

11.01.21

Good afternoon

It is clear to everyone, except our politicians that is, that the site of the proposed 'Pimple on Westmount, the new Hospital, is ill-conceived.

The access to this site is insurmountable without causing a great deal of disruption to the Westmount area and probably the Peoples Park

The People's Park has already been rejected as a site for the hospital and to now suggest Overdale as the best site is a slap in the face to all those protestors, and indeed politicians, that threw it out.

Putting a hospital on the top of a hill is something out of fairy tales. Whoever conceived this idea needs stringing up. It is just ridiculous.

It is clear to many that Overdale is being rushed through to save any further embarrassment. The costs spent so far are enormous and were totally unnecessary if the project had been properly thought out and local professionals consulted.

But enough of that.

There are basically three access roads to Overdale - one from Queens Road, one via Tower Hill and the other from Westmount Road. None of these is easy. By far the worst are the latter two. Queens Road is relatively easy with the ambulance station down the hill.

The huge sum of money that would need to be spent reorganizing Westmount Road, notwithstanding the inevitable compulsory purchase of several properties, including re-siting the Bowling Club and removing all parking spaces along the perimeter of Peoples Park, is an unacceptable cost.

Tower Hill again is a non-starter as it is a very difficult hill to negotiate at the best of times. In winter it would be inaccessible.

This leaves us with another option - that of an access road from the inner road. Whilst this is a possible option the steepness of the slope and the fact that it would involve purchasing a lot of properties means this will not work and will be hugely expensive again.

Many people do not see Overdale as the best option bearing in mind there are two other sites - one at St Saviours Hospital and the other at Warwick Farm - that are already in States ownership and it is incumbent on our States members to explore these with local experts.

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