

A WAIT UPDATE - THE CAMPAIGN SO FAR

2007

Woodhead Against Increased Traffic www.wait-campaign.co.uk

WHAT IS WAIT? - WAIT (Woodhead Against Increased Traffic) was formed in March 2006 as a result of concerns amongst local residents following publication by the Highways Agency of details of the planned Mottram - Tintwistle by-pass (see the attached planner sheet for details of the proposed by-pass route).

Our website has details of our aims and the problems that the Woodhead road (and others in the area) currently suffer. We are constantly updating our website so please keep visiting the site to see new up-to-date information being added.

WHAT ARE WE CAMPAIGNING FOR?

Our campaign to date has focussed on raising public awareness to the scheme and we would still ask anyone who objects to the proposed scheme to write to the Highways Agency, their local Councillors and MP to register their concern so that their objection can be taken into account at the forthcoming Public Inquiry - expected to take place in early 2007. Our website contains contact details but if you have no access to the internet, please contact anyone shown on the WAIT structure list at the end of this flyer.

WAIT does not oppose a solution being found to the obvious traffic problems experienced by the residents of the Mottram - Tintwistle corridor but we strongly object to the 'solution' merely transferring the problem over the Pennines to our local communities.

WAITs MAIN CONCERNS:

- the increase in traffic that will result from the bypass when it is opened, even with the proposed restraint measures. The Highways Agency estimates an immediate increase of 57% over Woodhead, a 50% increase on the A628 corridor through Millhouse, Thurlstone and Penistone and an increase of 22% on the A616T through Midhopstones and Langsett, followed by even larger long-term increases. These figures are based on the 'route restraint measures' (initially 4 sets of traffic lights* see 'Latest News') working effectively. This increase will impact upon the already congested A616T roundabout at Tankersley just off the M1 at junctions 35 & 35A.

- the increase in traffic trying to use the roads leading into Penistone, already under threatened traffic chaos with the proposed construction of a Tesco Supermarket and the building of over 1000 new homes.

- the increase in the number of accidents. A forecast rise of 41% that will result from the increased traffic flow, resulting in partial or total closure of the Woodhead Pass, causing traffic diversions that will have a serious impact on businesses and residents in surrounding areas such as Carlecotes, Dunford Bridge, Holmfirth and the Holme Valley.

- the impact of the restraint measures (which initially included the installation of traffic lights at the Flouch roundabout on the A628* see 'Latest News') on local journeys and the effect of this on residents and those who use the Peak District National Park for recreational purposes.

JOIN IN, HAVE A FUN NIGHT OUT AND SUPPORT WAIT AT OUR RACE NIGHT

Our next social fund-raising event is a Race Night, with a Pie & Peas Supper, at the Dog & Partridge on the evening of 9th February 2007. Tickets - at £5 per head - are on sale either direct from the Dog & Partridge (763173) or from any of the WAIT contact list shown below. You can even become a racehorse owner for the evening for the reasonable sum of £5 and experience the thrill of winning, with an owners prize of £20 + a bottle of wine for the winning horse in each race.

- the environmental and visual impact of both the bypass and the increased traffic flow, concerns that are shared by a residents' action group in Mottram and Tintwistle who are the intended beneficiaries of the bypass (www.saveswallowswood.org.uk). Indeed, the most popular solution in the Mottram - Tintwistle area is a weight restriction on the A628, forcing HGV's to use the main motorway network, coupled with speed monitoring to slow down speeding cars.

HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?

The WAIT campaign is receiving increasing support from surrounding local Parish Councils as communities adjacent to the A628/A616T wake up to the potential impact of the proposed by-pass on their communities if traffic congestion increases to the expected levels if the proposed by-pass is pushed through. This is not just a matter of local residents concern - our local MP and Councillors have come out opposing the by-pass. It is now also extremely likely that Barnsley MBC will oppose the by-pass, having finally understood the level of objection amongst local residents.

WAIT has experienced valuable coverage in the local media, with our members being interviewed by Dearne FM on several occasions and with numerous articles published in the Penistone edition of the Barnsley Chronicle. This exposure has allowed us to widely publicise our campaign over the past nine months. WAIT was present at the recent Penistone Show in September 2006 and found real interest and concern amongst both local residents and visitors (see our day in pictures in the gallery section on our website). Our Road Safety Poster competition proved a runaway success and the three winning entries are shown on the attached sheet.

By the initial deadline date of 5th May 2006 nearly 1500 objections had been received by the Highways Agency who were reported to be staggered by the level of opposition to their proposals. On the 7th July 2006 the Highways Agency announced that, due to funding issues, the intended construction of the by-pass has been postponed until the next five year funding period beginning 2010/2011. However...

