

Kingsnorth Road
Faversham, Kent, ME13

FAO: Mike Knowles
Engineer – Technical Services
Swale Borough Council
Swale House
East Street
Sittingbourne
Kent, ME10 3HT

16th February 2011

Dear Mr Knowles

Proposed Extension to Residents' Parking Scheme, Kingsnorth Road, Faversham

We write following the recommendations of the Swale Borough Council (SBC) Joint Transportation Board (JTB) on 13th December 2010 and recent correspondence between yourself and a number of Kingsnorth Road residents regarding the above. This letter sets out and supports a further proposal for consideration at the next JTB in March 2011 to include the lower section of Kingsnorth Road (odd nos. 1-17 and even nos. 2-30) in the planned Residents' Parking Scheme extension.

While we do not consider it an automatic right to park outside our houses on publicly owned highway, there are a number of observed current practices, often undertaken by non-residents, which can restrict residents of Kingsnorth Road from locating a parking space within a reasonable distance from their home and which also raise some safety concerns. The following examples highlight, but not exhaust, some of the issues:

- ***Rail users of Faversham train station using Kingsnorth Road as a free 'Park and Ride' facility from 0700-1900 on weekdays***
- ***Athelstan Road Residents, not enrolled in their current Residents' Parking Scheme, using Kingsnorth Road as a free alternative weekdays and Saturdays***
- ***Faversham employees and shoppers using Kingsnorth Road as a free alternative to town centre parking***
- ***Frequent prohibited parking acts on double yellow lines disrupting visibility splays on junction approaches***
- ***Inefficient use of available parking space***
- ***Future impact of any displaced resident and non-resident parking demand once Edith and Belmont Road schemes are implemented***

The outcomes of the above can reduce the number of available parking spaces, particularly at the peak demand periods on weekday evenings and Saturdays, and can also restrict visibility for turning junction traffic raising safety concerns. There are also the unseen costs of the potential long term loss of parking revenue to SBC with rail users and employees not using town centre pay and display car parks and the environmental impact of lengthened vehicle journeys searching for available parking spaces. It is envisaged that by including the lower section of Kingsnorth Road in the planned extension:

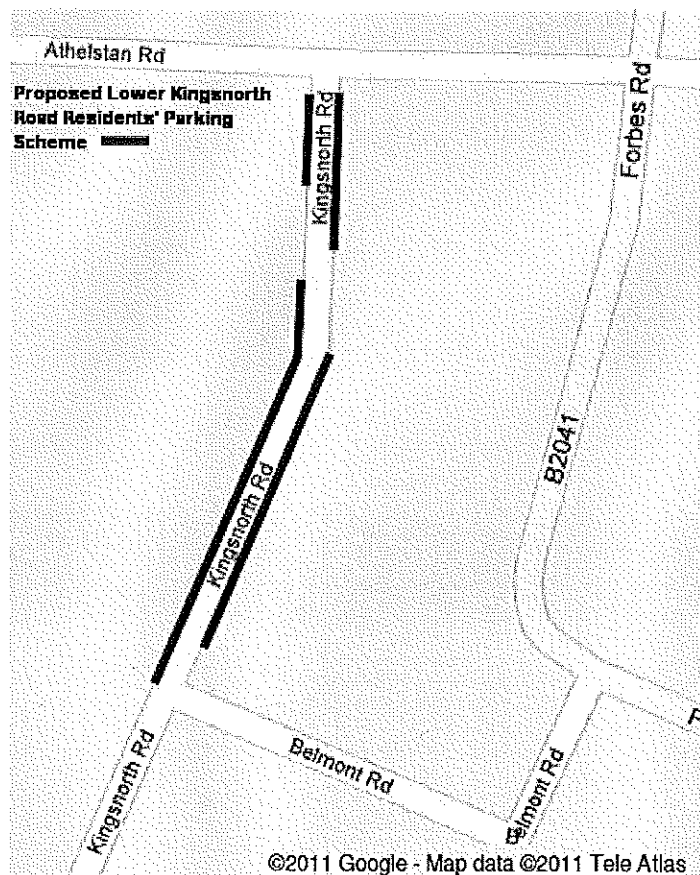
- ***Non-resident parking demand will be reduced easing congestion in peak periods***
- ***Clearly marked parking areas will make more efficient use of space***
- ***Increased Civil Enforcement Officer patrols will reduce prohibited parking and improve safety***

We would like to thank you for your assistance on this matter and for forwarding a breakdown of the results taken from the 2010 consultation process. As reflected by the JTB's decision, the results demonstrate support for extending the Residents' parking scheme on to Belmont and Edith Roads but not Kingsnorth and Canute Roads. However, as part of our evidence base your further analysis of the results does demonstrate clear support for extending the scheme to the 26 households on the lower section of Kingsnorth Road (odd nos. 1-17 and even nos. 2-30) with 65% in support and 35% not in support, based on a 61% response to the consultation.

This level of support aligns well with the 64% and 83% of responses favouring the scheme on Edith and Belmont Roads respectively, where the extension will be implemented. Following our discussions, and the level of support expressed in the 2010 consultation, we feel there is sufficient reasoning to include the lower section of Kingsnorth Road (odd nos. 1-17 and even nos. 2-30) within the proposed extension of the local Residents' Parking Scheme, as indicated on the plan below.

