

Maisemore Parish Council representation to the Traffic Commissioner's Office relating to permit application OH0224142 Complete Utilities Ltd

The A417 is an extremely busy road and is subject to closure from flooding caused by the River Severn.

It is already subject to subsidence caused by the river and the drainage of flood water to it.

At one point, between Maisemore and the junction with the A40 (and the link to the M5) , the river has worn away the bank to such an extent that it is inevitable that one side of the carriageway will fall into the river if the Environment Agency does not take action. The Severn is tidal at that point, so it is subject to the erosion caused by the Severn Bore.

Because of the traffic on the A40, southbound traffic already frequently tails back from the junction with the A40 through the village of Maisemore - about 1.5 miles. This would be bad for an HGV operator, adding considerably to journey times.

When cars are parked correctly on the A417 through the village of Maisemore, it is effectively reduced to a single lane. While this is excellent for traffic calming in a 30mph limit, it will not be good news for an HGV operator.

There is already planning permission for nearly 50 new houses in Maisemore and a further 60 are being proposed. This will cause additional problems for an HGV operator at peak times.

There is an Environment Agency permit application under consideration for an intensive poultry unit almost immediately opposite this application site. This would house around 100,000 birds. With the rapid reduction in rearing times, this would result in frequent and extensive extra traffic movements at the times when the houses are cleared and re-stocked. A significant amount of this would be by agricultural tractors and trailers which would be travelling for some considerable distance northwards along the A417. This would affect HGV journey times when attempting to access the M50 at junction 2. It would be extremely unwise to grant a licence for extra HGVs at Overton until this EA permit application is decided. If it is granted, a planning application would follow, so it would be best to delay any decision until the outcome of that.