

HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT

21 February 2012

Subject Heading:	PROPOSED PARKING SCHEMES - comments to advertised proposals
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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Clean, safe and green borough	[X]
Excellence in education and learning	[]
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	[]
Value and enhance the life of every individual	[X]
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	[]

SUMMARY

This report recommends the implementation of various minor parking schemes following the completion of public consultation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That the Committee having considered the information set out in this report and the representations made recommends to the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment that:
 - a. the minor traffic schemes set out in this report and shown on the attached drawings be implemented; and
 - b. the effects of the respective schemes be monitored.

REPORT DETAIL

1.0 Background

- 1.1 During previous meetings of this Committee, a number of requests for the implementation of minor parking schemes were considered. This Committee recommended a number of the schemes to go forward for public consultation.
- 1.2 The schemes were subsequently designed by staff and publicly advertised. This report outlines the responses received arising out of the public consultation for six proposed schemes.

2.0 Proposed Schemes

2.1 Scheme 1 – Oldchurch Road / Dagenham Road – Drawing No. DAG/01/03

The scheme is within_Brooklands Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 20th September 2011.

The scheme proposes to introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions at the junction of Oldchurch Road and Dagenham, from the eastern boundary of No.175 Oldchurch Road, extending westwards and southwards to the lay-by situated opposite Nos.13 to 29 Oldchurch Gardens.

Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 3 responses were received. The first respondent was the Stone Mason located at the corner of Oldchurch Road and Dagenham Road. The respondent expressed concerns over the ability of vehicles, associated with the business, to park in the vicinity of the waiting restriction while opening and closing the gates to the site of the business. The respondent highlighted that some of the vehicles accessing the site are transporting human remains. The respondent suggested that the proposed restrictions be reduced so as not to cover the entrance to the site.

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The second respondent was London Travel Watch who offered support for the proposals citing that the scheme would assist the free movement of buses servicing the area.

The third respondent was a resident of Oldchurch Gardens who stated that she was strongly against the implementation of the scheme. The respondent cited that parking was already difficult in the area and that these difficulties would be increased by the scheme. The respondent noted that she has a child at a local primary school, within the vicinity of the restriction, and requires parking close to the school.

Staff comments

Time would be given to operatives to open and close the gate to the Stone Masons site. The proposals are designed to ensure that buses and larger vehicles can exit the roundabout without obstructing traffic flow. Staff acknowledge that residents of Oldchurch Gardens currently have limited parking provision.

Recommended Action

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored.

2.2 Scheme 2 – Heather Glen – Drawing No. HG/01/01

The scheme is within_Pettits Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 12th July 2011.

The scheme proposes to extend the existing 'At any time' waiting restrictions on the north-western side of Heather Glen, to the common boundary on Nos. 12 and 14.

Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 2 responses were received. The first respondent was a resident of No.1 Heather Glen who has offered their full support for the scheme. The respondent cited an incident which involved an ambulance being unable to drive down Heather Glen because of parked vehicles.

The respondent also stated that further restrictions, specifically traffic calming measures, should be installed at the opposite end of the road, in the vicinity of No.1. because of the dangers posed to vehicles reversing onto the road by speeding vehicles. The respondent was of the understanding that traffic calming measures were going to be installed.

The second respondent was a resident of No.15 Heather Glen who stated that they were largely in support of the scheme but did raise 1 objection and 1 request. The objection related to the respondents feeling that the proposed

restrictions did not need to be extended up to the common boundary of Nos.12 and 14 as the problem is localised opposite No.15. The respondent stated that they seldom had difficulties parking outside their property. The respondent cited the difficulties caused by properties with more than one vehicle parking in the street. The respondent requested the installation of a vehicle crossover at the rear of their property which would necessitate the removal of a highway tree.

Staff comments

These proposals should ensure that Emergency and Service vehicles can access the end section of Heather Glen. Officers can confirm that this Committee has not approved any proposals for traffic calming measures in Heather Glen. The proposals will ensure that larger vehicles will be able to access the end section of the road by keeping the area opposite 15 and 17 clear, where residents of both properties regularly park. With the resident having rear access to the property, it is considered that permission will not be granted to remove the tree, so a vehicle crossover cannot be installed.

Recommended Action

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored.

2.3 Scheme 3 – Pond Walk – Drawing No. FLP /01/01

The scheme is within_Upminster Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 13th October 2010.

The scheme propose to introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions at the junctions of Pond Walk with Front Lane and at the inside circumference of Pond Walk. In addition, it is proposed to introduce 8:00am until 6.30pm Monday to Saturday waiting restriction at the outside circumference of Pond Walk.

Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 9 responses were received from residents of Pond Walk and Front Lane. Of the total respondents 6 residents (66%) were in favour of the scheme. Three respondents objected to the implementation of the scheme.

Staff Comments

It should be noted that of the three objections received, two were from residents of Front Lane and one from a resident of Pond Walk. The Pond Walk resident objection was founded on the basis that delivery drivers would have nowhere to park whilst making deliveries in Pond Walk. The Committee will note that the loading and unloading of vehicles undertaking deliveries is permitted on a single or double yellow line as long as this is activity is evidenced and no loading ban is in place.

Recommended Action

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects of the scheme be monitored.

