

Oare Parish Council  
Kent Lodge, 20 Newton Rd  
Faversham, Kent, ME13 8DZ

For the attention of the Joint Transportation Board.

16 October 2008

Dear Sirs

**Re Proposed Parking Restrictions, The Street, Oare**

It was reported to the Parish council meeting on 12 October that you had received a single formal objection to these proposed parking restrictions and that you will therefore have to consider the proposal again at your December meeting.

The Parish Council asks you to support the proposed restrictions.

The primary reason for seeking the restriction is to preserve our bus service. At present, parking at the bus stops, on pavements and on the corner of the Uplees Rd junction has created two problems for the bus. The bus company has threatened to withdraw the service if nothing is done.

Firstly, the bus often cannot pull up adjacent to the kerb to allow passengers on and off but has to stop in the roadway, a safety and a DDA issue affecting both fit and disabled passengers.

Secondly, the effect of parking on both sides of the road at the Uplees corner often prevents the bus from getting around the corner to the final bus stop and turning point at Colegates Close. The bus then has to reverse down The Street and abandon anyone waiting at Colegates Close. The police neighbourhood team have been in attendance on several occasions to get obstructive cars moved.

The proposed parking restrictions were developed in discussion between the Parish Council, Stephen Huckle from KHS and Mike Knowles of Swale Borough Council. Whilst we understand that cars need to be parked, we believe the proposal is the minimum necessary to protect the bus route through the village. It can be argued that the lines are only being placed where parking is an obstruction and should not happen anyway (on corners, junctions, pavements and bus stops). There is roadside parking available further from the Street, eg on the Davington Rd approach to the village or Church Rd.

The second reason is road safety, inconsiderate or illegal parking near bends and junctions causes a hazard for other road users whose vision is restricted or who are forced onto the wrong side of the road on a bend or junction.

We look forward to a favourable decision on behalf of our bus users.

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