



HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1 MARCH 2016

Subject Heading:	TPC508 Whitchurch Road proposed Pay & Display Parking Bays- comments to advertised proposals
CMT Lead:	Andrew Blake-Herbert
Report Author and contact details:	Jack Jerrom Engineering Technician schemes@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	Traffic & Parking Control
Financial summary:	The estimated cost for the current proposals as set out in this report is £4000, of which £3500 can be funded from the capital allocation and the remaining £500 from the 2015/16 Minor Parking Schemes budget.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Havering will be clean and its environment will be cared for	[x]
People will be safe, in their homes and in the community	[x]
Residents will be proud to live in Havering	[x]

SUMMARY

This report outlines the responses received to the formal consultation to introduce Pay & Display parking bays in Whitchurch Road and recommends a further course of action.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 That the Highways Advisory Committee having considered this report and the representations made, recommends to the **Cabinet Member for Environment** that:
 - a. the proposals to introduce Pay & Display parking bays fronting the shops in Whitchurch Road, as shown on the plan appended to this report as **Appendix A**, be abandoned; and
 - b. a further review of the area be undertaken and the extent of which will be subject to prior agreement with Ward Councillors.
2. Members note that the estimated cost for the current proposals in Whitchurch Road as set out in this report is £4000, of which £3500 can be funded from the capital allocation and the remaining £500 from the 2015/16 Minor Parking Schemes budget.

REPORT DETAIL

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Pay & Display parking bays were designed to help with parking provisions for local businesses, while preventing long term non-residential parking and ensuring a turnover of parking spaces. It is now generally considered that the provision of Pay & Display parking bays is user friendly and accessible to the public.
- 1.2 On 8th January 2016, residents and businesses that were affected by the proposals were consulted by letter and plan. Eighteen statutory bodies were also consulted and site notices were placed at the location.
- 1.3 By the close of public consultation on 29th February 2016, 6 responses were received to the proposals. All the responses have been summarising in the table appended to this report as **Appendix B**.

2.0 Results of public consultation

- 2.1 All of the 6 responses received raised objections to the proposals. Due to the negative response to the consultation, a site visit was arranged with Streetcare Staff, Ward Councillors and Business owners. From this meeting, staff were able gauge the business owners views and why they feel that due to the nature of their work, it would be detrimental to their businesses if the Pay & Display parking provisions were installed.

2.2 A 511 signature petition was received from several Businesses within this shopping parade, which also reinforces the strong views the businesses and their customers have against these proposals.

2.3 The resident who responded to the consultation felt that the residential parking area behind the shops would be overrun by visitors who would not be willing to pay to park in front of the shops.

3.0 Staff Comments

3.1 Having considered the proposals, Officers have identified and assessed the potential negative impact that the parking scheme poses to residents and businesses, and recommends to the Committee that the Pay & Display parking bays are abandoned at this stage with a wider review of the area undertaken. It is felt that there is a significant amount of unrestricted parking in close vicinity to the proposed Pay and Display facility for it to work effectively.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications:

The estimated cost of implementing the proposals as described above and shown on the attached plan is £4000, of which £3500 can be funded from the capital allocation and the remaining £500 will be met from the 2015/16 Minor Parking Schemes budget.

The costs shown are an estimate of the costs of the scheme, should it be implemented. A final decision would be made by the Lead Member – as regards to actual implementation and scheme detail. Therefore, final costs are subject to change

There is no expectation that the works cannot be contained within the cost estimate. There is an element of contingency built into the financial estimate. In the unlikely event of an overspend, the balance would need to be contained within the StreetCare overall Minor Parking Schemes revenue budget.

Legal implications and risks:

Waiting restrictions, parking bays require public consultation and the advertisement of proposals before a decision can be taken on their introduction.

Human Resources implications and risks:

No HR implications arising directly as a result of this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

All proposals included in the report (pay & display and waiting restrictions) have been publicly advertised and subject to public consultation.

Parking restrictions in residential areas are often installed to improve road safety and accessibility for residents who may be affected by long-term non-residential parking.

Parking restrictions have the potential to displace parking to adjacent areas, which may be detrimental to others. However, the Council has a general duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that its highway network is accessible to all. Where infrastructure is provided or substantially upgraded, reasonable adjustments should be made to improve access. In considering the impacts and making improvements for people with protected characteristics (mainly, but not limited to disabled people, children, young people and older people), this will assist the Council in meeting its duty under the act.

