

AGENDA ITEM

**REPORT TO APPEALS AND
COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE**

20 JULY 2011

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

**C171 YARM ROAD, PARKFIELD
PROPOSED 24 HOUR WAITING RESTRICTIONS**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Members' views regarding outstanding objections received following statutory advertising of proposed 24 hour waiting restrictions on C171 Yarm Road, Parkfield.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Members give consideration to the objections raised and the comments of the Head of Technical Services.
2. A recommendation on the merits of the objections is made to the Head of Technical Services.
3. The local Ward Councillors and the objectors are informed of the Committee's recommendations.

DETAIL

1. Local Safety Scheme measures were introduced on the length of Yarm Road between Hartburn Lane and Yarm Lane in 2005 in reaction to the injury accident record. The scheme consisted of build-outs at side road junctions to narrow the road, assist pedestrian crossing movements and improve visibility from side roads, upgrading of controlled crossing facilities and introduction of a pedestrian refuge.
2. Whilst the scheme has been successful in reducing the injury accident record (by over 60%), complaints were recently received from the Parkfield Residents' Association regarding obstructive parking across the build-outs on Yarm Road. Site observations confirmed that obstructive parking was occurring, restricting pedestrians access to the uncontrolled crossing points and compromising drivers' visibility when manoeuvring into Yarm Road from its side roads.
3. A scheme was therefore developed proposing additional no waiting at any time restrictions on Yarm Road. At the request of the Residents' Association, Stockton Blind People's Voice of 27 Yarm Road were approached with respect to their parking requirements. Provision of 2 hour limited waiting at

the side of the building on Westbourne Street was proposed. The needs of the churches along the length of Yarm Road, and residents of the southern end in the vicinity of Hartburn Lane, were taken into account.

4. The scheme was subsequently progressed through the relevant consultation procedure, including Ward Councillors and the police.
5. The proposals were approved via Scheme of Delegation Report TS/T/74/10 and are shown on Drawing No TM2/120 contained within the report (see **Appendix 1**).
6. As a result, a Notice for the proposed restrictions was advertised in the local press and on site, with the objection period expiring on 27 January 2011. Following publication of the statutory notices, the Director of Law and Democracy received 10 objections. A copy of the letters are attached at **Appendix 2**. Two were individual letters, one on behalf of Yarm Road Methodist Church, and 8 were a 'round robin' letter from residents of Westbourne Street.

DETAILS OF THE OBJECTIONS

Please see over.

Objector	Objection	Comments
<p>Mr Michael Leason, 33 Oulsen Road (on behalf of Yarm Road Methodist Church)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of direct consultation • Limited on-street parking on Yarm Road, Woodland Street and Grove Street • Church is used for community purposes • Remove bollards on build-outs on Woodland Street and Grove Street 	<p>As this scheme was promoted on road safety grounds, and as the parking was generally occurring within 10 metres of a junction, it was not considered necessary to consult residents directly. The Highway Code (2007 Edition) Sections 243/4. However, all 3 churches on the affected length of Yarm Road were consulted directly. It was noted in the Cabinet Member report that the Methodist Church were against the proposals due to loss of on-street parking opportunity for visitors. Nevertheless it was considered that the road safety benefits of the proposed restrictions must take precedence.</p> <p>A site meeting was held with church representatives and the serving Ward Councillors on Friday 4 March 2011, it was made clear to the church representatives that visitors were able to park on the solid white lines associated with road humps on both Woodland Street and Grove Street adjacent to the church; they had previously considered that such parking was prevented. Costings to remove bollards on existing build-outs on Grove Street and Woodland Street were passed to Ward Councillors, and remain on the Community Participation Budget list awaiting prioritisation.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain current situation 	<p>With regards to the length of Yarm Road fronting the Methodist Church. The distance between Woodland Street and Grove Street is approximately 35 metres. Vehicles should not be parked within 10 metres of a junction, in theory; this leaves 15 metres of parking opportunity, enough for 2-3 vehicles. However, in this</p>

