

SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD	Agenda Item:
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Meeting Date	Monday 2 nd March 2020
Report Title	Formal Objections to Traffic Regulation Order – Swale Amendment 8
Cabinet Member	Cllr Tim Valentine
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell
Lead Officer	Mike Knowles (SBC)
Classification	Open

Recommendations	<p>Members are asked to note the formal objections received to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order and recommend that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the proposed single yellow line in Church Road, Murston, be progressed; (b) the proposed double yellow lines in Cooks Lane, Milton Regis, be progressed; (c) the proposed double yellow lines in Dyngley Close, Milton Regis, be progressed on the east side of the Close only, and on both sides of the junction with Vicarage Road.
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1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of objections received to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order, Swale Amendment 8, which covers various amendments to on-street waiting restrictions in Milton Regis and Murston.

2. Background

- 2.1 A Traffic Regulation Order, funded by the County Member, has been drafted for various proposed amendments to on-street waiting restrictions in Sittingbourne, and a copy of this Order can be found in Annex A. A Statement of Reasons summarising the contents of the Order can be found in Annex B. A number of formal objections have been received to some of these proposals, and these are discussed below.

3. Issue for Decision

- 3.1 A copy of the formal objections received can be found in Annex C, and plans of the proposals for each of these areas can be found in Annex D.

Church Road, Murston

- 3.2 Following a request from the local Ward Member, it is proposed to install a single yellow line on the east side of Church Road, Murston, outside of All Saints' Church and the adjacent Village Hall. The proposals were requested to assist with the clear movement of vehicles along Church Road by restricting parking on Monday to Friday between 8am and 6pm.
- 3.3 A total of three formal objections were received to the proposals. The Churchwarden stated that the proposals will have a considerable impact on the Church, particularly for those with impaired mobility and when funerals take place. The Ward Member has subsequently met with the Churchwarden, and advised that blue badge holders would be permitted to park on the proposed restrictions for up to 3 hours, and has confirmed with our parking enforcement contractors that funeral cars would not receive parking fines.
- 3.4 Ward Member Comments: The local Ward Member has stated that the proposed waiting restrictions are essential to improve the current situation in Church Road. He has met with the local Police Officer for the area who has expressed concern that the current parking arrangements severely impact on traffic flows along this major route. The Ward Member has also stated that by removing daytime weekday parking in this location, the route will be safer for school children, and both air pollution and incidents of road rage would be reduced.

Cooks Lane, Milton Regis

- 3.5 Following a request from the local Ward Members, it is proposed to install double yellow lines on the southwest side of Cooks Lane, between the existing lining on the junction with Brewery Road to the junction of Hall Close. The proposals have been developed to alleviate issues with parked vehicles affecting traffic flows along Cooks Lane, and will be funded through the County Member's Highway Grant.
- 3.6 Although no objections were received during the formal consultation period, a late objection was received from a local community care agency, stating that they need to park in Cooks Lane as part of their business operations.
- 3.7 Ward Member Comments: One Ward Member has stated that the proposed double yellow lines for Cooks Lane are required to allow pedestrians to walk on the footway. At least two complaints have been received from people having to push wheelchairs in the road because the footway is blocked by parked vehicles, and complaints have also been received with regard to care workers parking vehicles in front of driveway accesses. With regard to the comments around enforcement of the existing waiting restrictions, the Member has previously reported this to the Civil Enforcement Officers, but the recent comments will be forwarded to them for information. The other Ward Member stated that the whole idea for extending the double yellow lines is on safety grounds, and that parked vehicles currently block visibility for other road users.

Dyngley Close, Milton Regis

- 3.8 Two objections were received to the proposed double yellow lines in Dyngley Close, Milton Regis, which included the junction with Vicarage Road. Both objections were from the same household, and objected to the proposals to install double yellow lines on both sides of Dyngley Close. Following discussions with the Ward Members who had requested the proposals, it was agreed that the planned restrictions on the west side of Dyngley Close could be removed from the Traffic Order, to leave double yellow lines on the east side of the Close only and on both sides of the junction of Vicarage Road.
- 3.9 We have written to the objectors to confirm the amendments to the proposals, and they have subsequently withdrawn their objections. The Traffic Regulation Order will therefore be amended accordingly, prior to sending to Kent County Council to be sealed.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the formal objections received to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order and recommend that:-

(a) the proposed single yellow line in Church Road, Murston, be progressed;

(b) the proposed double yellow lines in Cooks Lane, Milton Regis, be progressed;

(c) the proposed double yellow lines in Dyngley Close, Milton Regis, be progressed on the east side of the Close only, and on both sides of the junction with Vicarage Road.

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.
Financial, Resource and Property	Cost of Installing Lining and Signing.
Legal and Statutory	Formal Sealing of Traffic Regulation Order by Kent County Council.
Crime and Disorder	None at this stage.
Risk Management	None identified at this stage.

and Health and Safety	
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage.
Sustainability	None identified at this stage.
Health Implications	<p><u>Church Road, Murston:</u> With a safer route to school, this may encourage parents to walk their children to school rather than drive. As well as increasing physical activity, this would also positively impact on the air quality in the area through less cars. If the proposed restrictions reduce incidents of road rage, this could reduce stress levels for drivers and improve mental wellbeing.</p> <p><u>Cooks Lane, Milton Regis:</u> By removing parked vehicles from the adjoining footway, this could encourage people who previously drove this short distance to avoid footway obstruction issues to use the footway instead, improving physical and mental wellbeing as well as benefitting air quality.</p> <p><u>Dyngley Close, Milton Regis:</u> The proposed restrictions were initiated to improve access issues into and out of the Close, and as such the restrictions could reduce incidents of road rage, improving mental wellbeing for drivers by reducing stress.</p>

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Copy of Draft Traffic Regulation Order
Annex B – Copy of Statement of Reasons
Annex C – Formal Objections Received
Annex D – Plans of Proposals Subject to Objections

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None