

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD
DATE: Monday 12th March 2012
SUBJECT: PETITION – PARKING, MEYRICK ROAD, SHEERNESS
BY: Head of Service Delivery
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: To report a petition recently received from residents of Meyrick Road, Sheerness, in relation to problems associated with Sheppey Little Theatre.

Implications:

Human Resources Implications - None

Finance Implications – None

Legal Implications – None

Crime & Disorder Implications (Section 17) - None

Equalities & Diversity Implications – None

Sustainability Implications – None

Risk and Health and Safety Implications – None

Corporate Plan Implications – None

Decision Required:

That Members note the contents of the report and petition received and recommend that Officers write to the Sheppey Little Theatre to highlight the issues raised.

The residents of Meyrick Road be advised accordingly.

Introduction/Background

1. A petition containing 38 signatures has been received from residents of Meyrick Road, Sheerness. A copy of the petition statement, minus the signatures, can be found in Annex A.

Issue for Decision

2. At the end of 2008, the Sheerness Parking Review was carried out, which included a full consultation with residents in the centre of Sheerness, including Meyrick Road. Questions were asked around any problems experienced with parking, and whether residents felt that the introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme would be beneficial. Results of the consultation were reported to the Swale Joint Transportation Board in December 2008.

3. In Meyrick Road, a total of 35 consultation leaflets were sent out, and a total of only 5 responses were received, 4 supporting the introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme and 1 objecting. Due to the low response rate Members recommended that no further action be taken.
4. The petition received highlights two issues associated with the Sheppey Little Theatre located in Meyrick Road. The first issue is that of parking, and the lack of spaces available to residents when the Theatre is open. The second issue relates to the noise made by visitors to the Theatre when exiting the building.
5. With regard to the parking, whilst we have no powers to ensure visitors use the public car parks as opposed to parking in Meyrick Road, Officers could write to the Theatre and respectfully request that they encourage their customers to make use of the nearby public car parks. The introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme would not alleviate the problems as the Scheme would only operate during the day and parking would remain unrestricted in the evening. Residents would also have to pay £40 per parking permit, and the previous consultation has shown that it is doubtful support would be received for such a Scheme. The introduction of any other form of waiting restriction in an attempt to tackle the parking problems would invariably inconvenience residents.
6. The issue around noise caused by customers exiting the Theatre is also difficult to address, but a copy of the petition has been forwarded to the Environmental Health Team to investigate. Whilst writing to the Theatre on the parking issues, these problems could be highlighted.
7. Residents have stated on the petition that they are in no way trying to get the Theatre closed down, but are requesting staff and visitors have respect for nearby residents.

Recommendation

8. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and the petition received and recommend that Officers write to the managers of the Sheppey Little Theatre to highlight the issues raised by residents of Meyrick Road.

The residents of Meyrick Road be advised accordingly.

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Date: 15th February 2012

Report approved by – Head of Service Delivery

List of background documents: Annex A – Copy of Petition Received