DECISION RECORD

SUBJECT: PUBLIC NOTICE TO ADVERTISE THE HERTFORDSHIRE (B1038 & HALFACRE LANE, GREAT HORMEAD, BUNTINGFORD) (RESTRICTION OF WAITING) ORDER 2016

Staff Contact: Neil Richardson
Tel: (01992 555794) 25794

Executive Member: Terry Douris
Portfolio: Highways

1. Decision:
   - To proceed with the implementation of "No waiting at any time" waiting restrictions as advertised on parts of B1038 and Halfacre Lane, Great Hormead.

2. Reasons for the decision:
   - The proposals are to introduce "No waiting at any time" waiting restrictions following concerns received about the current on-street parking causing reduced forward visibility and obstructing access at Hormead Village Hall, Halfacre Lane and its vicinity.

The proposed scheme was designed to:

   - Maintain access and visibility for both pedestrians and vehicular traffic,
   - Ensure free flow of traffic and
   - Discourage inconsiderate parking.

2.1 Informal consultation stage (20th May – 3rd June 2016)

Consultees' consulted: 14
Replies: 1
Support: None
No Objection: 1
Object: None

Residents consulted: 24
Replies: 6
Support: 6
Object: None

2.2 Formal consultation stage (13th October – 4th November 2016)

Consultees' replies: 2
Support: 1
No Objection: 1
Object: None

Residents' replies: 7
Support: 2
Object: 5

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Residents/businesses that were informally consulted were informed of the consultation results. The scheme was to progress to formal consultation.

During formal consultation, we received a reply from the Hertfordshire Constabulary (HC) who raised no objection.

There were 5 objections received during the formal stage, the objectors cited there are more important areas where parking is a more serious issue than B1038. That the Village Hall has adequate parking facility, the waiting restrictions are not conducive to the village setting. Also the cost of installing and maintaining them fall on the rate payer and will not benefit the Community as the Council is taking an opportunity to raise extra funds where there has never been an accident or obstruction. Despite Engineering Services (ES) effort to resolve these objections by e-mails to the objectors detailing advice within the Highway Code rules the objectors have not suggested that their objections have been resolved to their satisfaction.

The measures are consistent with the Highway Code (rule 243) which states that “Do not stop or park anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services, at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank, opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space, opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle, where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles, in front of an entrance to a property, on a bend, where you would obstruct cyclists’ use of cycle facilities except when forced to do so by stationary traffic.”

Considering the objections received:

Whilst there may be an opinion that there are other more Important areas where parking is an issue, the proposals emanated from the development approval for Homestead Village Hall for which specific funding was secured to consider measures to mitigate any highway impact associated with the development in particular if on occasion demand for spaces in the car park exceeded capacity. This funding could not be applied for any other purpose. Should concerns remain relating to parking issues on other parts of the network these concerns can be considered by the Council as part of their normal assessment criteria.

Whilst sympathetic to the visual impact the introduction of the restrictions might have on the village environment, waiting restriction colour and size are governed by Statutory Instrument and therefore as these measures are considered to be the most effective way of deterring parking at this location there is little scope for deviation. Additionally the costs associated with their introduction are capital funded, and although on-going maintenance will be periodically required this is envisaged to be infrequent and of relatively low value.

Having fully considered the grounds of the objections it is considered there is merit in proceeding as originally proposed and to sealing of the Order as advertised.

3.1 Alternative options considered and rejected

There were no other alternative options considered, the original options remained unchanged throughout the process.

4. Consultation:

(a) Comments of Executive Member

Consulted on the 20th March 2017 and confirmed agreement for proposed decision and for the scheme to proceed via e-mail on the same day.
(b) Comments of other consultees
The list below shows the local county member(s) and other Consultees who were consulted at informal stage of the process:

- Consultees consulted at Informal consultation stage:
  CCllr. Rose Cheswright,
  District Councillors: Ben Harris-Quinney,
  Parish Clerk - 'clerk.horomeadpc@gmail.com'
  East Herts District Council (EHDC) enquiries and Parking,
  Mathew Reeves Horam Village Hall Chairman
  Peter Nicholls – Hertfordshire Constabulary (HC),
  Frank Gollogly - Fire & Rescue Service,
  Network Management East Herts,
  Gary Skinner – PTU,
  Clare Edmond, Emma Cogtins and Margaret Addison - Ambulance Services.

- Consultees consulted at formal consultation stage:
  CCllr. Rose Cheswright,
  Kingsbury Dominique (EHDC)
  Frank Gollogly- Fire & Rescue Service,
  John Hurst, Christopher Richards – Quality Monitoring/Enforcement Team,
  Peter Nicholls - HC,
  Traffic Orders – (trafficorders@here.com),
  Jackie Page and Sheridan Hudson - Ambulance Service,
  Hertfordshire County Council Land Charges and
  Network Management East Herts.

The HC stated they had no objection; the assumption is that EHDC are then willing to enforce.

The decision to proceed was supported by County Councillor Rose Cheswright and confirmed by e-mail on the 6th February 2017.

5. Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.

Signed: Nell Richardson
Title: Highway Locality Manager
Date: 9/5/2017

6. Copies of agreed document to:
- All consultees
- Chairman, and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Hard & electronic copy (for public inspection both at County Hall and on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) Assistant Head of Member Services - Room 211 County Hall.
1 for guidance see Chief Legal Officer’s note “Taking Decisions”
2 record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. If an Executive Member declares a conflict of interest DO NOT PROCEED without seeking advice from the Chief Legal Officer
3 If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted
4 If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.