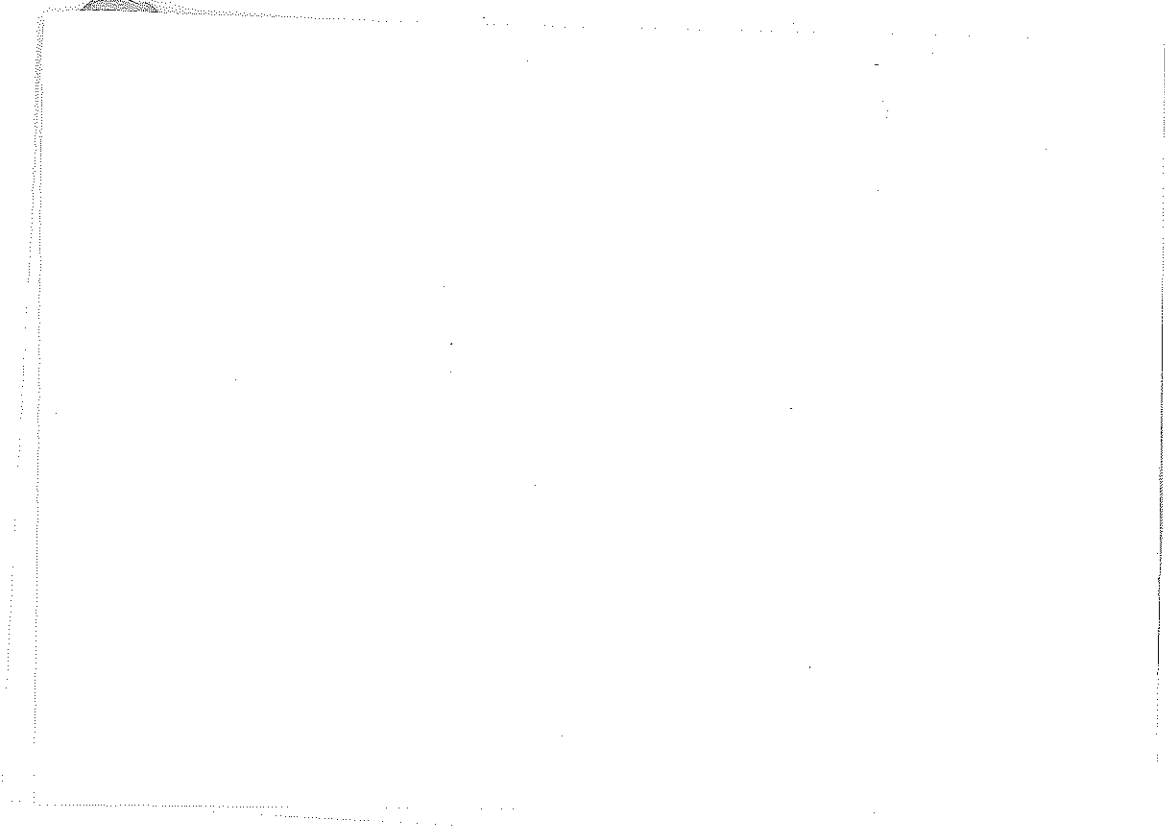
In underlining this support, we also include the signatures and responses from a recent survey (February 2011) of the residents of lower Kingsnorth Road asking whether they support this proposed approach. To remain objective and sympathetic to all viewpoints the petition includes negative responses plus 'don't know' and 'rather not say' options. Each household was asked to sign an individualised petition (one per household) stating their preference to ensure confidentiality. Households were visited on up to three occasions at varying times of the day and week to achieve the highest sample possible prior to the deadline of 16th February 2011. A summary of the responses is listed in Annex A of this letter.

The survey of the 26 households returned 20 responses (77%) with five households unavailable for comment and one household currently unoccupied. Of the responding 20 households, **17 (85%) support** the proposed extension of the Residents' Parking Scheme and **3 (15%) do not support** the proposal with no households returning a 'don't know' or 'rather not say' comment. The results therefore surpass the findings of the 2010 consultation with a higher sample and a higher proportion of residents in support of the proposal. Furthermore, even if the 'nil response' households did not support the proposal the level of response in favour would still be in excess of 65%, emulating the 2010 consultation. The responding households have signed their individualised petition sheets to verify their point of view, as enclosed.



Given the content of this letter and the supporting evidence enclosed, we would be extremely grateful if you could take forward, on our behalf, the proposal to extend the Faversham Residents' Parking Scheme to lower Kingsnorth Road (as indicated on the plan above) for approval and implementation at the next JTB.

Yours sincerely



Annex A

Stated Preference to inclusion of lower Kingsnorth Road in Residents' Parking Scheme				
	Support Proposal ✓	Do Not Support x	Rather Not Say ☹	Don't Know ?
	<i>Nil Response</i>			
	✓			
	<i>Nil Response</i>			
	<i>Nil Response</i>			
	✓			
		x		
	✓			
	✓			
	✓			
	✓			
	<i>Nil Response</i>			
	✓			
	✓			
	✓			
	✓			
		x		
	✓			
	<i>No Current Occupier</i>			
	✓			
	✓			
	✓			
		x		
	✓			
	<i>Nil Response</i>			
	✓			
Total	17	3	0	0
Sample – 77% (20/26)				
Support Proposal – 85% (17/20)				
Do Not Support Proposal – 15% (3/20)				
Rather Not Say/Don't Know – 0% (0/20)				
Nil Response - 23% (6/26)				

****All Residents were visited on up to 3 occasions at varying times of the day and week to achieve the highest possible sample prior to the deadline of 16th February 2011. All responses held in Annex A are to remain CONFIDENTIAL to the organisers of this survey and Swale Borough Council****