

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD
DATE: Monday 5th September 2011
SUBJECT: Queenborough Road cul-de-sac, Halfway – Residents Parking Petition
BY: Head of Service Delivery
Classification: Exempt

Summary: Members are asked to consider a resident's petition received from Queenborough Road (cul-de-sac), Halfway, in regards to the non resident parking creating problems in the cul-de-sac.

Implications: Human Resources Implications - None

Finance Implications – None

Legal Implications – None

Crime & Disorder Implications - None

Sustainability Implications - None

Risk Implications – None

Decision Required: **Members are asked to note the report of the residents petition and recommend that installing further disabled persons' parking bays be investigated and parking restrictions be extended.**

Introduction/Background

1. A petition was received in June 2011 from a resident living in Queenborough Road (cul-de-sac), Halfway. It states that residents of Queenborough Road park their vehicles in the cul-de-sac, therefore, reducing the amount of on street parking for the cul-de-sac. The petition asks whether numbered parking bays can be installed or a gate at the entrance of the cul-de-sac to stop non residents parking there. All the residents are elderly and some are disabled, there is currently one disabled persons' parking bay in this cul-de-sac, this is the maximum allowed due to the current KCC criteria. The petition also states that vehicles park on the existing double yellow lines at the junction with Queenborough Road and on the pavement reducing access widths for wheelchair users.

The properties in the cul-de-sac are owned by Amicus Horizon and the author of the petition states they have contacted them but they say they cannot help. The attached letter (double sided) of the petition is included in Annex A1 & A2 with a location plan in Annex B. Of the 10 properties in the cul-de-sac, 9 properties signed the petition with 8 people stating they are disabled.

Issue for decision

2. The cul-de-sac is in the near vicinity of Halfway Houses Primary School and the Sheerness East Workings Mans Club, so the problem of parking in the cul-de-sac could be related to these establishments. However, the Working Mans Club has its own large car park and the School may only create parking problems, if any, during the school drop off/pick up times. The petition states that the problem is being created by the residents that live in Queenborough Road in the near vicinity to the cul-de-sac as there is a high density of housing in this location and limited on street parking, also, the residents of Queenborough Road do have space for parking at the rear of their properties.

3. The suggestion of painting numbered bays in the cul-de-sac for the residents is not a possibility as the road is an adopted highway and therefore cannot have a space dedicated to a single property. The idea of a gate being installed at the entrance of the cul-de-sac cannot be an option as the road is again an adopted highway and therefore has to be available for all vehicle access. A residents parking scheme will not be that beneficial as the problem seems to occur after general working hours and at the weekend. Although the cul-de-sac has the maximum number of disabled bays recommended for the parking space available, it may be worth looking into getting agreement from the Highway Authority to install a number of extra bays here, considering the amount of current disabled persons living at this location. Another option may be to remove the landscaped area at the western end of the cul-de-sac and install private parking for the residents, this way there could be a dedicated bay for a specific property. This idea would have to be discussed and agreed with Amicus Horizon.

Recommendation

4. Members are asked to note the petition/letter sent by the resident and recommend that agreement be sought with KCC in regards to installing further disabled bays in the cul-de-sac for blue badge holders and the possibility of extending the double yellow lines at the entrance to improve vehicle movements in and out of the cul-de-sac..

Reasons for the Recommendation

5. The proposed disabled bays and parking restrictions will provide parking spaces for disabled residents and improve vehicle movements at the entrance to the cul-de-sac.

Author - Brett O'Connell
Tel: 01795 417061

Date: 3rd August 2011

List of background documents: Annex A1 and A2 - Petition letter both sides
Annex B – Location plan of the cul-de-sac

ANNEX

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- 3 JUN 2011

Dear Mr O'Connell,

We the Residents of Queenborough Close, wish Kent Highways to do something about the vehicles that are not owned by the residents, but are in fact owned by the Parents & children, of the houses in Queenborough Road, and have garages behind their properties - and have been given permission to park their vehicles in the large car park at Halfway Working Mens Club. Providing they leave room for patrons of the club to park. But they still continue to park in the close restricting our ability to be able to park by our homes, as all the residents of the close are elderly or disabled and we are only allowed one disability parking bay. This is causing a problem for us the residents our friends families, Care's Doctor's & Emergency Services to attend us. as they cannot get into the close or park.

When we complain to the offending parties our cars are then vandalised or we are abused,

PTo

ANNEX A2

Double Yellow Lines are being ignored, and when the Police or Traffic Enforcement Officers move them on they drive around and then come back again.

Evening Weekend and Holidays are a complete nightmare as you either cannot get out of the car park because of the Volume of Cars Parked, or you cannot get back in, Car's Park on the Pavement and so yet again you cannot use the pavement to walk on or if in wheelchairs cannot get safely around them.

This is causing us the residents of the close distress and annoyance, and wish something to be done to rectify the problem either by putting in Numbered Bays, or gate the close far enough back so that vehicles can still turn to enter Queenborough Rd but cannot enter the close, I have approached the Housing Association and they have stated, that they cannot do anything regarding the Highway or Close. so the problem can only be resolved by yourselves. Kent Highways

I have spoken with you on several occasions about this matter it is now exceedingly worse since we last spoke and the need for urgent actions to resolve this continual problem should be taken as soon as possible to end the parking issue. We trust you will give this your most urgent attention and resolve the issues we are having. Please note all undersigned signatures are given freely and as a notification of a formal Petition.

Annex B

QUEENBOROUGH ROAD

Queenborough Road
Cul-De-Sac

Johnson's
Court

