

Church of Scientology

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From "[REDACTED]"

To "[REDACTED]"

Date 01/10/2024 19:18:41

Subject reply to yours of 18 & 25 Sept

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your letters dated 18th and 25th September addressed to the Church of Scientology. I am the External Affairs Director, and am replying on their behalf.

I would like to organize a Teams or zoom meeting with you to discuss these matters more thoroughly. When would be good for you?

In the meantime, it appears that you have been misinformed concerning the hedge on the opposite side of Saint Hill Road to the Church entrance. This was put there on the specific recommendation of Inspector Paul Scott of Sussex Police more than 10 years ago, and was inspected and approved by West Sussex Highways at that time.

Before that was put there the bushes actually extended further into Saint Hill Road than is currently the case, and presented a greater danger to passing traffic than the neat hedge that is now there.

The problem with what was there before was that when there was an occasional protest outside of the Church, protestors would try to congregate there. They would push themselves into the bushes, but for most of the time ended up actually on the road – causing an obstruction and danger to passing traffic. This was why the police made the recommendation that they did, to us and the Rockwood Park residents. It is why the Highways Authority were also happy with it.

I have downloaded a few images of the site from Google Maps historical street view to demonstrate the improvement that this has made to the safety of the highway.

The first of these is from June 2011, and shows what the bush line used to be like. You will note the haphazard way in which branches poke out into the 60 mph road. This meant passing vehicles had to exercise care driving past, and difficult maintenance issues.

The next Google Street view image available was from September 2016 – some years after the hedge was planted. You will note the considerable improvement in the safety of the highway.

I have also enclosed the Google Streetview images from April 2017, May 2019 and May 2024. On all you can see the neat, easily maintained hedge – a vast improvement on what was there in 2011.

West Sussex highways not only approved it more than a decade ago, but clearly have had no issues with it since.

The person who has complained now is someone who wishes to be able to stand there protesting, obstructing the traffic and recreating the dangerous conditions that were the reason that the police recommended it in the first place.

Please let me know when you are free to meet.

Kind regards,



Church of Scientology

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