

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: Monday 13th December 2010

SUBJECT: VARIOUS WAITING RESTRICTIONS

BY: Head of Amenities & Environmental Services

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: A report for members to consider results of recent consultation carried out in various locations in relation to proposed waiting restrictions, and also to consider formal objections received following the recent advertising of Traffic Regulation Orders in Swale.

Implications:

Human Resources Implications - None

Finance Implications – None

Legal Implications – Traffic Regulation Orders to be made

Crime & Disorder Implications (Section 17) - None

Equalities & Diversity Implications – None

Sustainability Implications – None

Risk and Health and Safety Implications – None

Corporate Plan Implications – Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.

Decision Required: **That Members note the report and recommend that officers implement the following waiting restrictions:**

- **Middletune Avenue/Newbridge Avenue, Sittingbourne**
- **Keswick Avenue/Woodberry Drive, Sittingbourne**
- **Castle Road, Eurolink Industrial Estate, Sittingbourne**

That Members note the report and recommend that officers do not install the following waiting restrictions:

- **High Street, Milton Regis (Extension to Bays)**
- **The Broadway, Minster**

That Members note the report and recommend that officers investigate the comments raised during recent consultations prior to installing any waiting restrictions at the following locations:

- **Ethlebert Road, Faversham**
- **Keycol Hill, Newington/Bobbing**

Introduction/Background

1. A consultation has been undertaken with residents and statutory consultees in relation to the introduction of new waiting restrictions within the Borough. These proposals have come from various sources such as residents' letters, parish/town council correspondence and residents' petitions..
2. The plans of the proposed restrictions have been included in Annex A.

Issue for Decision

3. The objections to the proposals together with a response to the issues raised have been included within Annex B. The locations will be discussed in the following paragraphs. Where corner protection measures are being introduced, Kent Police have requested that a minimum waiting restriction distance of 10 metres should be adopted. However, in areas where parking demand is high this will greatly reduce local parking capacity. The proposals for corner protection in this report do meet the requirement where possible, however in some locations the need for a waiting restriction has been balanced against the need for parking, so in some instances the corner protection may have been reduced to 5 metres.
4. **Ethelbert Road, Faversham**

A petition containing 29 signatures was presented to the Joint Transportation Board at their meeting in September, requesting further consultation with residents on the possible introduction of waiting restrictions in Ethelbert Road to tackle problems with vehicles parked for long periods of time. A consultation therefore took place with residents on proposals to introduce a one hour parking restriction between 10am and 11am Monday to Friday, to match similar restrictions in some other areas of Faversham.

Out of the 65 properties consulted, 22 supported the proposals and 14 objected to the proposals. In addition to this feedback, a further 82 objections were received from staff, parents and volunteer workers of the school. Details of the comments received can be found in Annex B.

In view of the comments received, including those of the Ward Members who whilst supporting the proposals have asked that they are considered with surrounding areas, it is recommended that the proposed restrictions are not progressed at the present time, but that the parking in Ethelbert Road be considered with surrounding roads.

5. **Keycol Hill, A2, Newington/Bobbing**

A request to install parking restrictions along the A2 at Keycol Hill in Newington and Bobbing was received by Bobbing Parish Council. It has been reported that vehicles parked part on the footway are obstructing the safe passage of pedestrians along this section of road, forcing those with pushchairs or wheelchairs into the road. Some residents have also reported problems with these parked vehicles obstructing sightlines of their driveways. A consultation therefore took place with residents to install double yellow lines on both sides of the road, from Key Street roundabout to Keycol Farm House.

Out of the 121 properties consulted, 40 supported the proposals, 17 objected and 1 was undecided. The comments received can be found in Annex B. Whilst more responders supported than objected to the proposals, several issues have been raised which are concerning many residents. One is the fact that by installing double yellow lines on both sides of the A2, there would be nowhere for those residents without off-street parking to park their vehicles, and another is the fact that many residents are concerned that by removing parked vehicles the average speed of traffic using this section of the A2 would increase.

In view of these concerns it is recommended that the installation of the double yellow lines is not progressed at the present time, but that the situation be examined further in view of the comments received.

6. **High Street, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne**

Following requests from businesses through a local Councillor, a consultation took place on proposals to extend the existing parking bays on the west side of Milton High Street, by approximately 16 metres in a southerly direction, towards Crown Road. The extension of the existing parking bays will increase the available short term parking for visitors to shops in the High Street.

