

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO APPEALS & COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

9th SEPTEMBER 2009

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

KIRKNEWTON CLOSE, HARDWICK PROPOSED 24 HOUR WAITING RESTRICTIONS

1.0 SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Members views on an unresolved objection received following the statutory advertising of a proposal to implement 24 hour waiting restrictions on Kirknewton Close, Hardwick in order to maintain unobstructed access to garages.

It is not considered appropriate for the Head of Technical Services to consider the objection as he would effectively be reviewing his own decision.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

- (i) Members give consideration to the objection raised by a local resident and also to the comments of the Head of Technical Services.
- (ii) The local Ward Councillors and the objector be informed of the Committee's recommendation.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 Following a Cabinet Member and Head of Service approval in November 2007 to implement a residents parking scheme in Hardwick, a further complaint was received from a resident of Killerby Close regarding problems experienced with garages being blocked by parked vehicles on Kirknewton Close to the rear of Killerby Close and Kininvie Walk. The allegation was investigated and a consultation exercise with directly affected residents was undertaken on four options to control parking in the vicinity of the garages. The recommended proposal was to install 24 hour waiting restrictions adjacent to and opposite the garage doors, as detailed in Scheme of Delegation Report TS.T.120.08 in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 The scheme was subsequently progressed through the relevant consultation procedure including local Ward Councillors, public consultation and the Officers Traffic Group. Approval to progress to statutory advertising was given by the Cabinet Member and Head of Service in January 2009.
- 3.3 As a result, a Notice for the proposed restrictions was advertised in the Evening Gazette and on site on 2nd June 2009 with the objection period expiring on 30th June 2009. Following the publication of the statutory Notices, the Director of Law & Democracy formally received one letter of objection from Mr Barry Atkins, 200 Darlington Lane, Stockton, TS19 8AA. A copy of the letter is attached in **Appendix 2**.

4.0 DETAILS OF THE OBJECTION

- 4.1 The main grounds for objection is that the proposed restrictions would further reduce on-street parking opportunity for parents of children attending Harrowgate Primary School. Much of the objectors' letter relates to the effectiveness of the Hardwick residents parking scheme, which came into effect during March this year.

Discussion Response

4.2 Hardwick Residents Parking Scheme (see drawing in Appendix 3)

Mr Atkins has been informed that the Committee is not tasked with reviewing the effectiveness of this scheme. Nevertheless it is worth noting that the feasibility study which recommended the scheme to provide the residents parking bays and limited waiting bays to serve both Harrowgate Primary School and Abbey Hill Technical School involved consultation with both educational establishments, and both gave their support to the scheme. 80% of residents who responded to the scheme's consultation exercise indicated their support. A review of the scheme is programmed to commence in September 2009, Mr Atkins concerns will be considered as part of this exercise. Harrowgate Primary School has an approved Travel Plan, designed to encourage more sustainable methods of travel to and from school; Mr Atkins property is located within ½ mile walking distance of the school.

4.3 Kirknewton Close

Following receipt of the complaint from a local resident, site observations confirmed an issue with access to garages being blocked by parked vehicles on Kirknewton Close. A consultation exercise involving affected properties indicated a desire to remedy the situation, the recommended course of action being to implement 24 hour waiting restrictions immediately adjacent to and opposite the garage doors. This was a compromise solution, to maintain some parking opportunity whilst also ensuring access to the garages. The proposals have the support of the Police, Council Enforcement Officers and local Ward Councillor Mrs Nesbitt.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost of the Traffic Regulation Order and necessary lining works is £1500, to be funded from the 2009/10 Traffic Management budget.

6.0 POLICY CONTENT

The Council's Parking Policy was approved by Cabinet in November 2004 as part of the business case application for the take up of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement powers.

The business case was submitted to the Secretary of State in January 2005. The proposals to control commuter parking in residential areas are consistent with the Local Transport Plan and Agenda 21. It is also in accordance with the Community Plan in securing a safe and attractive environment for current and future generations.

7.0 CONSULTATION

As noted above the consultation has involved local residents, the Officers' Traffic Group, Ward Councillors, Head of Service and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Transport. Finally, statutory consultations involving advertising on site and in the local press were undertaken. This resulted in one objection being received. The objector will be invited to the Appeals Committee.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

The desire for additional 24 hour waiting restrictions on Kirknewton Close was identified following the Hardwick Residents Parking Scheme consultation. The restrictions proposed will prevent inconsiderate/obstructive parking whilst retaining some on-street parking opportunity for residents.

A review of the effectiveness of the scheme will commence in the Autumn and the objector's suggestion for additional visitor/school parking places will be considered.

Corporate Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services

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Environmental Implications

The measures proposed should ensure a safe and attractive environment for local residents.

Community Safety Implications

Address parking issues and neighbour dispute concerns amongst the local community.

Background Papers

Scheme of Delegation Report TS.T.120.08
Letter of objection from Mr Barry Atkins

Education Related Item?

No

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Hardwick : Councillors Bill Noble and Liz Nesbitt