

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2009

SUBJECT: PETITION – REMOVAL OF GRASSED VERGE FOR PARKING, ADJACENT TO HONEYSUCKLE COURT, SUNNY BANK, MURSTON, SITTINGBOURNE

BY: Head of Environmental Services

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: A report to advise Members of a petition received from residents of Sunny Bank, Honeysuckle Court and Thistle Walk in Murston, for the existing grassed verge to be removed to increase parking capacity in the area.

Decision Required: **Members are asked to note to contents of this report and petitioners to be informed accordingly.**

Introduction

1. A petition containing 52 signatures has been submitted to the Borough Council, requesting the removal of the existing grassed verge in Sunny Bank, Murston, adjacent to Honeysuckle Court, to increase parking capacity in the area. A copy of the petition can be found in Annex A, and a location plan can be found in Annex B.

Discussion

2. The petition states that none of the other Courts running off of Sunny Bank have grassed verges adjacent to them, but instead have areas for parking. With the grassed verge in place, there is limited parking capacity for residents in the vicinity of Honeysuckle Court and this has resulted in arguments over parking spaces.

3. The Borough Council has no budget for construction works such as this, and would therefore not be in a position to fund the removal of the grassed verge. This grassed verge forms part of the Public Highway and Kent Highway Services would need to authorise any alterations to the Highway. It is unlikely that Kent Highway Services would have funding available for this work.

4. Unless external funding can be found it will not be possible to provide the additional parking requested.

Recommendation

5. Members are asked to note the contents of this report, and petitioners to be informed accordingly.

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Date: 19th August 2009

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