

**SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION
BOARD****Agenda Item: 7**

Meeting Date	Monday 7 th December 2020
Report Title	Informal Consultation Results – Proposed Parking Restrictions in Swale.
Cabinet Member	Cllr Richard Palmer, Cabinet Member for Communities
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell, Head of Commissioning, Environment and Leisure
Lead Officer	Mike Knowles (SBC)
Classification	Open

Recommendations	<p>Members are asked to note the results of the recent informal consultations and recommend that:-</p> <p>(1) the proposed double yellow lines for Forge Road/Milton High Street, Milton Regis be abandoned;</p> <p>(2) the proposed double yellow lines near Nos.1 & 12 Hilton Close, Faversham be progressed with slight amendments;</p> <p>(3) the proposed double yellow lines near Nos.13 & 30 Hilton Close, Faversham be abandoned;</p> <p>(4) the proposed double yellow lines near Nos.29 & 46 Hilton Close, Faversham be abandoned;</p> <p>(5) the proposed double yellow lines in Lammas Drive and Cortland Close, Milton Regis be progressed;</p> <p>(6) the proposed double yellow lines for Newlands Avenue and London Road, Sittingbourne be progressed;</p> <p>(7) the proposed double yellow lines for Periwinkle Close, Sittingbourne be progressed;</p>
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	<p>(8) the proposed double yellow lines for Queenborough Road and St Peter's Close, Halfway be progressed with slight amendments;</p> <p>(9) the proposed double yellow lines for Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis be progressed but the single yellow line be abandoned;</p> <p>(10) the proposed loading ban for Hope Way, Sheerness, be progressed;</p> <p>(11) the proposed double yellow lines for Gordon Square, Faversham be progressed;</p>
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1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of recent informal consultations undertaken on proposals for various waiting restrictions in the Borough. The requests for restrictions have come from Ward and County Members, and residents in the areas, with some proposals being funded through the County Member Grant Scheme.

2. Background

- 2.1 An example of the consultation material for the various waiting restrictions can be found in Annex A, and plans of the proposals for each location are shown in Annex B. The responses to the informal consultation for each area can be found in Annex C, and a summary of the consultation responses and suggested recommendations can be found in Annex D.

3. Issue for Decision

- (1) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Forge Road/Milton High Street, Milton Regis
- 3.1 A request was received from Local and County Members for two sections of double yellow lines to be installed in the vicinity of the junction of Forge Road and Milton High Street, following reported problems with vehicles parking close to the junction.
- 3.2 Seven properties were consulted on the proposals, to be funded through the County Members' Grant Scheme. Four responses were received, one supporting the proposals and three objecting. Comments included a lack of on-street parking capacity, and vehicles parking from visitors and workers in the High Street. Based

on the responses, the Members who initiated the proposals agreed that they should be abandoned.

(2) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Near Nos.1 & 12 Hilton Close, Faversham

- 3.3 A Ward Member for the area has requested the installation of double yellow lines at certain locations along Hilton Close in Faversham to ensure access is maintained, following a letter from a concerned resident. The consultations have been split into the three areas of the proposed restrictions, and the first of these is the junction near Nos.1 & 12 Hilton Close.
- 3.4 Of the 8 properties consulted, 7 responses were received, all supporting the proposals. Several comments suggested extending the proposed restrictions slightly to increase their effectiveness and these suggestions will be taken on board when drafting the Traffic Regulation Order.

(3) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Near Nos.13 & 30 Hilton Close, Faversham

- 3.5 Of the 9 properties consulted, 6 responses were received, 2 supporting the proposals and 4 objecting. Comments included the fact that parked vehicles help to reduce traffic speeds in the area, there was no history of crashes at the location and that the installation of the restrictions would force vehicles to be displaced as there are limited spaces available for parking.

(4) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Near Nos.29 & 46 Hilton Close, Faversham

- 3.6 Of the 9 properties consulted, 9 responses were received, all objecting to the proposed restrictions. Numerous comments were received in response to the informal consultation with a clear indication that there was not support for the proposals.
- 3.7 Member and Town Council Comments: The Ward Member who requested the proposals has stated "*I have spoken to the resident who originally contacted me and explained about the informal consultation, and that only the proposal at the entrance to Hilton Close would be going forward to the JTB. Although disappointed he accepted this as reasonable. Therefore I support the proposal for double yellow lines in the vicinity of Nos.1&12 Hilton Close, as I believe that it will improve the safety of vehicles exiting the close as they will be able to keep well to the left and avoid being in the path of fast moving vehicles leaving the A2.*" No other comments were received at the time of writing this report.