Out of the 54 properties consulted, 9 supported the proposals, and 2 objected. As well as the feedback received from businesses and residents in the area, objections were received from the Borough Council's Parking Manager and the Arriva Bus Company. The Parking Manager expressed concern at the obstruction to the sightline of vehicles travelling from the Crown Road direction as a result of these proposals, and Arriva stated that buses already experienced problems negotiating this section of road, and any extension to parking in the area would exacerbate the situation. It is therefore recommended that these proposals are not progressed.

7. **The Broadway, Minster**

A request was received from Minster Parish Council for waiting restrictions to be introduced in the lay-by outside of the parade of shops in The Broadway, Minster, to prevent long term parking which has been reported to reduce the amount of available space for visitors to the shops. A consultation took place for the installation of a single yellow line, with a one hour waiting restriction between 8:30am and 5:30pm Monday to Saturday.

Of the 25 properties consulted, 3 supported the proposals and 4 objected. It is therefore recommended that these proposals are not progressed.

8. **Middletune Avenue/Newbridge Avenue, Sittingbourne**

A request was received from a resident asking to install parking restrictions at the junction of Middletune Avenue and Newbridge Avenue, Sittingbourne. The resident stated that vehicles parked close to the junction and created visibility problems for vehicles using this junction. A consultation took place proposing the installation of double yellow lines at this junction.

Out of the 32 properties consulted, 6 supported the proposals, 4 objected and 0 were undecided. It is therefore recommended that these proposals are progressed in the interest of highway safety.

Keswick Avenue/Woodberry Drive, Sittingbourne

A request was received by a resident asking to install parking restrictions at the junction of Keswick Avenue and Woodberry Drive, Sittingbourne. The resident stated that vehicles parked close to the junction creating visibility problems for vehicles. A consultation progressed proposing to install double yellow lines at the junction.

Out of the 18 residents consulted, 10 supported the proposals, 1 objected and 0 were undecided. It is therefore recommended that these proposals are progressed in the interest of highway safety.

Castle Road, Eurolink Industrial Estate, Sittingbourne

A request was received from a Swale Borough Council employee, on behalf of Loafers Café to install parking restrictions in a length of road outside the café area. It was stated that vehicles park on a "dog leg" area of the road creating problems with visibility for vehicles exiting business premises and vehicle movements within Church Road. A consultation progressed proposing to install double yellow lines throughout the "dog leg" area on both sides of the road. A response

supporting these proposals from KCC was received as they would like to see these restrictions installed before the SNRR is open to through traffic sometime in 2011.

Out of approximately 100 business premises consulted 15 supported the proposals, 2 objected and 1 were undecided. It is therefore recommended that these proposals are progressed in the interest of highway safety.

Information Only

For information, the following proposals received no objections during the consultation stage and will therefore be progressed by Officers:-

Brenley Lane, Brenley – Extension to existing Double Yellow Lines
Belmont Road/Queenborough Road, Halfway – Double Yellow Lines for corner protection
Norton Lay-by, London Road, Norton – Single Yellow Line with weight restricted parking

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the comments/objections made by the consultees and recommend that the following waiting restrictions are installed and that the consultees are notified accordingly.

- Middletune Avenue/Newbridge Avenue, Sittingbourne
- Keswick Avenue/Woodberry Drive, Sittingbourne
- Castle Road, Eurolink Industrial Estate, Sittingbourne

Members are asked to note the comments/objections made by the consultees and recommend that the following waiting restrictions are not installed and that the consultees are notified accordingly.

- High Street, Milton Regis (Extension to Bays)
- The Broadway, Minster

Members are asked to note the comments/objections made by the consultees and recommend that officers investigate the comments raised during recent consultations prior to installing any waiting restrictions at the following locations:

- Ethlebert Road, Faversham
- Keycol Hill, Newington/Bobbing

Reasons for the Recommendation

The proposed restrictions will improve vehicle movements and visibility, and/or associated safety issues.

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Date: 8th November 2010

Report approved by – Head of Amenities & Environmental Services

List of background documents –

Annex A – Copy of consultation material

Annex B – Copy of the objector's comments and responses