

Resident email received – 14 October 2021

I rang and spoke to you a few days ago about a safety concern for myself and fellow women in Belper in the area I live, concerning walking in unlit areas at night.

The area I am writing about which directly concerns myself is the link walkway between the car park by St John's chapel and St John's road which is unlit and pitch black at night time.

I recently moved to live at the bottom of Nottingham road and I am sure you are aware of the parking challenges. This I have found is usually after about 5pm. If I am unable to get a space, the next closest option is the car park by the chapel as St John's road is usually full of the residents on that street. I don't feel safe parking in the car park at night if home late due to the poor lighting and therefore have no option other to park further away on high street or Spencer street. I then have to walk down St John's road which is also quite dark (a light is out currently which I will report so is worse than normal admittedly).

I am more aware of my actions that I take in order to feel safer since the horrendous events of the two women in London. These actions have been when parking away from Nottingham road that I usually walk down the middle of St John's road as it is a dark road or I run. I now realise that I as a woman need to flag concerns around safety on the streets I have been having, for both myself and others that are bound to be experiencing this also.

If you can let me know please when this has been discussed in your meetings and I hope that some action is taken and solutions are both discussed and seriously considered. I also intend to flag it up in other local organisations / with my local councillor and MP.

Many thanks.

Regards,