


From: [James Robbins](#)
To: [Roberts, Ali](#)
Subject: Pedestrian rail crossing Oldfield Road, Westbury
Sent: 13/06/2025 21:55:36


Good evening,

I would like to raise observations and objections to the closure of the pedestrian crossing of the railway line at Oldfield Road.

Firstly the crossing has been there for many many years and to the best of my knowledge, (and that of my elderly neighbours), there has gladly never been a fatality at the crossing.

The crossing has always been busy / popular as it has always been a thoroughfare to the railway station, and although there has probably been some increase in use since the building of the housing estate, I think this is fairly minimal and living close by use the crossing regularly, I have a good idea of how much it is used.

The increase in use would only be residents of the new estate going to the shop on Oldfield park or children going to School.

I know most parents drive their children to school anyway.

The alternative routes from the New Spinnaker Estate to the local shop / school at Oldfield Park, are also inadequate with a very narrow pavement under the Railway bridge on Station Road or alternatively having to cross Station road twice (a Busy road and not easy to cross safely either by the Railway Inn or further down by Protyre. (There are no pedestrian crossings)

Although there are obvious risks if the crossing is abused, the crossing has a good signalling system and I see no more risk in crossing the railway line than crossing the road.

This seems to be a very draconian step to the residents of Oldfield Road and the adjacent legacy housing and also the new estate, and the Council really should object to what is really Network rail trying to cut costs.

Other measures could be put in place to make the crossing safer (if needed at all) such as gates either side that lock when a train approaches or a pedestrian bridge.

This was all surely considered before the new estate was built and with the council giving planning consent there should have been suitable mitigating measures made as condition of the planning approval.


I know that there has been plans for many years to build a bridge over the railway line from the end of Maine Way and the Council has already received funding for this.

I hope the Council will oppose this application which will be a devastating step by Network rail for the residents of Oldfield Road, the spinnaker estate and Westbury as a whole, and making it both a longer route and more dangerous for residents from the New Spinnaker estate having to cross several roads without any form of pedestrian crossing as an alternative.

The crossing should surely not be closed at least until the road bridge is built or a reasonable alternative put in place.

Sincerely

James Robbins

 Oldfield Road
Westbury