

SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD	Agenda Item: 4
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Meeting Date	Monday 21 st June 2021
Report Title	Informal Consultation Results – Proposed Amendments to Parking Restrictions in Swale.
Cabinet Member	Cllr Richard Palmer, Cabinet Member for Community
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 and bus clearways at the entrance to Tin Bridge Cottages, Faversham, <u>either</u> be progressed <u>or</u> abandoned;</p> <p>(2) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Kings Road and Queens Road, Minster, be progressed;</p> <p>(3) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Princes Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, be progressed;</p> <p>(4) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Imperial Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, <u>either</u> be progressed <u>or</u> abandoned;</p> <p>(5) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Stanley Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, <u>either</u> be progressed <u>or</u> abandoned.</p>
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1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of recent informal consultations undertaken on various proposed amendments to waiting restrictions in the Borough. The requests for changes to parking restrictions have come via Ward Members and County Members, with the proposed double yellow lines off Queens Road, Minster, being funded through the County Members' Highway Grant.

2. Background

- 2.1 Copies of the informal consultation material sent to residents, including plans of the proposals, can be found in Annex A. The responses to the informal consultation for each area can be found in Annex B. One of the responders to the consultation for proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Stanley Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, sent in photographs of the junction with their response, and these can be found in Annex C.

3. Issue for Decision

- (1) Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Entrance to Tin Bridge Cottages, Faversham
- 3.1 Following a request from the Ward Member for the area, an informal consultation took place with residents on proposed double yellow lines on the north side of Canterbury Road, near the entrance to Tin Bridge Cottages to tackle reported problems with vehicles parking at the location and obstructing the safe movement of vehicles. Of the 10 properties consulted, 5 responses were received, 3 supporting the proposals, 1 objecting and 1 supporting but with reservations.
- 3.2 Following the comments received, a second informal consultation took place, with the proposals revised to reduce the amount of double yellow lines and introduce two bus clearway markings. This second informal consultation returned a total of 4 responses, 2 supporting the proposals and 2 objecting.
- 3.3 The proposed bus clearways were requested by the bus operator for the area, who expressed concern that by introducing waiting restrictions in the area vehicles would be displaced into the bus stops, creating issues with the bus services. Concerns were raised by some residents that the layby on the north side of Canterbury Road is essential parking for those residents without off-street parking facilities, with no alternative parking available for half a mile in either direction. It was felt that introducing waiting restrictions in this area would displace the parked vehicles onto nearby footways outside Boughton Field Cottages which would create a hazard for pedestrians and block sightlines for those residents with off-street parking.
- 3.4 Having investigated the possible options for waiting restrictions at this location, and balancing the needs of residents to be able to park on-street whilst maintaining clear bus stops, it is concluded that the introduction of restrictions would potentially create more issues than they would solve.

3.5 Ward Member & Town Council Comments: No specific comments were received from the Ward Members or Town Council.

Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Junctions off Queens Road, Minster

3.6 A request was received via a Ward Member, to be funded through the County Members' Highway Grant, for double yellow lines to be installed on the four northern junctions off Queens Road in Minster. This follows concerns raised by a local resident around parking close to the junctions, which it is reported has contributed to at least two serious accidents due to lack of visibility for vehicles exiting the side roads onto Queens Road. The resident stated that if double yellow lines were not considered to be an option, perhaps a 20 mph speed limit in Queens Road could be explored.

3.7 The informal consultations were deliberately split into separate junctions to allow the decision to be made as to whether to progress waiting restrictions on all, some or none of the junctions, and the results are discussed below:

(2) Junction of Kings Road and Queens Road

3.8 Informal consultation leaflets on proposed double yellow lines on this junction were sent to 10 properties in the area. A total of 6 responses were received, all supporting the proposals. It is therefore recommended that the proposals be included in the next Traffic Regulation Order.

(3) Junction of Princes Avenue and Queens Road

3.9 Informal consultation leaflets on proposed double yellow lines on this junction were sent to 12 properties in the area, and just one response was received, supporting the proposals. It is therefore recommended that the proposals be included in the next Traffic Regulation Order.

(4) Junction of Imperial Avenue and Queens Road

3.10 Informal consultation leaflets on proposed double yellow lines on this junction were sent to 10 properties in the area, and a total of 4 responses were received. Two responses supported the proposals, one objected and one stated that they did not see the necessity for the lines but if it was decided to install them they suggested a length of 10 metres of restrictions from the edge of the carriageway in Imperial Avenue, to maintain sightlines but also a degree of on-street parking. Other comments included the fact that the introduction of waiting restrictions will cause more parking issues along Queens Road through displacement, and also displace parked vehicles into the unmade roads which cannot have waiting restrictions installed, leading to issues with blocked driveway entrances and confrontation.

(5) Junction of Stanley Avenue and Queens Road

3.11 Informal consultation leaflets on proposed double yellow lines on this junction were sent to 12 properties in the area, and a total of 5 responses were received. Although three responses supported the proposals, the two objections received contained a substantial amount of detail, including a series of photographs which can be found in Annex C. Comments included statements that the sightlines out of Stanley Avenue were clear without the need for double yellow lines due to the gradient of the road,

that there were other junctions nearby such as Baldwin Road/Chapel Street that were in greater need of restricted parking and that the issue in Queens Road was one of speed and that the funding could be better utilised on speed humps.

3.12 County Member Comments. The County Member has confirmed that he is fully supportive of the proposals.

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 and bus clearways at the entrance to Tin Bridge Cottages, Faversham, **either** be progressed **or** abandoned;

(2) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Kings Road and Queens Road, Minster, be progressed;

(3) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Princes Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, be progressed;

(4) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Imperial Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, **either** be progressed **or** abandoned;

(5) the proposed double yellow lines on the junction of Stanley Avenue and Queens Road, Minster, **either** be progressed **or** abandoned.

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.
Financial, Resource and Property	Cost of Drafting and Advertising Traffic Regulation Order, Cost of Installing Lines and Signs on site.
Legal and Statutory	Advertising of Traffic Regulation Order, reports back to JTB with formal objections, and Sealing by Kent County Council.
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	<p>The introduction of double yellow lines at the entrance to Tin Bridge Cottages could reduce potential driver stress caused by negotiating the parked vehicles. However, there could be negative impact on the mental health of residents who would experience a reduction in on-street parking capacity, and those with mobility issues could be seriously affected as there is no alternative on-street parking nearby. In addition to this, displacement of vehicles onto nearby footways would impact on those relying on mobility scooters, wheelchairs and those with pushchairs, potentially forcing them out onto the busy main route to negotiate obstructions. The introduction of waiting restrictions without provision for keeping the bus stops clear could impact on bus services, negatively affecting those who rely on public transport.</p> <p>The introduction of double yellow lines on the junctions off Queens Road in Minster could positively impact on those motorists suffering stress on their mental health by having to negotiate the junctions with limited visibility, but could also have a negative impact on those residents living in the roads off Queens Road by displacing parked vehicles into these unadopted roads, potentially obstructing driveway entrances.</p>

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Copy of Consultation Material and Plans of Proposals
- Annex B – Results of Informal Consultation
- Annex C – Photographs of Stanley Avenue/Queens Road junction from Resident

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None