		<p>case, hatching approaching the build-out on the south side of Grove Street is present to provide advice to drivers. An uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point is also present on the north side of Grove Street; vehicles parked in front of the church would compromise inter-visibility between pedestrians wishing to cross here and approaching southbound drivers. Taking all this into account the recommendation is to retain the proposed extent of waiting restrictions.</p> <p>This opportunity is being taken as part of the proposals to revoke the historical peak hour loading restrictions (8:00am-9:30am and 16:30pm-18:00pm weekdays) on Yarm Road and Westbourne Street. It is worth noting that Yarm Road to the north of Hartburn Lane was downgraded from A135 to C171 on 2 August 2005 to coincide with the full opening of the South Stockton Link Scheme.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide off-carriageway parking on the Yarm Road frontage 	<p>The suggestion of laybys/footway parking on the church frontage would be expensive and would have similar disadvantages to allowing on-street parking on this length of road.</p>
Residents of Nos 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 39, 50 and 71 Westbourne Street	<p>More restrictive parking on Westbourne Street generally, though additional parking has been provided in the vicinity on 27 Yarm Road on the approach to its busy junction with Yarm Road.</p>	<p>At the request of the Residents' Association, Stockton Blind People's Voice of 27 Yarm Road were approached with respect to their parking requirements. It is considered possible to provide limited waiting on the north side of Westbourne Street to service the building without compromising road safety; the road is between 7.9-8.4 metres wide here, a minimum width of around 5.9 metres will be maintained, sufficient to maintain two way traffic flow for cars and light vehicles. The bay is proposed a suitable distance into the side road. There are no significant road safety issues with regard to</p>

		<p>provision of this parking.</p> <p>Statutory consultation involving advertising on site and in the local press have been carried out. On-street notices were presented in laminated form, 21 days is a standard objection period.</p> <p>As part of the legal process, an opportunity was taken to propose to revoke the historical peak hour loading restrictions on Westbourne Street. At the present time, in theory, residents cannot load or unload at peak times; there is still evidence of faint kerb markings associated with the Traffic Regulation Order, although it is not plated aside from the eastern end. The proposed revocation removes this historical situation; in practice there will be no change to existing restrictions or practices. No additional waiting/loading restrictions on Westbourne Street are proposed.</p>
Mr Shakeel Noor, 13 Westbourne Street	Lack of consultation, poor on-street Notices. Objection period should be extended.	As this scheme was promoted on road safety grounds, and as the parking was generally occurring within 10 metres of a junction, it was not considered necessary to consult residents directly. Road safety concerns must take precedence. However, appropriate consultation was carried out with the Ward Councillors, Police, Head of Technical Services and Cabinet Member prior to the scheme being progressed.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not enough parking opportunity on Westbourne Street 	A residents' meeting on 25 January, the Council agreed to review parking provision on Westbourne Street and report back to a future meeting. This is a separate issue from the current proposals principally associated with Yarm Road.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposals are a contender for funding from the 2011/12 Traffic Management budget, and are estimated at around £1,500

POLICY CONTENT

The proposals are consistent with the Local Transport Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy.

CONSULTATION

The scheme was developed following concerns expressed by the local Residents' Association. As the scheme was promoted on road safety grounds, no direct public consultation was considered necessary. However, Stockton Blind People's Voice of 27 Yarm Road, and 3 affected churches on the affected length of Yarm Road were consulted directly. Stockton's Officers' Traffic Group has been consulted, as have the standing local Ward Councillors. The proposed waiting restrictions have been approved by the Council's Head of Technical Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Transport. Finally, statutory consultations involving advertising on site and in the local press were undertaken. This resulted in 10 objections being received. The objectors will be invited to the Appeals Committee meeting.

CONCLUSIONS

The proposals will maintain access and prevent obstructive parking, which occurs on the footway build-outs on the affected length of Yarm Road, as well as formalising current associated restrictions. The needs of Stockton's Blind People's Voice and three local churches have been considered as far as is practicable

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Environmental Implications:

None.

Community Safety Implications:

Addresses road safety concerns amongst the local community.

Background Papers:

Scheme of Delegation Report TS.T.74.10.
Letters of objection and associated replies.

Education Related Item:

No.

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Parkfield & Oxbridge - Councillors Mohammed Javed and David Rose.

Property Implications:

None.