



BANNERS: Villagers calling for action on the protest march through Handcross

Protest march halts the traffic

PROTESTING mums and children held up rush hour traffic in their latest bid to get action on a road branded a "death-trap".

Motorists had to queue and wait as 100 people marched along busy Horsham Road in Handcross.

Many waved banners as they walked from Covert Mead to Truggers highlighting the stretch of road they say is a nightmare to cross.

And parents who have to cross the road twice a day taking their children to primary school, were joined by old folk who also face a hazardous crossing when they go into the village.

By RICHARD WORLEY

Slaugham parish council has long been calling for a pelican crossing to be built or traffic restrictions brought in.

But it was the death of Handcross pensioner Sid Wright in a road accident there which sparked the march.

Protester Sid Sargent said: "You take your life in your hands every day when you cross that road."

Mr Sargent who has lived in Truggers 41 years, said: "Over the years the traffic has built up and it's worse than ever now."

"I understand one or two motorists got a bit annoyed with marchers," he said.

But Slaugham parish clerk Sheila Crighton praised drivers for their patience.

Mrs Crighton, who also went on the demonstration, said: "I think there was an excellent response to the march and it was carried out very well."

"Feelings have been running very high in the parish. There has been one fatality and several people have now reported that they've been clipped by cars."

Mrs Crighton will join parish councillors and the protest organisers meeting county road chiefs next week.