

'Too scared to use pedestrian crossing'

Someone will die on a pedestrian crossing unless action is taken – that was the warning from Cllr Mike Carter over the crossing in Tenterden High Street by West Cross.

Dangerous

He said: "It is terribly dangerous there. Someone will get killed shortly. Cars come flying round the corner from Smallhythe Road. The road should be made narrower to make it safer."

Cllr Carter was speaking during a debate on the crossing at Monday's town council highways and amenities committee.

Cllr Sue Ferguson asked if the council could lobby Kent County Council to get it moved, adding: "People do not want it where it is. Drivers' focus on the traffic lights beyond the crossing and people are too scared to use it."

"A lot of people from the Cedar Court retirement flats do not use it – they walk out into the road instead because some are too infirm to go to the other crossing further up High Street."

Cllr Mike Pearson agreed that the crossing was not in an ideal place, but said to move it would mean losing



Cllr Mike Pearson



Cllr Sue Ferguson



Cllr Mike Hill



Cllr Mike Carter

on-street parking spaces.

He said: "It is not the ideal place, but I think there would be more rows if we had it anywhere else."

"I know KCC did a lot of surveys before putting it there. The chances of getting it moved are below zero."

Cllr Alan Sugden said he used the crossing two or three times a week, adding: "One in five cars do not stop because they are looking ahead to the traffic lights. It is safer not to use it than to use it."

Councillors agreed to dis-

CONCERNS RAISED



Cedar Court residents say the pedestrian crossing is too close to the traffic lights

Picture: Paul Amos FM2272310

Moving the crossing was raised two years ago when residents of Cedar Court retirement flats in Woodbury Lane said it should be nearer the Gateway, which houses the post office.

They said it was too

far for them to walk and that rather than use the crossing, they step out into the road and hope the traffic stops.

The residents raised concerns about it being too close to the traffic lights, which distracted drivers.

highways to have a look and see if there is a problem."

cuss approaching KCC at the next committee meeting.

County councillor Mike Hill said he would be happy to look at the issue if it was raised with him.

He said: "There are clear rules on spacing for crossings, but I am happy to ask

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