

**PRINCIPAL PETITIONER'S FULL COUNCIL'S SPEECH on the NO RIGHT TURN
– Three Bridges Station Petition.**

I raised the Petition against the “No Right Turn out of Three Bridges Station” as I felt it would have a negative impact on the local community of Pound Hill, Maidenbower, Copthorne, the new Forge Wood Estate and other surrounding areas. Many of whom use this station to commute and are dropped off and picked up by family and friends. The majority use this right hand turn to exit the station.

If people have to exit left and go all the way up and around the Paymaster General roundabout, which is approximately a 1.5 mile round trip -they will be using more fuel/emissions and add costs to their taxi fares.

Or, it could become dangerous as people will try to cut across to the right hand lane to head towards Lidl's to turn round or towards Tesco's, where there is already a fair amount of congestion, particularly around the Hazelwick School start & finishing times.

The local roads and houses around this area, will end up picking up, much of the returning station traffic, and St. Mary's Drive and Chaucer Road are already busy residential roads.

I feel people will try to do “U-Turns” which would also be very dangerous.

Many will park and wait along the roadsides to turn back or use other residential areas e.g. Snooty Fox, Lidl's the entrance to Trafalgar Gardens, Station Hill, St. Mary's Drive, Crawley URC etc., to drop off & pick up.

Bicycles are a good option, but although there are CCTV cameras, I know of MANY that have had their bikes stolen from Three Bridges Station and the CCTV images are not clear enough to help, so that becomes an expensive option.

Three Bridges Station is a major commuter station in Crawley, used by many people at all times of the day and night, so it is essential these commuters can be picked up and dropped off safely and that the people, taxis and family doing so, can have an easy exit without making their journeys unnecessarily further, difficult and more expensive.

The traffic light controlled right hand exit works fine, although I appreciate it can sometimes get a little congested but that same congestion will still occur or become even worse if there is only the ONE left turn exit.

This right hand turn exit is essential for the people of Pound Hill/ Maidenbower/Copthorne/ ForgeWood and other surrounding areas and as there has been well over eleven hundred signatures on this Petition, objecting to the proposal, then in my opinion this needs further consideration.

Thank you for listening.