(5) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Lammas Drive & Cortland Close, Milton Regis

- 3.8 A request was received from Local and County Members for double yellow lines to be installed on the junction of Cortland Close and Lammas Drive, and a short section at the end of Lammas Drive across a pedestrian dropped kerb leading to Milton Recreation Ground. This follows reports that vehicles are causing sightline and obstruction issues by parking close to the junction, and also preventing use of the dropped kerb by those with mobility issues.
- 3.9 Seven properties were consulted on the proposals, to be funded through the County Member Grant Scheme, and a total of 4 responses were received, 3 supporting the proposals and 1 objecting. The objection states that there has not been an issue

negotiating the junction with larger vehicles, and that the introduction of restrictions will displace parked vehicles onto the Recreation Ground. They do, however, support the installation of double yellow lines across the pedestrian access.

- 3.10 Members' Comments: The Members who requested these proposals have considered the consultation results and felt that the restrictions should be progressed as proposed.

(6) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Newlands Avenue/London Road, Sittingbourne

- 3.11 A request was received via both the Ward and County Member for double yellow lines to be installed in Newlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, in the narrow section of road from the junction with London Road. It has been reported that vehicles are parking in this section of the carriageway, creating obstruction issues for refuse freighters and larger vehicles. The proposals include double yellow lines in London Road, either side of the Newlands Avenue junction.
- 3.12 Six properties were included in the informal consultation, and just one response was received, supporting the proposals. The responder has also requested that the proposed double yellow lines be extended to cover their vehicle access. Whilst the Traffic Regulation Order could be drafted to accommodate this request, there is some concern that this will double the length of the restrictions on this side of the road, and with neighbouring properties also have vehicle accesses there could be similar requests for the lines to be extended even further.

- 3.13 Members' Comments: The County Member has asked whether Biffa, who undertake refuse collections in the area, have commented on the access issues suggested by the resident. Although Biffa were contacted and asked for their comments prior to undertaking the informal consultation, no response was received and the consultation took place to avoid delaying the issue to a future JTB meeting. Biffa have been chased for a response but at the time of writing the report we have not received their response. Members may therefore wish to defer the implementation of these restrictions until Biffa have confirmed that they are experiencing issues with access due to parked vehicles.

(7) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Periwinkle Close, Sittingbourne

- 3.14 A request was received from residents of Periwinkle Close for double yellow lines to be installed on the junction of the spine road and spur road of the Close. It has been reported that vehicles parking on this junction are obstructing access for refuse freighters and larger vehicles.
- 3.15 Twelve properties were consulted on the proposals, and 3 responses were received, all supporting the proposals. Comments received included the fact that a large number of commercial vehicles and vans were causing issues, together with parking by residents of adjoining roads. As with many roads in the Borough, surrounding areas are now saturated with parked vehicles and the displacing of these vehicles into nearby roads is inevitable.
- 3.16 Members' Comments: The Ward Member has stated that parking is of a premium in the area and feels that the double yellow lines should be progressed but kept as

short as possible to minimise the impact on parking capacity. At the time of writing this report no further comments, including feedback from Biffa, have been received.

(8) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Queenborough Road & St Peter’s Close, Halfway

- 3.17 Following a request from residents in the area, an informal consultation took place on proposals to install double yellow lines on and opposite the junction of St Peter’s Close and Queenborough Road in Halfway. It has been reported that vehicles parking close to this junction, and the junction opposite leading to Sheppey Sports and Social Club, are obstructing sightlines and creating a hazard.
- 3.18 A total of 16 properties were consulted, and 4 responses were received, all supporting the proposals. Several responses suggested that the proposed restrictions be extended by around 10 metres in Queenborough Road, either side of the St Peter’s Close junction, to ensure sightlines are maintained.
- 3.19 Member and Parish Council Comments: A Ward Member for the area has stated “*I understand the reason restrictions were requested was to tackle parking near the post box opposite St Peter’s Close. I am not sure that extending the lines either side of St Peter’s is warranted but I have no objection to what you have proposed nor do I have any objection to the lines being extended slightly if that is what residents desire and it is acceptable to SBC/KCC, although I do think the issue is more the other side of the road personally*”. At the time of writing this report, no further comments have been received.

