## Traffic walk notes 2 - The Gatehouse to Kenwood returning via The Grove

## 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 10.45am to 11.30am

Having started at about 10.30, I've been walking along Hampstead Lane from the Gatehouse and am nearly at Kenwood. The traffic is not particularly heavy but it does tend to travel too fast. There is a 20 mph speed limit but clearly it's going faster. At the Kenwood end of the walk there is a lot of parking which is unrestricted. It seems unlikely that these are all people visiting Kenwood or the Heath. Probably they are commuters who have stopped here in order to go to work either locally or perhaps pick up the tube from either Hampstead or Highgate - although both of these stations are some distance away. I didn't see any evidence of sleeper vans for overnight parking.



The photograph shows one of the 20 mph signs which is completely illegible because it is covered with green algae. A consultation notice about a new bus stop shows an interesting lack of local knowledge, describing the proposed location as east of the junction with Bishopswood Road. As it is a loop road, Bishopswood Road joins Hampstead Lane in two places, so the location could be in one of two places.

Walking back along the Grove from north to south towards West Hill ought to be a pleasant leafy walk but it is not. It is impossible to pass along the pavement next to the trees and reservoir on the eastern side. This unsatisfactory and not that hard to rectify.



One can walk along the other side but there one is faced with rows of parked cars at right angles on the gravel and one has to dodge out into the road in order to get past.



When reaching the end if you want to get towards Highgate Village and South Grove you have a difficult crossing of West Hill which is busy at this time of day - even busier than Hamstead Lane was for example.



William Britain 20 November 2023