

Highways Committee

September 2010

Proposed Parking Restriction (No Waiting / Loading At Any Time) Unc Black Road, Langley Moor



Report of Terry Collins, Director of Neighbourhood Services

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To advise members of representations received with regard to a scheme on Unc Black Road, Langley Moor to introduce a No Waiting / No Loading At Any Time parking restriction.
- 1.2 This report requests that Members consider the representations received in relation to the proposals and endorse the recommendation.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Concern was raised by the local Member, the late Ronnie Rodgers following receipt of comments from the public regarding parking close to the junction following the provision of a cash point. The issue was further exacerbated following restrictions placed on the use of the Tesco Local car park by the owners resulting in displaced vehicles onto Black Road.
- 2.2 A draft scheme comprising the introduction of a No Waiting / No Loading At Any Time parking restriction was prepared and consultation procedures were commenced on 23 November 2009 and ending on 11 January 2010.

A total of 28 properties received a letter, a plan of the scheme and a pre-paid reply card and residents were invited to respond with their comments.

- 2.3 A total of 10 responses were received of which 5 were not in support of the proposals.
- 2.4 The formal advertisement of the proposal, in the press and on-site, started on 13 May 2010 and ended on 14 June 2010. During this period, no letters of objection were received.

- 2.5. Residencies from which representations were received are shown on Drawing No. N93281/01
- 2.6. The Police have offered their full support for the scheme.
- 2.7. The local Member Councillor Paul Taylor supports the scheme.

3.0 Representations

- 3.1 Each topic of objection is reported together with the County Council's response.

3.2 Representation 1

Parking for workers is difficult following the restrictions placed on the Tesco car park and if workers can not park close it will drive out businesses.

3 responses from the same business were received stating this point.

Response: The County Council do not have any control over the conditions of use of private car parks such as Tesco's. Whilst it is appreciated that there is not a long stay car park in the area, other facilities are available in the vicinity. The proposed restrictions cover only a short length of Black Road to prevent inappropriate parking which obstructs visibility at the exit from the car park. The restriction is intended to ease congestion which occurs at the A690 junction with Black Road which has a road safety implication for both Black Road and the A690. The restrictions are also proposed to improve the safety of pedestrians and in particular young vulnerable children who cross at this location, which is often masked by parked vehicles.

3.3 Representation 2

(The proposes restriction is) no good for business

Response: The proposed restriction is unlikely to have an affect on business as there are adequate parking facilities a very short distance from Black Road.

3.4 Representation 3

A letter of objection was received from a resident of Black Road indicating that the restrictions would move the problem further up the road where it narrows.

Response: It is accepted that the imposition of parking restrictions has the potential to move parking to where the restrictions end. However the proposal is to improve the traffic management around the junctions. The presence of parked vehicles further along Black Road assists in keeping vehicle speeds lower than if the road was kept clear of parked

vehicles. However there is an overriding road safety and congestion issue at the junctions which this proposal aims to improve.

The respondent suggests a 'residents only' restriction on the length of Black Road.

Response: Such a restriction would not assist in keeping the junction area clear of vehicles as there are no residential properties in that area and restrictions as proposed would still be required. A 'residents only' restriction would avoid the displacement of parking however such restrictions are not introduced in residential streets within County Durham.

Persuade Tesco to allow long term parking in their car park.

Response: As the car park is in private ownership, the County Council have no powers to force a change of Tesco parking policy. The County Council has advised local businesses in negotiation with Tesco and it is believed that a compromise position has been reached which will partially assist the issue.

4.0 Recommendations and reasons

- 4.1 Members are recommended to endorse the proposal to set aside the representations and proceed with the scheme.
- 4.2 The proposed restrictions will assist in reducing congestion in the vicinity of the junctions and improve road safety for all road users.

5.0 Background papers

Correspondence on Office File.

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