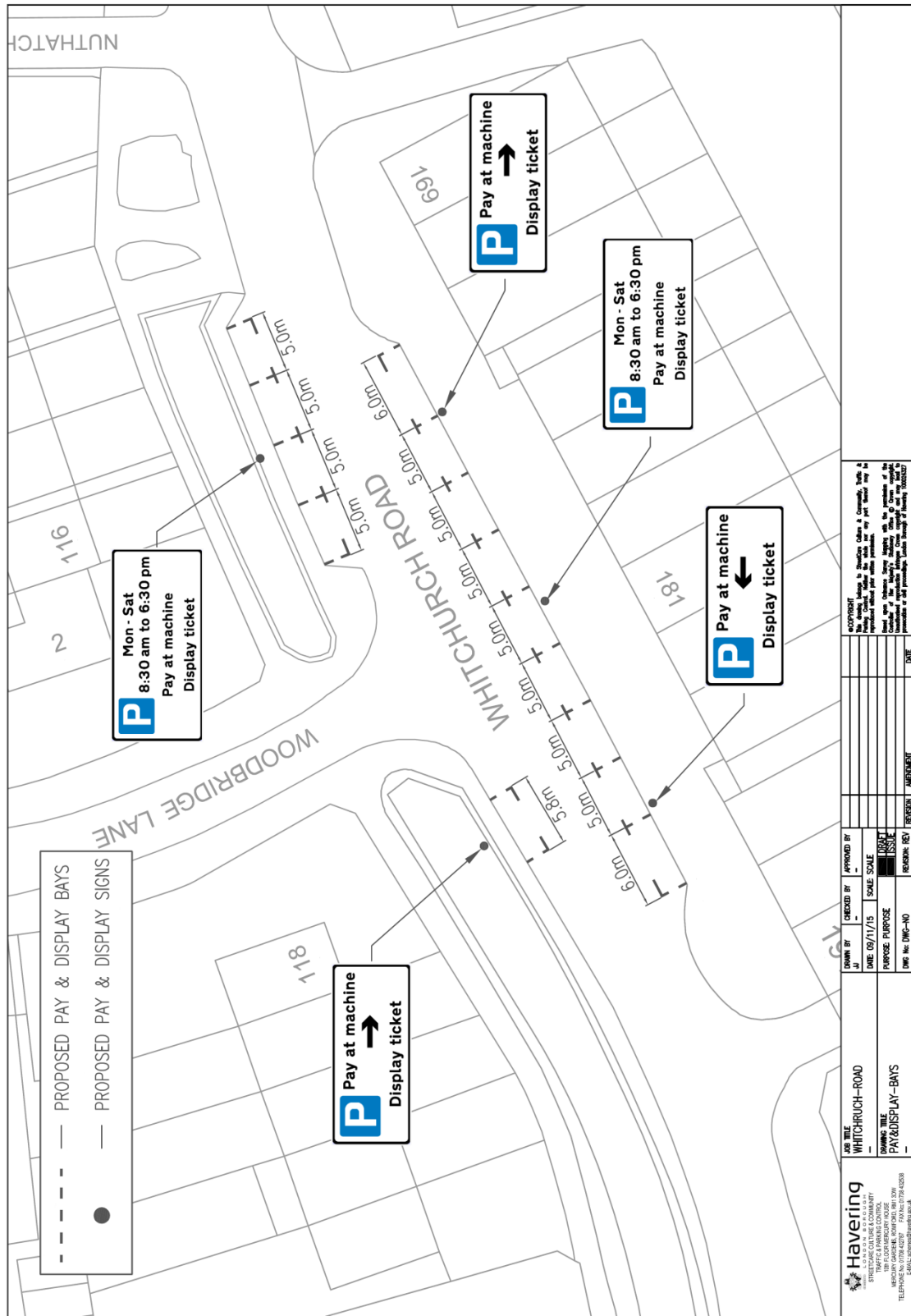
The proposal to install Pay & Display parking bays have been publicly advertised and subject to formal consultation.

Consultation responses have been carefully considered to inform the final proposals.

Officers carried out an analysis of the on and off-street parking provision for residents including the amount of available kerb space which showed that there is sufficient space available for the residents who live above the businesses in Whitchurch Road can park in adjacent roads. The proposed Pay & Display are proposed to be restricted from Monday to Saturday 08:30am to 6:30pm, therefore overnight parking will be available to these residents.

There will be some visual impact but it is anticipated that this work will benefit the majority of the local business where parking for longer than 2 hours is not necessary. It will also ensure a regular turnaround of vehicles which should benefit business rather than be a detriment.

BACKGROUND PAPER



- - - - - PROPOSED PAY & DISPLAY BAYS
 ● PROPOSED PAY & DISPLAY SIGNS

P Mon - Sat
 8:30 am to 6:30 pm
 Pay at machine
 Display ticket

P Pay at machine
 Display ticket

P Mon - Sat
 8:30 am to 6:30 pm
 Pay at machine
 Display ticket

P Pay at machine
 Display ticket

P Pay at machine
 Display ticket

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Havering
 HAVERING BOROUGH COUNCIL
 STRATFORD COLLEGE COMMUNITY
 1000 THE BOURNE
 HAVERING, ESSEX, S.S.16 2JN
 TEL: 01473 423231 FAX: 01473 423232
 EMAIL: council@havering.gov.uk

Appendix B

	Resident/Businesses	Summary of Comments
1	A resident of Whitchurch Road.	Not in favour of the proposals. They believe that this scheme will increase the amount of people using the residential parking behind the shops as people will avoid paying to park. They have explained that there is already limited parking for residents behind the shops and the Pay and display bays will further increase the problem.
2	A Business owner in Whitchurch Road.	Not in favour of the proposals. They have explained that the pay and display bays will result in loss of trade and will eventually lead to the closure of their business.
3	A Business owner in Whitchurch Road.	Not in favour of the proposals. They cannot see the benefits of a Pay and Display parking scheme due to the cost of installing and running the parking metres. They believe that shops in the Whitchurch parade will have a reduced foot fall as a result of Pay and Display parking bays. They also have clients that will need to park for longer than the maximum 3 hour stay period which they fear will lead to people taking their custom elsewhere.
4	A Business owner in Whitchurch Road.	Not in favour of the proposals. They have owned their business for 14 years and during that time they have never had problems with parking issues either for themselves or their customers. They believe the Pay and Display parking bays will have a detrimental effect on their business and it will force them to close. They have put together a petition with others shops in the Whitchurch Road parade and they have received over 150 signatures.
5	A Business owner in Whitchurch Road.	Not in favour of the proposals. They feel that if Pay and Display Parking bays are installed, it will deter motorists from stopping and they will go to Hilldene Avenue where the parking is free. Due to the nature of their business, customers will have to drop off and pick up which they will be unable to do with the no return within 2 hours restrictions.
6	A Business owner in Whitchurch Road.	Not in favour of the proposals. They feel that the Pay and Display Parking bays will have a detrimental effect on their business as the shops along the Whitchurch Road Parade are only small businesses.