

## **Re: PLEA REGARDING SAFETY ASPECTS**

### **ISSUE 1 – Increase use of pavements**

As you may be aware, Burford School was awarded a grant from Bucks County Council to build a fantastic bike and scooter shelter. The children are enjoying being able to bike/scooter to school, knowing that they have a covered shelter to leave their equipment in during the day.

However, the increase in the volume of bikes/scooters has meant that the pavements are even busier at drop off and pick up times. Understandably, some parents/residents have mentioned the safety aspects associated with the increase in pavement use.

The School Travel Committee (STC) has taken these concerns on board and has:

1. prepared a 'Cycle and Scooter Agreement' outlining the rules that must be followed to ensure safe biking/scootering
2. talked through this agreement with the children in assembly
3. sent this agreement to all parents asking them to read the rules about biking and scootering and to send back a signed copy stating that they and their children understand them
4. written now to you (parent/carer or resident) regarding parking issues to ask you to do your bit to help!!

So, what can you (the car owner) do to help keep the children, and all others in the Valley, safe?

### **ISSUE 2 – Parking on verges and on bends**

A number of cars are parking on the grass verges and the pavements – this leads to narrower pathways for the children. Although parking on verges is not illegal, the link below shows that parking on verges/pavements can lead to obstruction, and hence could lead to a criminal offence.

[http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/transport/parking\\_on\\_verges.page](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/transport/parking_on_verges.page)

Therefore, we are politely requesting that you **DO NOT PARK ON THE VERGES/PAVEMENTS**, especially **near corners/bends** in the road and especially at school drop-off (8.20am to 8.45am) and school pick-up (3pm to 3.40pm). Not only do many residents (who live in the properties adjacent to the verges) complain bitterly about parking on the verges/pavements outside their homes, but also the children are finding that the cars are a dangerous hazard for them to negotiate around. Also, parking on bends or at junctions is simply dangerous for everyone who uses the roads.

Thank you in advance from all the children and carers who use the pavements and from all the residents who like to see green grassy verges outside their homes!

Thanks for reading,

The School Travel Committee