

CABINET (TRAFFIC AND PARKING) COMMITTEE

18 MARCH 2013

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – ABBOTTS BARTON AREA, WINCHESTER

REPORT OF HEAD OF ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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RECENT REFERENCES:

None.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Over the past few years, the Council has received numerous requests from residents of Abbots Barton for waiting restrictions to be introduced to stop all-day commuter parking. These requests have been supported by the local Ward Members.

Following consultations and public exhibitions, revised restrictions are now being proposed, taking into account the comments of residents, as fully detailed in this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 That (subject to the modifications being considered to be not substantial) waiting restrictions be introduced as detailed on the revised schedules and plans attached as Appendices H and J to the Report.
- 2 That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to make the necessary order.

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DETAIL:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Numerous requests have been made by local residents (supported by ward Members) over several years for the introduction of waiting restrictions in Abbots Barton, to deal with commuter parking and associated access problems for residents.
- 1.2 This report sets out progress which has been made to date, and the consultation exercise which has been undertaken. It reviews the proposals in the light of the consultation responses.

2 Consultation

- 2.1 In December 2012 the Council undertook an informal consultation with all residents in Abbots Barton, Winchester to test their views regarding the introduction of controls on parking in the area to reduce commuter car parking and improve access for residents. Although it did not provide a clear preferred option for specific restrictions and permit parking, the consultation, in combination with requests and comments received by the local Ward Members, demonstrated that there was majority support for some restrictions to be introduced to control the commuter parking. .
- 2.2 Formal proposals were drafted but it was considered appropriate that formal consultation on the waiting restrictions should be delayed until suggestions for new Council housing in the area had been brought forward.. The waiting restrictions proposals were included in the new homes consultation events held at Abbots Barton, which provided further feedback from residents, and on the whole demonstrated continued support for restrictions to be introduced.
- 2.3 Following the exhibitions minor revisions were made to the proposals to take into account comments received. The proposals were then forwarded to the relevant Councillors and Police seeking their support to proceed formally.

3 Formal Advertising of Proposals

- 3.1 The proposals were formally advertised on 16 January 2013. Appendices A, B, C and D give full details of the proposed restrictions as advertised.

- 3.2 The formal notices resulting in 54 individual comments comprising 39 objections and 15 letters of support. (See Appendix E)
- 3.3 In addition to the individual comments, petitions were also received on behalf of residents of Green Park Close (14 out of 15 residents, Appendix F1), Cavendish Close (13 out of 19 properties, Appendix F2), and Grosvenor Drive (15 out of 17 properties, Appendix F3), stating that residents of these roads did not want restrictions introduced, even if restrictions were to be introduced on the other roads in Abbots Barton. Some residents of Chaundler Road (Appendix F4) objected to the no waiting restrictions proposed.
- 3.4 As well as objecting to restrictions in their roads, the petitions for Cavendish Grove (Appendix F2) and Grosvenor Drive (Appendix F3) also supported reduced restrictions (11am to 2pm with a 1 hour limited waiting provision). Such reduced restrictions were also requested in a further petition which was received, signed by the majority of residents of the remaining roads in Abbots Barton (180 out of 249 properties), again supporting the introduction of less onerous restriction times to accommodate residents' needs whilst preventing all day commuter parking, the suggested restriction being 11am to 2pm with a 1 hour limited waiting provision. (See Appendix G)

4 Revised Proposals in light of Consultation

- 4.1 The Council is under a duty to consider all objections which are made following advertisement of proposals. Giving proper consideration to the points made in the objections and the subsequent petitions, it is recommended that revised restrictions be implemented as follows:-
- The parking bay restrictions to be "1 hour limited waiting 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday with permit holders' exemption." Such restrictions will be a deviation from the other parking bays in Winchester, but should resolve the specific issues in Abbots Barton without setting an unrealistic precedent. The proposed hours are considered the absolute minimum to enable effective, robust enforcement whilst attempting to meet the desires of the residents.
 - Proposed double yellow lines adjacent to 57 to 67 Chaundler Road to be reduced to single yellow line restriction "No waiting 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday".
 - Proposed double yellow lines at junction of Grosvenor Drive/Francis Gardens to be reduced to single yellow line restriction "No waiting 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday".
 - Except for single yellow lines at the junction of Francis Gardens all restrictions in Cavendish Grove, Green Park Close and Grosvenor Drive are to be withdrawn. It should be noted that different restrictions have been requested for these roads but these can not be accommodated within the scheme originally advertised. The view is that the preferred option of the

residents in these circumstances would be for no restrictions to be introduced.

- The times for 2 hour limited waiting bays adjacent to the shop to be changed to 10am to 2pm in line with the other bays.
- With the exception of the above, the single and double yellow line restrictions are to remain as originally proposed and advertised.

4.2 Drawing No. 810402/225/002 Rev D gives details of the amended proposal (see Appendix H).

4.3 The revised schedules in accordance with the amended restrictions above are attached as Appendix J.

4.4 Clearly, there are a range of different views about the specific proposals for Abbotts Barton, as there always are when a new scheme of parking restrictions is proposed. Some detailed suggestions have been made which are understandable but impractical, and overall the package of measures is designed to have a positive effect for residents of the area by reducing its attractiveness for commuter parking without unduly reducing flexibility for residents.

5 Next Steps

5.1 The Council can modify proposals and make an order in different terms to that advertised (e.g. in order to take into account objections made). Under Regulation 14(3) of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure Etc) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended), if the Council considers that the modifications are "substantial", it is required to undertake further steps, namely informing people likely to be affected by the modifications, giving the opportunity to make further representations, and ensuring that such representations are duly considered before the modified Order is made.

5.2 If the modifications are not considered to be substantial, the Order can be made immediately.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

6 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND CHANGE PLANS (RELEVANCE TO):

The proposal is in keeping with the Community Strategy in its attempt to provide a high quality environment & safe and strong communities.

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of implementing the traffic regulation order and associated signs and lining work will be covered by the Traffic Management agreement with Hampshire County Council.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Risks are fully considered as part of the assessment process of all Traffic Regulation Orders. The changes/issues covered are not believed to represent significant risks. There is a possibility that vehicles will be displaced by the restrictions and will find alternative areas to park on nearby roads. It must be noted that the residents of Cavendish Grove, Green Park Close and Grosvenor Drive are fully aware of this and that should this occur any requests to introduce additional waiting restrictions in these roads will be added to the TRO requests list for future review and prioritising in line with other TRO requests.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Copy of plan showing extent of original proposal (Drg No. 810402/225/002 Rev C)

Appendix B – Copy of Statement of Reasons and Schedule

Appendix C – Copy of proposal notice

Appendix D – Copy of proposed Order

Appendix E – Summary of comments received

Appendix F – Copy of petitions on behalf of residents of Green Park Close, Grosvenor drive and Cavendish Close

Appendix G – Copy of petition on behalf of residents in favour of 11am – 2pm restrictions

Appendix H – Copy of Revised Plan (Drg No. 810402/225/002 Rev D)

Appendix J – Copy of Revised Schedule