and their contractors partly responsible because it was them who rushed this job on a dark winter's afternoon with no warning. It's is they who have then gone on holiday and over Christmas and the New Year, leaving the junction incomplete and with confusing signs.

Regarding the junction change itself:

- This was fully consulted on as part of the East Overton planning process;
- I advised the public many years ago that this junction would change;
- As an elected member, I have absolutely no say over road design or re-design. Over the last decade, I received numerous complaints about alleged speeding in the area so just like SLC did on Colinhill Road last year: they used a large development project to instigate a change in road layout, which included the change in this junction and traffic calming measures on Glassford Road. The council's officers explained it has been designed to:
 - Help traffic flow on the busiest route and that is Hamilton Road onto Commercial road;
 - Improve the natural flow along the A723, which is Commercial Road and Hamilton Road and:

This junction change is just one of many traffic improvement projects we're considering across Strathaven in coming years. I'm working closely with my councillor colleagues and a traffic management sub-group within Strathaven Community Council to identify candidates and potential solutions but the final design of any solution will be led by SLC Roads experts and while I fully expect some road users will not like the changes, everyone has an opportunity to feed into the process via the Strathaven Community Council, as they did as part of this project via the legislative planning process.

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