LATEST NEWS

At a recent meeting of Langsett Parish Council, the Highways Agency Team Leader - Mr Steve Greenhalgh - announced that new proposals for the route now include for more

traffic lights on the route, traffic lights at Langsett & Midhonestones and possible speed restrictions on the route. Should we be concerned - the answer is a resounding YES! The effects of such restrictions will be to encourage more traffic to reach the M1 along the A628 through Millhouse, Thurlstone and Penistone and the outlying roads. We are about to become the rat-run capital of South Yorkshire and we MUST stand up and fight these new proposals. They are being published early in 2007 and we will only have 6 weeks to object. Be ready, we need your support.

WHERE ARE WE GOING NEXT?

WAIT will continue with its campaign, providing a powerful voice for local residents. We are preparing for the Public Inquiry in 2007 and are starting to collect traffic data on our local roads. WAIT intends to contact, and work with, the lobby groups on both sides of the Pennines so that together we can find a workable solution to the current situation, but a solution that enables us to live without traffic chaos, noise and pollution worries.

We have also produced a single sheet petition flyer that you can sign to register your objection and, if possible, indicate any assistance that you can offer to our campaign, be that a financial donation, help with administration or a willingness to deliver flyers to your local area. This flyer is attached to this newsletter and, if you wish to complete it, please forward your completed copy to WAIT at the address shown on our contact details below or send your objection, by letter, direct to the Highways Agency at the address shown. You can download a suggested letter of objection from our website.

HOW TO CONTACT WAIT

WAIT has appointed key organisational positions:

WAIT Structure

Chair Steve Marsh
steve@dogandpartridge.co.uk 01226 763173

Vice-Chair Steve Webber
steve.webber@ibnscaffold.co.uk 07766 802059

Secretary Sue Hirst

Treasurer Adrian James
a.l.james@beverlac.freeserve.co.uk 07711 213503

WAIT Press Contact List

Tim Booth
t.booth@sheffield.ac.uk

Tim Copsey
wait@empty.co.uk 07740 466023

Adrian James
a.l.james@beverlac.freeserve.co.uk 07711 213503

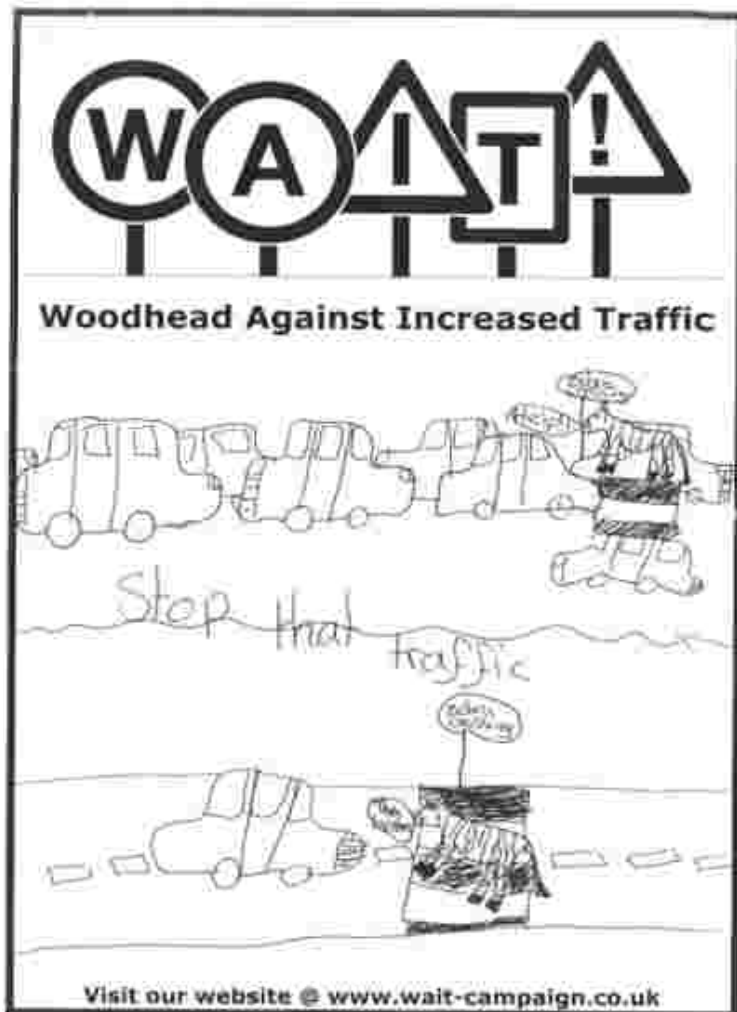
Steve Webber
steve.webber@ibnscaffold.co.uk 07766 802059

