

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Manston Airport](#)  
**Subject:** Manston Airport DCO resident representation TR020002  
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[REDACTED]

As a resident of one [REDACTED] I've reviewed the available planning documents with interest and have the following comments-

With regard to Spitfire way traffic volume /quantity. Due I expect to recent local developments? Traffic volume has increased markedly over the years that I have been living here, the road is extremely busy now, furthermore, vehicles are traveling at motorway speeds in reality, regardless of the speed limit. Spitfire way - the road in front of my house is the only way to access my property currently, likewise for 7 other households at [REDACTED], whats more, their visitors, the postman, the Ocado man, the Deliveroo man, the bin collection man, bulk waste collection man, Cesspit emptying man, removals van man or woman, all park on the road directly blocking one side of the road at times, there is no other way when they come to the houses etc. When this happens, bad tempered types forced to wait in queue tend to honk their horns or do stupid manoeuvres to get past putting other road users in jeopardy etc. Bin men are particularly vulnerable as they stand in this road facing the fast moving traffic on collection day, I wonder if anyone at the council has risk assessed this situation now that the traffic is so busy and getting busier etc. If it is windy (as it tends to be here) the bins get blown into the road and I've seen near misses as a result - With the planned development at Manston airport I anticipate the traffic volume will inevitably increase such that i think the whole access route to the airport needs a re-think either by adding a spur road for Pouces access from Spitfire much like has been planned for Rose farm or completely reroute this airport access to the Hengist way side of the airport etc.

Spitfire way is used by agricultural vehicles too, we are surrounded by wheatfields and have been for centuries etc. Several sections of the road are too narrow for combinations like a combine and and a HGV traveling the opposite way, when this occurs, since the road is so busy now, traffic quickly backs up and unmanageable gridlock follows, the farmer has needed to go out and Marshall the traffic before on a few occasions etc. Even opposing HGV's sometimes pull their mirrors in to pass each other safely - this is on a 60mph road so the dangers are obvious here etc.

Spitfire way is frequently used by cyclists as well as other traffic, as a cyclist myself it is becoming evident due to the increase in traffic that this is not a healthy mix now. For pretty much the whole length of Spitfire way a HGV cannot maintain the necessary 1.5m (at 30mph i might add) separation distance when passing and therefore has to trundle behind per the rules etc.

When there is a power outage (happens a lot here) the utilities company site a backup generator in the road for periods - a week or two if necessary, this closes the road during installation and for weeks afterwards shuts one lane of the road etc since there is nowhere else to put it etc. Evidential photo available etc.

Should any goods vehicle miss its designated entrance point where is it going to

be able to safely turn back? some largeish roundabouts are needed around the routes into the site. Roads into Manston village are too narrow for HGV's, during lockdown I've seen HGVs backing up into Birchington traffic (on a corner) at the museum crossroads causing mayhem etc.

Traffic on Spitfire Way can back up if there is a problem elsewhere on the road network in Thanet, residents of spitfire way witness this frequently, due to the increasing volume of traffic now should there be an accident anywhere on the local road network spitfire tends to be affected and often jams up all the way back to Columbus Ave even. when there is an accident on Hengist way, Canterbury Road, Lord of the Manor roundabout, and the stretch between the Thanet way and Minster petrol station spitfire way becomes gridlocked really quickly, not great for time sensitive logistical operations etc. due to the narrow width of the road here traffic tends to do a U turn in our private driveways etc which is a nuisance and also quite perilous since the Minster bound lane is typically still live and at full speed and some etc.

Below are some examples of the perils we face on this road already, these are just the ones that i have evidence for/ have found time to quickly compile, some / most of these are not documented in the public domain but i have stored this evidence personally etc, I've only listed those incidents that i can show have occurred - this represents only a small percentage of events as i never recorded or have lost most, its just what I've personally witnessed / captured etc. The first 3 events listed below resulted in fatalities unfortunately.

15/04/2016, Vauxhall Corsa fails to make the corner on Spitfire Way and ends up embedded in airport perimeter fencing. Fatality.

[REDACTED]

09/08/2022, Minster bound Audi crashes into oncoming traffic. Fatality.

[REDACTED]

12/03/2017, Coast bound motorbike crashes into oncoming traffic. Fatality.

[REDACTED]

20/12/2018, Police car crashes into telegraph pole and front of house causing substantial damage to property all the way from no8 Pouces Cottages up to number 5, whole road closed for the day while investigation and recovery took place, subsequently the road was closed/traficlighted for 2 weeks by highways agency so that contractors could repair the damage to property.

[REDACTED]. Evidential video available

Harley Davidson crash

[REDACTED]

07/09/2021, head on collision between two cars traveling in opposite directions.

Road closed for the day. Evidential photos available.

18/10/2023, Renault scenic traveling coast bound manoeuvres around a royal mail van but then collides with flat bed tipper traveling in the opposite direction, the driver of the tipper fails to spot what is happening in time to take avoiding action - a scenario frequently witnessed whereby drivers appear to be playing a game of chicken. Evidential video available

29/03/2022, near miss, neighbour exiting driveway at front of property fails to notice a vehicle Minster bound on wrong side of the road while doing an overtaking manoeuvre. Evidential video available.

07/02/2019, car traveling coast bound approaching a car parked in the layby misjudges the speed of oncoming traffic and brakes late stopping short of the parked car but only just! the car following all of this was not so lucky and rear ended the car in front. Evidential video available.

29/07/2018, car exiting driveway (not a neighbour, we never discovered who it was as they sped off) pulls out into the highway without noticing a car approaching at speed on the main road heading coast bound. The coastbound driver swerves to avoid but loses control and ends up embedded in the airport perimeter fence on the opposite side of the road. My helpful neighbour with his 4x4 dragged that car out of the fence. Evidential video available.

21/07/2018, car parked in the coast bound layby at the same time as a delivery van pulls up on the Minster bound side of the road some distance further up the road. Due to the volume and speed of the traffic a gridlock quickly develops catching out a fast moving coastbound Ford KA which slams into the rear of a car which is waiting to pass. This scenario happens a lot, and i think it is due to the speed that the cars are traveling and the distraction presented by the delivery vehicle who had stopped in order to make a turn onto the opposite side of the road to park. Evidential video available.

20/01/2014 low loader HGV carrying an excavator slid off side of road, between Pouces cottages and Rose farm. Road closed while recovery took place. road needed repairing twice as a result, closed on both occasions. Evidential photos available

23/08/2015 Neighbour waiting to turn into driveway gets rear ended by Minster bound car, police & ambulance attended, road closed during recovery. Evidential photo available

Inline image



Resident of