2.4 Scheme 4 – Collier Row Road, Clockhouse Lane and Associated Waiting Restrictions – Drawing Nos. QK056-0F-101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108

The scheme is within_Havering Park and Mawneys Wards and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 14th June 2011.

The scheme proposes to:

- a. implement Pay and Display parking provision in Collier Row Road Service Road and Clockhouse Lane (opposite The North Romford Community Centre);
- b. convert the disc permit bay provisions in Carter Drive and Hampden Road to free bays;
- c. introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions at the junctions of Carter Drive, Ramsden Drive, Riversdale Road, Gelsthorpe Road, Eaton Drive, Collier Row Service Road and Hampden Road;
- d. introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions at the apex of the bend between Riversdale Road and Gelsthorpe Road;
- e. upgrade the bus stops in Clockhouse Lane to clearways.

Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 5 responses were received. Of the total responses received 3 residents (60%) were in favour of the scheme. Two respondents objected to the implementation of the scheme raising concerns about the limitation of current parking provisions.

Staff Comments

It is anticipated that the proposal to convert the existing disc permit bays in Carter Drive and Hampden Road to free bays will alleviate a measure of those current parking pressures and with the introduction of Pay and Display parking bays, should ensuring greater turnover of visitors to the shopping areas in Collier Row Road.

Recommended Action

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored.

2.5 Scheme 5 – Hacton School

The scheme is within_Hacton Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 17th August 2010.

The scheme proposes to implement an 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday waiting restriction on both sides of Chepstow Avenue between the existing 'At any time' waiting restrictions at the junction with Central Drive and Hacton School entrance.

Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 response was received from the Head Teacher of Hacton Primary School. The respondent stated that they were happy with the existing restrictions at the roundabout and strongly disagreed with the proposed restrictions up to the school. The respondent outlined that the area is in constant use by staff and parents and felt that if the proposals went ahead the health and safety of pupils would be jeopardised, as parents and teachers would be forced to park in the school playground; even when pupils are using the playground. The Committee should note that the school has had two planning applications for a staff car park turned down.

Staff Comments

The section of Chepstow Avenue between the roundabout and the school entrance is narrow and the same parking problems occur at this school site as they do at many other school sites in the borough. There are unrestricted areas very close to the school, where staff and parents can park, and it is considered that the proposed restrictions would improve road safety for pupils. The issue of pupil safety within the school site is one for the school to manage.

Recommended Action

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored.

2.6 Scheme 6 – Clunas Gardens – Drawing No. QJ123-OF-101

The scheme is within Squirrels Heath Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 14th December 2010.

The scheme proposes to implement 'At any time' waiting restrictions for 10 metres on all four arms of the Amery Gardens and Clunas Gardens junction, extending into Clunas Gardens on its south-western side to the turning head.

Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 response was received from a resident of a corner property on Amery Gardens. The respondent strongly objected to the scheme on the basis that they have no off-street parking and rely on being able to park in the areas which will be the subject of the restriction. The respondent is a single parent with two small children and finds it difficult to park due to the number of dropped kerbs on both roads and other residents parking outside the properties. The respondent is concerned about the proposals and questions their necessity.

Staff Comments

Clunas Gardens is a narrow road and the proposed restrictions are designed to ensure access into the road for emergency and service vehicles and to ensure sight lines are maintained for drivers entering and exiting the road.

Recommended Action

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

The estimated cost of Scheme 4 as set out in this report is £30,000. The Scheme is MTFS approved and can be funded by a current Invest to Save bid.

The estimated cost of Schemes 1,2,3,5 and 6 is £3,000. The Schemes can be funded from the 2011/12 Minor Parking Schemes budget.

The costs shown are an estimate of the full costs to implement the proposed schemes. It should be noted that the Cabinet Member approval process will be completed where a scheme is recommended for implementation.

Overall costs will need to be contained within the overall revenue budget.

Legal implications and risks:

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

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Human Resources implications and risks:

The collection of cash from pay and display machines is a labour intensive task. Currently, there are sufficient employees to undertake cash collection from existing P&D machines. However, whilst there may be a marginal level of additional capacity brought about by a reduction in cash collection schedules and frequency there will be an inevitable increase of risk from cash theft if money is left in situ for longer. That said, a physical limit for cash collections will soon be reached and so consideration will need to be given to additional employees to undertake increased levels of cash collection at a later stage.

However, for this scheme it is anticipated that collections can be met from within current staff resources.

Equalities implications and risks:

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.

Disabled 'Blue' Badge holders are able to park with an unlimited time in resident permit bays and in Pay & Display parking bays and for up to three hours on restricted areas (unless a loading ban is in force).

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Drawings:

Oldchurch Road/ Dagenham Road – Plan No. DAG/01/03

Heather Glen - Plan No. HG/01/01

Pond Walk - Plan No. FLPW/01/01

Collier Row Road, Clockhouse Lane & Associated Waiting Restrictions -

Plan Nos:

QK056-0F-101

QK056-0F-102

QK056-0F-103

QK056-0F-104

QK056-0F-105

QK056-0F-106

QK056-0F-107

QK056-0F-108

Hacton School

Clunas Gardens Plan No. QJ123-OF-101

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