

As a resident living in the Ock Street area I wish to add my comments on the proposal for the Abingdon Ock Street area residents permit parking zone.

Generally I agree with the recommendations, specifically those to withdraw the proposals for the controlled parking zone as I, in line with others, felt that daytime parking restrictions were not necessary at this time.

I am however concerned that the recommendation is still to approve the extension of double yellow lines in the area around Victoria Road, Bostock Road, Edward Street and Exbourne Road as shown in Annex 7.

I do not agree with this and would request that these proposals also be withdrawn at this time as I do not feel that the extension of the double yellow lines will be beneficial for the area.

The reasons being; firstly, I do not believe that this will improve safety. At the moment the presence of parked cars means there are shorter visibility splays and these act as a natural traffic calming measure. The introduction of the double yellow lines will likely allow cars to negotiate the junctions at higher speeds. This would be detrimental given that cars are already driving down Edward Street at speeds greater than the stated 20mph limit, usually accelerating hard after slowly negotiating the junction. The addition of the double yellow lines could allow them to achieve higher speeds for longer sections of the road given they could have a higher initial velocity by traversing the junction in a straighter line and thereby making the roads less safe for other users.

Secondly the introduction of these lines will reduce the number of available parking spaces in the area. The five parking spaces that would be lost on Victoria Road around the start of Edward Street are equivalent to over 12% of the parking on Edward Street (40 spaces). Given that over the weekend (30<sup>th</sup> August) an HMO has been allowed on Edward Street close to the start with Victoria Road, this has the potential to introduce another six cars to this area. It is well known that the area is already under high parking stress overnight when residents try to park and evidence from recent parking surveys show that there is already evidence of illegal parking and that the average parking capacity in the area at night is 94%, rising to 100% on Edward Street and Exbourne Road (taken from the Oxfordshire County Council local highway authority consultation response by Andrew Mason to VOWHDC on planning ref: P22/V0193/N5D). This means that the loss of even a few parking spaces, even without the potential increase in cars from new developments in the area, will mean that the overnight parking situation becomes even more difficult for residents than it currently is and will lead to further parking problems given the issues with illegal parking already seen.

I would therefore request that the proposal for these double yellow lines is withdrawn at this time and that the situation is monitored both for safety and parking.