

New cycle crossing at Fabian Way/Amazon junction – an assessment

This junction, completed around Easter 2008, is a *Curates Egg* – good in parts, bad in others.

NCN 4 which runs along the north side of Fabian Way, which previously just crossed the B4290 to Jersey Marine, now crosses five roads. From west to east there are three to and from the new Amazon warehouse and two to and from Jersey Marine. Counting from west to east there are cycle/pedestrian lights on junctions three and five. There are neither lights nor road markings on the other three; dropped kerbs simply deliver the cyclist/pedestrian on to the carriageway.



The good part is that for a west bound cyclist, ie travelling towards Swansea, the two sets of lights are clearly visible and appear to default to green in favour of the cyclist, only changing to red when a vehicle approaches the crossing. The bad part is that these lights are not visible to cyclists coming from Swansea, at least not until he or she is on the crossing. The lack of control at the other three crossings is even more dangerous.

Photos 1 to 6 show the crossings in sequence from west to east. 1 shows the first two Amazon access road crossings which have no cycle lights. 2 and 3 show the third Amazon crossing.



The yellow boxes above the bike in 2 are the lights. 3 shows one green in favour of a west bound cyclist. The lights cannot be seen by a cyclist travelling from Swansea. 4 shows the westerly of the two B4290 crossings which has no cycle lights. The car is heading for Jersey Marine from Fabian Way.

5 and 6 show the easterly crossing of the B4290. This is similar to the easterly Amazon crossing in that the cycle crossing lights are only visible to a west bound cyclist.



The problem of the invisibility of the cycle crossing lights to east bound cyclists could, it would appear, be easily resolved by simply rotating the westerly of the pair of yellow boxes (photos 2 & 5) so that they can be seen from the west. (The other ones can be seen from the east.)

It was suggested to me that a reason for there not being cycle/pedestrian lights at the other three crossings is to prevent traffic backing up on Fabian Way. But there are lights which would cause this anyway!

This junction is dangerous. Remedial measures are needed. Two have been identified: the first straightforward, the second less so. The matter needs urgent attention.



David Naylor
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