George Hill
george@georgehill.net

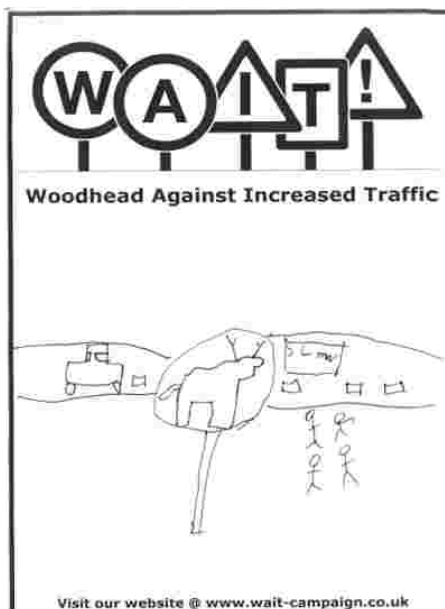
You can contact any of the above, via e-mail or phone, or you can write to:-

WAIT, P O Box 4157, Penistone, Sheffield, S36 9WU.

The relevant Highways Agency contact is Mr Stephen Greenhalgh, Room 701, City Tower, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester, M1 4BE. Please head your letter: A57/A628 Mottram - Tintwistle By-Pass A628/A616 Route Restraint Measures.