(9) Proposed Double & Single Yellow Lines – Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis

- 3.20 A request was received from Local and County Members for double and single yellow lines to be installed in Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis. The proposals, to be funded through the County Members’ Grant Scheme, consisted of double yellow lines on the south side of Middletune Avenue from the School Keep Clear Markings, followed by a single yellow line with restrictions between 8am-9am and 3pm-4pm Monday to Friday. The proposals were requested to tackle parking and obstruction issues at school drop off and collection times.
- 3.21 Of the 9 properties consulted, 5 responses were received, 2 supporting and 3 objecting to the proposals. Whilst residents were happy with the proposed double yellow lines, which run across the frontage of just one property, objections were raised around the proposed single yellow line, as the restrictions would impact on residents who work shifts and would need to move their vehicles during the periods the restrictions were in force.
- 3.22 Members’ Comments: The County and Borough Members who had requested these restrictions considered the comments and objections received, and agreed that the double yellow lines should be progressed without the single yellow lines which should be abandoned.

(10) Proposed Loading Ban – Hope Way, Sheerness

- 3.23 A request has been received for a loading ban to be introduced along part of Hope Way in Sheerness. Currently, blue badge holders are parking on the existing double

yellow lines opposite the taxi rank for their permitted 3 hours, and these vehicles are preventing delivery vehicles from accessing businesses in Russell Street. One of the businesses has requested a loading ban, between the hours of 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday, to prevent blue badge holders obstructing this section of Hope Way.

- 3.24 Five properties were consulted, and 2 responses were received, both supporting the proposed loading ban.

(11) Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Gordon Square, Faversham

- 3.25 A request has been received from a resident of Gordon Square, Faversham, for a short section of double yellow lines to be installed to alleviate problems with the refuse freighter negotiating the tight corner due to parked cars. Conscious of the limited on-street parking capacity, the proposals have been kept to a minimum and just cover the inside of the bend adjacent to No.1 Gordon Square.
- 3.26 Of the 8 properties consulted, just one response was received supporting the proposals.
- 3.27 Member and Town Council Comments: At the time of writing this report, no comments have been received, and no response has been received from Biffa.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the results of the recent informal consultations and recommend that:-

(1) the proposed double yellow lines for Forge Road/Milton High Street, Milton Regis be abandoned;

(2) the proposed double yellow lines near Nos.1 & 12 Hilton Close, Faversham be progressed with slight amendments;

(3) the proposed double yellow lines near Nos.13 & 30 Hilton Close, Faversham be abandoned;

(4) the proposed double yellow lines near Nos.29 & 46 Hilton Close, Faversham be abandoned;

(5) the proposed double yellow lines in Lammas Drive and Cortland Close, Milton Regis be progressed;

- (6) the proposed double yellow lines for Newlands Avenue and London Road, Sittingbourne be progressed;
- (7) the proposed double yellow lines for Periwinkle Close, Sittingbourne be progressed;
- (8) the proposed double yellow lines for Queenborough Road and St Peter's Close, Halfway be progressed with slight amendments;
- (9) the proposed double yellow lines for Middletune Avenue, Milton Regis be progressed but the single yellow line be abandoned;
- (10) the proposed loading ban for Hope Way, Sheerness, be progressed;
- (11) the proposed double yellow lines for Gordon Square, Faversham be progressed;

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.
Financial, Resource and Property	Cost of Drafting Traffic Regulation Order, Site & Press Notices and Letters to Residents. Processing Order, Cost of Installing Lines and Signs on site.
Legal and Statutory	Drafting of Traffic Regulation Order, Sealing of Order in due course.
Crime and Disorder	None at this stage.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified at this stage.
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage.
Sustainability	None identified at this stage.
Health Implications	The introduction of double yellow lines on and around junctions to improve sightlines and vehicle movements could have a positive impact on the mental health of drivers by reducing stress levels and potential incidents of road rage. In areas where restrictions are

	proposed to assist the access by refuse freighters, the health and wellbeing of residents will be improved by ensuring the regular collection and emptying of bins.
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6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Example of Informal Consultation Material
- Annex B – Plans of Proposed Waiting Restrictions
- Annex C – Results of Informal Consultation
- Annex D – Summary of Responses and Suggested Recommendations

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None