

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT – 22 APRIL 2010

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS MARSTON AREA, OXFORD

Report by Head of Transport

Introduction

1. This report considers comments and objections received to a formal advertisement and statutory consultation to introduce parking restrictions in parts of Marston (Oxford) not covered by existing Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs).

Background

2. There have been complaints that some of the roads just outside the boundary of the Marston South CPZ have become affected by daytime parking by non-residents, resulting in difficulties for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. Separately, there have been complaints about parking, particularly at school start/finish times, in roads in the vicinity of St Nicholas School.
3. In 2007/08 a feasibility study was undertaken to look at the potential for introducing new CPZs in a number of areas, including this part of Marston. However, it was concluded that across the whole area the level of identified problems was low and that the introduction of area-wide restrictions had low priority.
4. Following ongoing concerns expressed via local councillors, the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Action Group, further surveys were carried out which showed that the parking problems are concentrated in Rippington and Mortimer Drives (between Oxford Road and Lewell Avenue) and on Beechey Avenue near the Oxford Road junction.
5. In late 2009 informal consultation took place on some initial ideas for restrictions to deal with these problems. The results of this were used to draw up formal proposals which have now been advertised and consulted upon.

Formal Consultation

6. Formal consultation on the proposals for parking restrictions took place in February 2010. Letters and plans were sent to all properties likely to be directly or indirectly affected and notices explaining the proposals were placed adjacent to the sites and in the local newspaper. Information was also sent to local Councillors, the Parish Council, the emergency services and other formal consultees. A copy of the public notice and other legal documents,

which were placed on deposit at Old Marston Library and at County Hall, are available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.

7. In total, 26 letters or e-mails were received in response to the advertised proposals. A précis of these, together with the observations of the Head of Transport is attached at Annex 1. Copies of all these communications are available in the Members' Resource Centre.
8. Thames Valley Police have no objections. Old Marston Parish Council consider the proposals to be sensible and broadly support them but are concerned that if implemented they may result in the parking problem moving further into the estate. The Oxford Bus Company support the planned restrictions on Oxford Road but are concerned that there may be displacement of commuter parking which affects other bus stops. No other formal consultees responded
9. The majority of respondents accept that the proposals will address some of the parking problems, but many are concerned that the restrictions will simply move the commuter parking to different parts of the area and cause new problems as a result. A number of respondents have asked for the introduction of a residents parking scheme into the area. There are no proposals to extend this type of control into this area.
10. It is acknowledged that the problem of commuter parking could spread and if the proposed restrictions are approved, further parking surveys will be carried out both before and after implementation to see what displacement effect they have had. Action to deal with the new situations will be proposed if required.

Conclusions

11. With the undertakings set out in the report to carry out additional before and after surveys to assess the displacement effects of the new restrictions, and to take appropriate action to deal with any problems which arise, it is considered that the concerns of objectors have been addressed.

How the Project Supports LTP2 Objectives

12. The proposals described in this report comply with the LTP2 objectives of Tackling Congestion (encouraging development that minimises congestion) and improving the Street Environment (better management of parking).

Financial Implications (including Revenue)

13. Funding for the costs of implementing the proposals described in this report, estimated to be around £2500 (including advertising) will be met from existing budgets.

RECOMMENDATION

14. **The Cabinet Member for Transport is RECOMMENDED to approve the introduction of parking restrictions in the Marston Area (Oxford) as advertised.**

STEVE HOWELL
Head of Transport
Environment & Economy

Background papers: Copies of all the legal documents plus letters and emails received in response are available in the Members' Resource room.

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April 2010

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS – OLD MARSTON AREA, OXFORD
Summary of Public Comments

No.	Commentor's Address	Summary of Objection or Comment	Observations of the Director of Environment & Economy
1.	Thames Valley Police	No objection	Noted
2.	Old Marston Parish Council	Consider the proposals to be sensible and broadly supports them Note that once these restrictions are implemented the problem is likely to move deeper into the Estate	Noted The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required
3.	Oxford Bus Company	Supports planned restrictions on Oxford Road but concerned that there may be displacement to other bus stops in the Marston Area Concerned that the restrictions should be signed and marked correctly so they can be enforced	Noted The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required This will be done
4.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Thinks the proposals will be a slight help but concerned that the introduction of the restrictions will increase parking over drives/entrances etc. Strongly in favour of a Residents Parking scheme	Noted. The proposals did include the offer of access protection markings beyond the proposed restrictions to deal with this issue There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area.
5.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Concerned that the proposals do not address the problem of overspill from the Milham Ford site. Requests that additional No Waiting restrictions be introduced on Oxford Road to assist buses getting into stops and also drivers egressing Rylands and Gordon Close.	The proposals are designed to deal with parking by commuter parking whatever its source Proposals have already been agreed to introduce a Bus Stop Clearway at the most congested location on Oxford Road and similar action will be taken elsewhere if required
6.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Requests additional No Waiting restrictions alongside the central reserve as there is already occasional parking and considers this will get worse once the proposed restrictions are implemented	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required

