

Highways Committee

9 July 2014



Unc. Beech Road, Framwellgate Moor Proposed Restricted Parking

Report of Terry Collins, Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services

Councillor Brian Stephens, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Strategic Environment

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To advise Committee of representations received to the proposed introduction of a restricted parking area at Unc. Beech Road, Framwellgate Moor.
- 2 It is recommended that the Committee endorse the proposals having considered the representations to the proposals and proceed with the implementation of the restricted parking area.

Background

- 3 Representations have been received from the local County Councillors Mark Wilkes, Amanda Hopgood, and Mamie Simmons on behalf of businesses to investigate the possibility of establishing a restricted parking area to discourage all day parking and allowing for a greater turnover of available parking for those using local businesses.

Proposals

- 4 The site was investigated and the most appropriate option was to introduce a restricted parking area to alleviate parking problems which led to numerous complaints regarding the obstruction of the highway and road safety concerns.
- 5 The restricted parking bays will allow for a greater turnover of available parking for people accessing local businesses.
- 6 Part of the carriageway is being left unrestricted to accommodate some longer stay parking in order to reduce displacement into adjacent residential streets.

Consultation

- 7 Informal consultation was carried out with the affected residents and statutory consultees from the 30th of August 2013 to 16th of September 2013.
- 8 Out of the 36 letters sent to affected residents, 4 responses were received in favour and 4 against. Two of these objections would be in favour if the parking restriction was extended to both sides of the road. Originally we had an additional objection from Blockbuster however this was withdrawn by the

owner of the property when the store ceased trading. In addition, Durham Constabulary and the Ambulance Service responded in favour to the informal consultation.

- 9 A statutory advertisement of the proposals was undertaken from 3rd April 2014 until the 24th April 2014. During this period 1 formal objection was received which came from a resident who had already objected to the informal consultation.
- 10 The local Members, County Councillors Amanda Hopgood, Mark Wilkes and Mamie Simmons are minded to support the scheme.

Representations, Objection and responses

- 11 A number of representations and 1 objection were received during the informal and formal consultations.

- 12 Objection & Representation 1

'This proposal will be detrimental to residents of Lilac Avenue. The problem will only move from Beech Road to Lilac Avenue in front of residential properties causing further parking problems for residents'

It is accepted that the introduction of parking restrictions in some cases can displace parking. We have recognised the demand for parking by not restricting parking on both sides of the road. Only parking on one side of the road is to be restricted. By allowing some limited parking on Beech Road, we can minimise the numbers of vehicles moving to residential streets by creating a greater turnover of available parking for vehicles using the adjacent businesses.

- 13 Representation 2

'Stop hospital staff from parking there'

The proposed 3 hour parking restriction means that cars will have a maximum time in which they can use the parking bay, after this time they will be required to leave. A contravention of the restriction may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued by a D.C.C. parking enforcement officer. It is envisaged that due to the parking bays being limited in this way it will discourage all day parking.

- 14 Representation 3

'Give access to shoppers but "no parking" restrictions on entrance to Lilac Avenue from Finchale Road are needed to stop parking there'

Vehicles should not be parking on the entrance to Lilac Avenue from Finchale Road as The Highway Code states as follows: *Do not park your vehicle or trailer on the road where it would endanger, inconvenience or obstruct pedestrians or other roads users. For example do not stop: opposite or within 10 metres of a junction except in an authorised space.* If cars are parking within ten metres of a junction and not in an authorised space then it may be dealt with by the police as an act of obstruction.

15 Representation 4

'As long as the 3 hour parking restriction includes both sides of the road'

It is envisaged that the amount of parking that would be displaced to adjacent streets in the area will be dramatically reduced by the restriction being present on one side only. If this restriction was extended to both sides of the carriageway it may cause greater parking issues due to residents, employees and businesses, who have a genuine need for all day parking, being forced to seek alternative parking nearby.

Recommendations and reasons

- 15 It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee endorse the proposal having considered the representations and proceed with the implementation of the parking restrictions. The introduction of this restriction will remove all day parking in front of the businesses and provide a greater turnover of available parking to assist in their continued viability.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – The scheme is expected to cost in the region of £1800 which is to be funded by Local Area Measures Allowance (LAMA) from Councillor Mark Wilkes, Cllr Amanda Hopgood, and Cllr Mamie Simmons

Staffing – Carried out by Traffic Asset Team

Risk – Risk of not introducing restriction would be the loss of trade for the local businesses

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – It is considered that there are no equality and diversity issues to be addressed

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder – This TRO will allow effective management of traffic and improve road safety

Human Rights – None

Consultation – As described in the report

Procurement – Operations, Durham County Council

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – Enforcement of Traffic Regulation Order by Durham County Council Parking and Enforcement Team.