

FEARS AT DANGER JUNCTION DELAY



■ Danger junction... the crossroads near the British Oak pub at Bowbridge. Residents fear delays in installing traffic lights could lead to more accidents.

RESIDENTS living close to a notorious Stroud accident black spot have said they are dismayed that plans for a new set of traffic lights have been put back again.

People living at Bowbridge, on the outskirts of the town, have been campaigning for almost a decade to get a set of traffic lights installed at the crossroads near the British Oak pub.

Fears

Their fears were tragically realised last year when local pensioner Lawrence Durn was killed after colliding with a passing car.

Since then, according to pub landlady and local district councillor Jenny Bircher, there have been a number of other accidents at the junction.

"Thankfully no-one has been hurt but I am very concerned there should be no more delays in getting these lights," she said.

Mrs Bircher said she was told an informal start date of June 1, but had now heard the project had been put back until August or even September.

“There is clearly a need for urgent action before we have another tragedy”

—Councillor Jenny Bircher

Mrs Bircher said she feared the scheme may be delayed again if the council is faced with a large bill for repairing the collapsed road at Brickrow.

“There are a lot of young mothers and older people in this area and there is clearly a need for urgent action before we have another tragedy.”

Secure

However, following a special meeting last week, Stroud county councillor Bob Eccles said he had been assured the funding for the scheme was secure.

“I will be pushing for work to begin as soon as possible in August and hope they may also consider adding a pedestrian crossing to the scheme,” he said.

Mrs Bircher revealed she planned a celebration party when the lights were finally in place.