

**Joyce Holman**

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**From:** Philip Martlew <PMartlew@swindon.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 02 October 2018 15:09  
**To:** Joyce Holman  
**Subject:** FW: South Swindon Parish Council - Support for a Crossing and Footpath on Marlborough Road and Biddestone Avenue

Joyce,

Your e-mail to Tim Price has been passed to me for reply.

We have had extensive correspondence with the Residents Group over the last 12 months on this subject. As ever, cost is the main issue. The request – that a footpath should be provided on the north side of Marlborough Road from the filling station to a new pedestrian light controlled crossing at the junction with Biddestone Avenue – is likely to incur significant cost.

It is worth remembering that the layout of this development, including the means of access and the surrounding transport network have been through the full local authority planning process. This will have included assessments of all necessary infrastructure as well as audits of the safety of the proposed highway infrastructure. The developers have obtained planning approval from the Council for the layout of the highway – which is still currently under construction. The necessary infrastructure is funded by the developer rather than the Borough Council.

We appreciate the points that are being made about access to local facilities. However Badbury Park is a partially complete development. When complete it will have local shops, post box and a bus service etc. At present it is in the same position as many other developments across Swindon – where the first residents have moved in, but all the planned facilities are not yet available. The Borough Council does not provide “interim” arrangements at development sites pending full build-out and the introduction of all the planned facilities. It would not be a sensible or prudent use of public resources to provide such infrastructure to meet temporary situations. People choosing to move in to new developments are generally aware that local facilities will often not be available for their use straight away.

In the interim at Badbury Park a number of alternative options are available to residents. In addition, facilities in Liden are available by using the crossing at Homington Avenue. We would not encourage pedestrians to cross Marlborough Road at other locations.

There is no identified funding to take forward the proposals. The Borough Council does not have the resources (staff or financial) to agree to all the requests for service that it receives. It must therefore prioritise the use of its resources accordingly. The adoption by SBC of the new western junction is likely to be some time away. However the developer is only required to complete it to the currently approved plans.

The Council is currently working with the developers of other sites in the Day House Lane and Badbury Park areas – and there is the possibility that further developer funding may become available to provide additional local infrastructure – including those requested by the Residents Group. However there are other demands on any such funding (including revisions to Day House Lane itself) so although we will continue to seek third party funding it is not guaranteed that the crossing request would be the highest priority.

I hope this provides the clarification you were seeking.

**Philip Martlew**

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