

Highways Committee

June 2011

C154 Sawmills Lane, Brandon, Parking Restrictions



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

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To advise Committee of representations received to the proposed No Waiting and No Loading Restrictions for the C154 Sawmills Lane, Brandon.
- 2 Having considered the objections to the proposal, the Committee is recommended to endorse the proposal and proceed with the implementation of No Waiting / No Loading at Any Time Parking Restrictions from the junction of the A690 to Grove Road, Brandon

Background

- 3 Representations have been received regarding the ongoing problem of uncontrolled parking along Sawmills Lane and particularly close to the area around Stoneacre Garage and obstruction of footways.
- 4 Concerns have also been expressed regarding the parking near to the location of the school crossing patrol and also outside the doctors' surgery which can result in vehicles backing onto the A690.
- 5 A set of proposals were developed and distributed for consultation. Following this period, the Council presented the proposals to the local Resident's Association and changes were introduced to address some of their concerns.
- 6 Further public meetings were held to discuss the parking issues and possible proposals which included one involving Roberta Blackman-Woods MP.

Proposal

- 7 The provision of various parking restrictions along C154 Sawmills Lane, these measures to include No Waiting at Any Time and No Waiting / No Loading At Any Time and also bollards to prevent pavement parking as per the attached plan in Appendix 2.

Consultations

- 8 A consultation was carried out from 16 October 2008 to 12 November 2008. During this period 6 representations against the proposal were received from local residents. 6 residents responded in favour of the proposal
- 9 The order was formally advertised from 14 January 2010 to 12 February 2010. During this period representation was received from Mr Lavery opposing the proposal.
- 10 An objection from the Resident's Association to the legal Order was withdrawn following discussions with Council officers and the Police.
- 11 The scheme is also fully supported by the Police, Arriva and the North East Ambulance Service.
- 12 The local County Councillors, Paul Taylor and John Turnbull are minded to support the proposal.

Objections and responses

- 13 Representation 1

This issue was raised by 3 respondents.

"It fails to address the significant danger posed by cars constantly parked outside the garage / To ease congestion and improve safety needs double yellow lines on both sides of the road / If any lines are going to be put in place on this road it HAS to be on both sides".

- 14 *Response 1*

Removing all parking in this area is likely to increase traffic speed on Sawmills Lane. This is a known outcome where parking restrictions are introduced, and given the gradient of Sawmills Lane, we would expect some of the speeds to be extremely inappropriate, especially given the location of the crossing patrol. There would also be a more significant displacement of parking into the surrounding residential areas. We are proposing to introduce a 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction outside the front of the garage which will remove parking but allow lawful loading and unloading on the highway.

- 15 Representation 2

"Parish Council is opposed to this scheme, but would still like to see a No Waiting scheme perhaps with bollards at roadside nearer the school crossing."

- 16 *Response 2*

No reason given behind the objection, however we do plan to proceed with the installation of bollards at 2 locations on Sawmills Lane. Motorists who are parking on the footway are only considering other motorists by keeping the road as clear as possible, but with little or no regard for the pedestrians who need to use the footway. These bollards should keep the vehicles off the

footway thus allowing free passage for the pedestrians who wish to use it. The proposed restrictions will also cover the location of the school crossing patrol and should move vehicles away from this location, thus potentially improving road safety.

17 Representation 3

This issue was raised by 2 respondents.

Your restrictions may ease congestion on the main road but they will create even further congestion and danger on narrow residential streets in the area which are less capable of dealing with traffic volume than the main road

18 Response 3

It is accepted that the introduction of parking restrictions in some cases can displace parking. We have recognised the demand for parking by retaining an unrestricted area on the north side of Sawmills Lane. By allowing some limited parking on Sawmills Lane, we can minimise the numbers of vehicles moving to residential streets and the potential for increased speed on Sawmills Lane.

19 Representation 4

It (the scheme) extends up Sawmills Lane beyond the Garage yet appears to ignore the problems there (outside the Garage)

20 Response 4

Outside the garage we are proposing to introduce a 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction, this will remove parking but allow lawful loading and unloading on the highway. We are mindful that an element of parking should be retained as imposing parking restrictions on Sawmills Lane will not make the vehicles suddenly disappear, they will just be displaced. They will be parked elsewhere which will be the closest to where they were before and therefore this will be within the residential streets. Within this scheme we have looked to balance the demand for parking with the available space on the public highway and the potential consequences.

21 Representation 5

The introduction of double yellow lines (NO WAITING AT ANY TIME) would severely impact movement of retail vehicles

22 Response 5

The 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction permits lawful loading and unloading, but will restrict parking. The movement of retail vehicles outside the garage will not be affected. However, they would not be able to park within the extents of the parking restriction. To balance the demand for parking we plan to retain a section of unrestricted highway south east of the garage on the north side of Sawmills Lane.

Recommendations and reasons

- 23 It is **recommended** that, having considered the objections, the Committee endorses the proposal to proceed with the implementation of waiting and loading restrictions as per the plan in Appendix 2

Background papers

- 24 Scheme File

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – Neighbourhood Services Local Area Programme

Staffing - None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity - None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – Reduced footway obstruction

Human Rights - None

Consultation – As per Item 6 and 7 in the report

Procurement - None

Disability Discrimination Act - None

Legal Implications - None

Appendix 2: Plan of proposal

Note photos may be useful in report but are a MUST for Committee