

Highways Committee

19 April 2012

Unc South Burns, Chester-le-Street Proposed prohibition of Motor Vehicles and Permit Parking Scheme



Report of Terry Collins, Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services
Councillor Bob Young, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Strategic Environment

Purpose of the Report

- 1 For Committee to reconsider the representations received to the proposed prohibition of motor vehicles and associated permit scheme in South Burns Chester le Street in the light of the deferral of a decision on 8th March 2012, subject to a site meeting.
- 2 It is recommended that the Committee endorse the proposals having seen the site and reconsidered the representations to the proposals and proceed with the implementation of the motor vehicle prohibition and permit parking scheme in South Burns Chester le Street as per the plans in Appendix 2

Background

- 3 For a number of years Durham County Council has identified areas of concern in relation to parking and access causing road safety issues in Chester le Street as a whole. The Council has worked closely with Durham Constabulary and our Parking Team in Strategic Traffic to identify solutions which would assist and improve the situations at these various locations. This close working ensures that the resolutions we propose can be enforced by both Durham Constabulary for moving traffic offences and the Parking Team under Civil Parking Enforcement.
- 4 Thirteen locations were identified as suffering from parking issues and congestion and the proposals are designed to improve road and pedestrian safety. All locations with the exception of South Burns have been approved by Highways Committee or received no objection.

Proposal

- 5 The proposals for South Burns include major alterations to the existing layout as part of a larger Market Place Scheme covering B6313 North Burns, Un-named Link Road and C184 Front Street. There is an existing prohibition of Motor Vehicles which covers South Burns and currently only allows buses and Market Traders to access South Burns from the B6313 North Burns. However there are businesses which now also require vehicular access for deliveries, servicing and residential / business premise parking. Therefore our proposals are to introduce a permit parking scheme in this area.

Consultation

- 6 Informal consultation for Unc South Burns was undertaken as part of the larger scheme with affected businesses / residents and statutory bodies from the 28th April 2010 until 20th May 2010.
- 7 Out of the 35 letters sent out to affected residents / businesses for the overall scheme for the area 7 responses were received. Of these 5 were from properties on South Burns. 2 were in full support of the proposals, 1 was in support of the proposals as long as his vehicles could still park outside the business, 1 fully opposed the proposals and 1 partially opposed the proposals. Durham Constabulary and County Councillor S Henig responded in full support of the proposals.
- 8 A response was also received from Go North East requesting further consideration being given to bus turning movements. A site meeting occurred and the issues were resolved and the scheme was amended before legal advertisement to the satisfaction of the bus company.
- 9 The restrictions for South Burns, along with the other 12 identified locations were legally advertised as an amendment order to the Chester le Street and Birtley (Prohibition and Restriction of waiting, loading/unloading and parking places order) 2010. The legal advertisement period covered 29th November 2011 until 3rd Jan 2012 to allow for the holiday period. The 2 objections that were received during the legal advertisement period referred only to Unc Welsey Terrace and to Unc West Lane. Both objections have since been resolved. There were no legal objections to the South Burns Proposal.
- 10 The local Members, Councillors Simon Henig, Linda Marshall, Beaty Bainbridge and John Shiell are minded to support the proposals.

Representation / Objections and responses – Unc South Burns,

- 11 Representation – Unc South Burns

The following was raised by 2 businesses

We will lose out takeaway customers and sit in customers' thank you.
Any restriction to my taxis for picking up and dropping off will drastically affect my business

Response: There are a number of alternative parking areas available for customers of both establishments within a very short walking distance of the premises. These are available on North Burns, South Burns, Cone Terrace and also Tesco's Car Park (for Tesco's customers) which has a taxi pick up / drop off area. It should be noted that these patrons should not be within the restricted area at present anyway. Under the proposed scheme each company would be entitled to one permit which will allow a vehicle from the company to park within the restricted zone. .

The following was raised by 1 business

With permit holder bays all across our frontage we cannot get our deliveries on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Dray wagon unloads 184 kilo kegs of beer and

unless they can park directly in front of our cellar hatch, it makes our deliveries impossible. We need an unloading only area across 50% of our frontage to allow pantechnicans to unload.

Response: It is hoped that once these restrictions are implemented the number of vehicles entering the restricted zone will be reduced and therefore more parking will be available. It should be noted that the market has traded for a long time on Tuesdays and Fridays and the previous owners of the business have never raised concerns about deliveries. The business has already been provided with a permit to load and unload within the existing restricted zone and this will remain. Therefore we have no proposals to introduce the loading / unloading bay as requested as this will reduce the available parking. The business may wish to consider the option of having their deliveries on a day which is not a market trading day.

Recommendations and reasons

- 12 It is RECOMMENDED that the Committee endorse the proposal, having inspected the site and reconsidered the objections and proceed with the implementation of the motor vehicle prohibition and permit parking scheme in South Burns Chester le Street as described in the report.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – As described in the report

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications - None