

## Closure of Church Lane, Arborfield to Through Traffic

Church Lane is an unlit, unpaved, winding country lane. It is designated as 'countryside' and is also part of Greenway Route 'A' which should be prioritised for non-motorised traffic, walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

For too long the road has been unsuitable for the volume, types and speed of vehicles using it. Residents are afraid to walk on the Lane or to drive out onto the Lane for fear of being hit by a car or HGV. All believe a serious accident will occur.

Whilst traffic has been reduced on the main roads into Arborfield Cross, this winding country lane has been made the fastest route between Mole Road and Reading Road, even being indicated as such on sat navs. Traffic has significantly increased, including trade and HGVs way in excess of the 7.5 ton limit.

Traffic measurements taken in November last year recorded 1500 transits per day, that is over 1/2 a million transits per year.

Traffic modelling forecasts that this will be doubled by 2026 to over 1 million transits per year on a narrow, winding country lane, barely suitable for 2-way traffic, with church parking and horse stables.

Over 3/4s (77%) of residents have signed this petition to see the lane CLOSED TO THROUGH TRAFFIC, enforced by a physical restriction and with a designated turning area.

This solution will not adversely impact the benefits that have been brought on Eversley or Swallowfield Roads, as the majority of through traffic is driving from Winnersh to Reading or vice versa.

We ask that our Council considers and acts positively on this request.