

**TO:** SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD  
**DATE:** 18<sup>th</sup> December 2006  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed No Waiting At Any Time Parking Restrictions  
Whitstable Road, Faversham  
**BY:** Divisional Manager Mid Kent  
**Classification:** Unrestricted

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**Summary:** A report on the proposal to introduce No Waiting At Any Time parking restrictions between 32 – 50 Whitstable Road as part of the off-site highway works agreed as a condition to the planning permission granted for the redevelopment of the Eurocentre site served off Whitstable Road, Faversham.

**Decision Required:** That Member's approve the implementation of the proposals as advertised.

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### **Introduction**

1. The developers of the Eurocentre, in Whitstable Road, Faversham (Fairview Homes) were granted planning permission, subject to a Section 106 Agreement, in July 2006 for housing and commercial use. As part of that planning permission and under the provisions of the associated Section 106 Planning Agreement, the developers are required to introduce a package of traffic management measures (annexe A) in Whitstable Road for highway safety reasons and to improve accessibility for all highway users. The scheme involves traffic calming Whitstable road between Abbey Fields and Love Lane using road narrowing and speed cushions to reduce and maintain lower vehicle speeds.
2. As an integral part of the planning process the proposed off-site highway works associated with the redevelopment proposals were presented to the public in detail for their consideration. This involved sending out consultation package which included an explanation of the proposals and why they were necessary, a plan of the scheme and a questionnaire. This public consultation was carried out in February 2005. As a result 15 responses were received and these were reported in full to the Swale Planning Committee on 20 July 2006. The Planning Committee resolved that the application "...be delegated to Officers to approve subject to further minor amendments, resolution of Highway matters, the application conforming more closely to the approved Development Brief and the adoption of a Section 106 Agreement to secure matters..." The highway matters were resolved to the satisfaction of Officers following consideration of the results of the public consultation.
3. It is important to point out that the scheme presented to the public included details of the new on-street parking restrictions designed to supplement the existing restrictions in Whitstable Road as well as the provision of 12 off-street parking places to replace the loss of on-street parking affected by the new restrictions. The proposed new off-street parking spaces will be provided off the new commercial access road served off Whitstable Road.
4. It is also important to point out that no objections or negative comments were raised during the public consultation exercise in relation to the proposed extension of on-street parking restrictions in Whitstable Road.

5. Subsequent to the planning decision made in July 2006, the developers confirmed, in their Planning Statement dated September 2005, their commitment to the necessary off-site highway package changes that resulted from the consultation exercise. The replacement parking is on the opposite side of the road.

### **Discussion**

6. Under the Statutory requirements for the making of new Traffic Regulation Orders the proposed waiting restrictions associated with the proposed off-site highway improvements were advertised on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2006 and the residents affected by the proposal were sent a consultation letter and plan of the scheme. As a consequence of this consultation five letters of objection have been received.
7. In all five representations were received, the recurring reason for objection to the proposed extensions to the no waiting at any time restrictions concerned the loss of 6 on-street parking spaces and the fact that the replacement off-street spaces are located off Whitstable Road and would require the residents affected by the restrictions to cross Whitstable road every time they park collect their vehicles. The overall benefits the traffic calming will bring to residents of Whitstable Road are slower speeds as well as the improved pedestrian crossing points. It should also be pointed out that the 12 off-street spaces more than compensate for the loss of 6 on-street parking spaces and will be on a lit road and well related to the dwellings.
8. Other factors that should be considered in relation to the proposals include the presence of a children's day nursery at No 32 Whitstable Road that caters for 127 children and employs 22 members of staff. Consequently, Whitstable Road outside the nursery is used to drop off and pick up point for children at the start and end of the nursery day which typically causes problems for adjacent residents and other highway users. An objection was raised by the day nursery manager for this reason even though it is possible to drop-off and pick up passengers whilst parked on no waiting at any time restrictions. There is also a bakery at No 50, where customer parking occurs which again does cause disruption to other road users. No response has been received from the owners of the bakery.
9. No comments were received by any of the Statutory consultees, which include the emergency services, bus operators and the Freight Transportation Association.
10. The scheme will bring clear benefits to residents in slower speeds, better pedestrian facilities and a net gain of six parking spaces.

### **Decision required**

11. It is therefore, recommended that Member's approve the implementation of the proposals as advertised.

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### **Background documents:**

Annexe A – Approved Scheme Plan showing the 'No Waiting' restrictions and replacement parking