

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2009

**SUBJECT: PETITION – PARKING IN SWANSTREE AVENUE /
BLENHEIM ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE**

BY: Head of Environmental Services

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: A report to advise Members of a petition received from residents of Blenheim Road, Sittingbourne, with regard to parking problems as a result of the Swanstree Avenue Extension works.

Decision Required: Members are asked to note to contents of this report and recommend that the petition be forwarded to Kent Highway Services for consideration.

Introduction

1. Following commencement of the construction works for the Swanstree Avenue Extension in Sittingbourne by Kent Highway Services, a petition containing 7 signatures has been submitted to the Borough Council requesting the provision of a parking area for residents of Blenheim Road.

Discussion

2. Prior to work starting on site, residents located at the northern end of Blenheim Road parked their vehicles in Swanstree Avenue, adjacent to the footpath leading to Blenheim Road. This is due to the fact that 8 of the properties at this end of Blenheim Road are situated along the footpath, and with no adjacent carriageway at this end of the road parking is very limited.

3. Part of the new Swanstree Avenue Extension work consists of constructing a traffic island in the centre of the carriageway in Swanstree Avenue, close to the footpath leading to Blenheim Road. With the installation of this traffic island, Kent Highways will be introducing waiting restrictions in the form of double yellow lines along this section of road, to prevent the reduced width of carriageway being obstructed by parked vehicles.

4. The petitioners have expressed concern that when these new restrictions are introduced there will be nowhere to park, and have requested the provision of allocated parking for these displaced vehicles. A location plan of the new traffic island and requested area for allocated parking, submitted with the petition, can be found in Annex A. A copy of the petition itself can be found in Annex B.

5. The Borough Council have no available budget for the provision of off street parking areas, and would therefore expect works such as this to be included within the main site works, and funded as part of the project.

6. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to control who parks within an allocated area such as this, but it is felt that any increase in parking capacity would assist residents in the area.

Recommendation

7. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and recommend that the petition be forwarded to Kent Highway Services for consideration.

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Date: 19th August 2009

List of background documents - Annex A – Location Plan
- Annex B – Copy of Petition