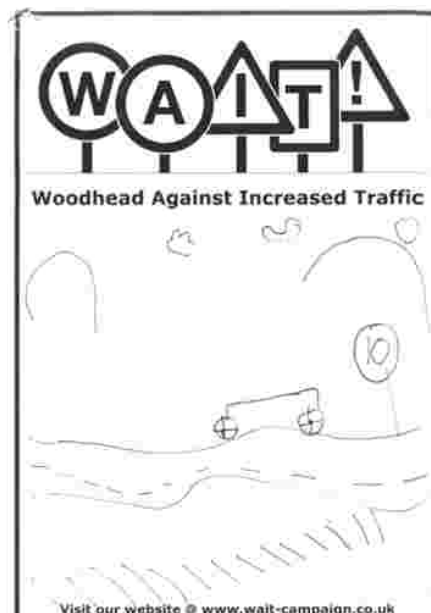


Sarah Dennison

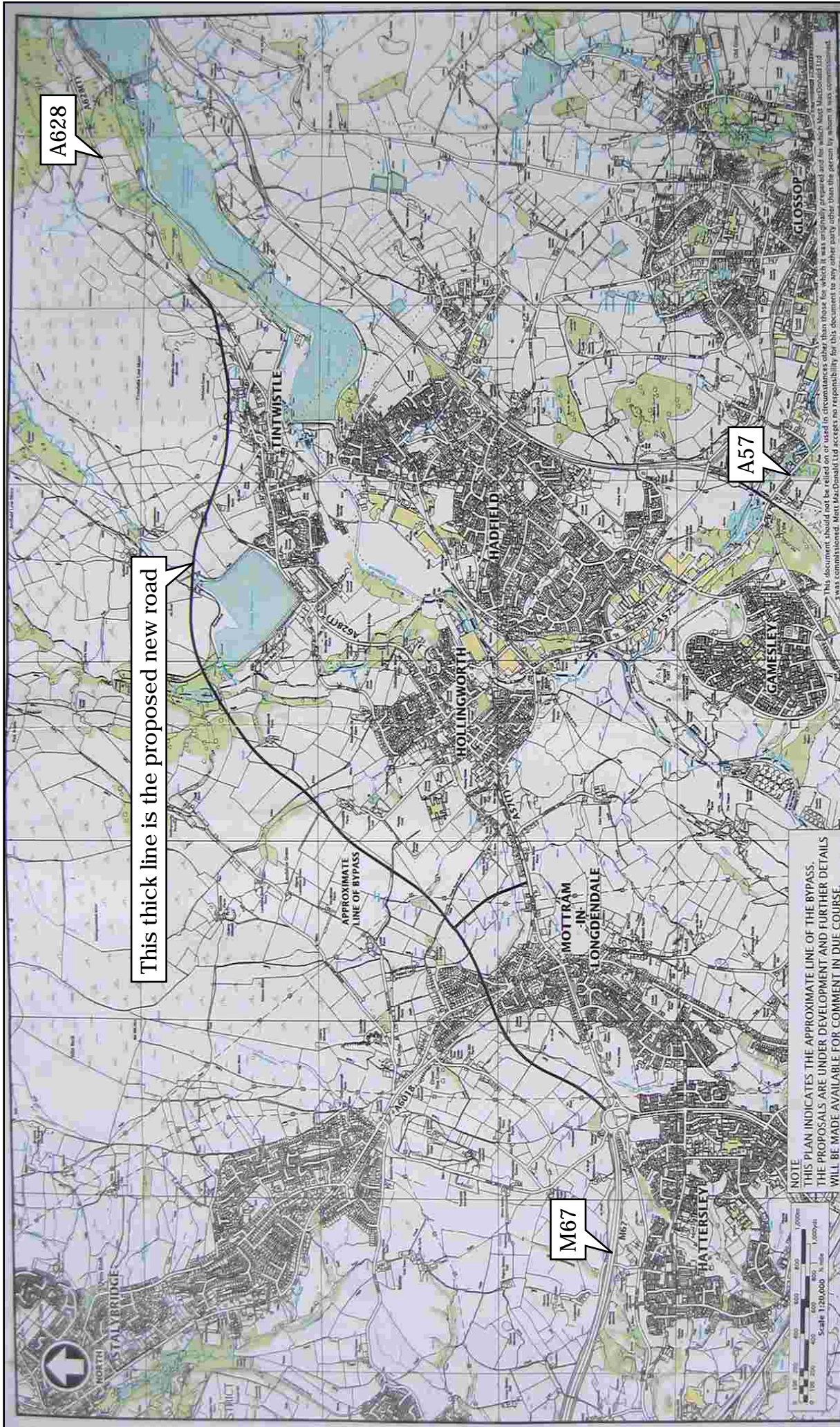


Sam Dennison

**PENISTONE
SHOW 2006
ROAD SAFETY
POSTER
COMPETITION
WINNERS**



Luke Parker



This thick line is the proposed new road

A628

A57

M67

NOTE
 THIS PLAN INDICATES THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF THE BYPASS.
 THE PROPOSALS ARE UNDER DEVELOPMENT AND FURTHER DETAILS
 WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT IN DUE COURSE.

Drawn	MM	CHK'd	MM	App'd	MM	Title	A57/A628 Mottram - Tintwistle Bypass	
Checked	MM	Approved	MM			Proposed Alignment		
Scale	1:20,000						Drawing no.	52497 / SHF / 3118
Rev.	PI						Status	PRE

Client

HIGHWAYS AGENCY
 Sunley Tower, Piccadilly Plaza
 Manchester M1 4BE

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 33 New Hey Road
 Huddersfield
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To The Highways Agency

As a concerned local resident I wish to make clear my objection to the newly published proposed A57/A628 Mottram - Tintwistle by-pass on the grounds listed below. I do not oppose a solution being found to the obvious traffic problems experienced by the residents of the Mottram - Tintwistle corridor but do strongly object to the 'solution' merely transferring the problem over the Pennines to our local communities.

My main concerns are:

- the increase in traffic that will result from the bypass when it is opened, even with the revised restraint measures. There will be estimated immediate increases over Woodhead, a massive increase on the A628 corridor through Millhouse, Thurlstone and Penistone and an increase on the A616T through Midhapestones and Langsett, followed by even larger long-term increases. These figures are based on the proposed 'route restraint measures' working effectively.
- the newly proposed route restraint measures will only serve to push traffic onto adjacent 'un-restrained routes' and will further increase traffic flows along the unsuitable A628 Millhouse - Thurlstone corridor and villages neighbouring the route.
- the increase in the number of accidents. A forecast rise of 41% that will result from the increased traffic flow, resulting in partial or total closure of the Woodhead Pass, causing traffic diversions that will have a serious impact on businesses and residents in surrounding areas such as Carlecotes, Dunford Bridge, Holmfirth and the Holme Valley.
- the impact of the restraint measures (which include the installation of traffic lights at the Flouch roundabout on the A628 and on the A616T) on local journey times and the effect of this on residents and those who use the Peak District National Park for recreational purposes.
- the environmental and visual impact of both the bypass and the increased traffic flow, concerns that are shared by the Peak District National Parks Authority and residents' action groups in Mottram and Tintwistle who are the intended beneficiaries of the bypass (www.saveswallowswood.org.uk). Indeed, the most popular solution in the Mottram - Tintwistle area is a weight restriction on the A628, forcing HGV's to use the main motorway network, coupled with speed monitoring to slow down speeding cars.

I would ask that my views are represented at any future public inquiry and/or any relevant meetings.

SIGNATURE

NAME

ADDRESS

TEL No.

E-MAIL



Data Protection: Please tick the box if you do NOT wish us to include you on the WAIT database and update you with relevant information by e-mail and/or post.

Would you be willing to give positive support to WAIT in its campaign?
Please indicate (tick) the level of support you feel able to provide. Thank you for completing this form.

Fighting Fund Donation (£)

Attend Public Meetings

Deliver Flyers / Newsletters

Admin / Design / IT Support

Other (please specify)

Please send your completed form to WAIT so that we can update our records