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7.	Owner of a property, Oxford Road	Agrees with the introduction of restrictions at junctions but requests removal of some of the proposed double yellow lines on Oxford Road outside his property	The restrictions on this part of Oxford Road are required to reduce danger and congestion at junctions. Parking will still be available in adjacent areas
8.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Concerned that the proposals do not restrict parking at the northern end of Oxford Road which has problems with commuter and school-time parking Would welcome a Residents Parking scheme	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area
9.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Concerned that the proposals will make things worse for residents as non-residents currently parking on streets where restrictions are to be introduced will instead park on the sections of Oxford Road and the service road where no restrictions are proposed. A lot of properties have shared driveways which adds to the difficulties Suggests a Residents Parking scheme	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area
10.	Two Residents, Oxford Road	Have seen the parking problems increase over the last 5 years and understand the need for the restrictions that are proposed. However they are concerned that this will simply move the problem to other areas, including outside their house Feels that a Residents Parking scheme is the solution, providing it does not penalise residents in any way	Noted The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area
11.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Agrees that something needs to be done but concerned that the proposals will make it more difficult to park outside own property. Have considered installing a driveway to assist. Suggests a Residents Parking scheme	Noted. The proposals did include the offer of access protection markings beyond the proposed restrictions to deal with this issue There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area
12.	A Resident, Oxford Road	Would like the proposed restrictions to be extended to cover her/neighbour's drives to improve visibility	Noted Will be dealt with separately

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13.	A Resident, Oxford Road	<p>Recognises there is a parking problem but doesn't think it is serious enough to merit these changes</p> <p>Concerned that the proposals will make the situation worse not better. The proposed double yellow lines at junctions will push commuters deeper into the residential areas, as will the 2-hour parking which will also disbenefit residents. The suggestion of providing white access protection across driveways will not work as intended as many houses have shared drives and are too narrow for modern cars, so they cannot be used for parking.</p> <p>If the aim is to reduce parking by non-residents it would be better to extend the Residents Parking Zone</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required</p> <p>There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area</p>
14.	A Resident, Oxford Road	<p>Concerned that the proposed No Waiting at the southern end of Oxford Road, plus the 2-hour limited parking on Beechey Avenue, will make it very difficult for visitors to park nearby.</p> <p>Notes that parking is allowed for permit holders on the adjacent section of Old Marston Road and suggests a similar approach in Oxford Road</p> <p>Suggests that the problem is caused by lack of parking at the hospital and the current proposals don't deal with that but yet penalise local residents</p>	<p>The 2-hour parking, which will only apply from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday, has been designed to provide some convenient parking for visitors</p> <p>There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area</p> <p>Noted</p>
15.	Two Residents, Beechey Avenue	<p>Proposed 2-hour restriction on Beechey Ave should be extended further into the road</p> <p>Concerned that the 2-hour restriction will be abused and not enforced</p>	<p>The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required</p> <p>Appropriate levels of enforcement will be undertaken</p>

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16.	Two Residents, Beechey Avenue	Agree that there is a parking problem caused by lack of parking provision by Brookes University and by the introduction of the Marston South CPZ Agree that there should be double yellow lines on Oxford Road and at the junctions as proposed Cannot agree to the proposed 2-hour limited waiting (10am – 4pm) on Beechey Avenue and requests that it be changed to be 2-hour (8am – 5pm) with permit holders exempt to avoid having to move their car every 2 hours. Proposed restriction would prevent attendance at church related activities at their house,, particularly by elderly people	Noted Such a proposal could only be as part of a Residents Parking Scheme and there are currently no plans to introduce one in this area The 2-hour parking, which will only apply from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday, has been designed to provide some convenient parking for visitors
17.	A Resident, Beechey Avenue	Concerned that proposals will simply push the parking problem further into the road Requests Residents Parking scheme	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required. There are no proposals to introduce a Residents Parking Scheme in this area
18.	Two Residents, Beechey Avenue	Pleased that something is being done to address the problems but expect that the problem will simply move to other parts of the street/area. Trusts that the situation will be monitored	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required.
19.	A Resident, Raymund Road	Requests an amendment to the proposed No Waiting restrictions on Raymund Road so they don't cover his driveway	Noted A minor amendment will be made to meet this request
20.	A Resident, Raymund Road	Requests proposed No Waiting 3pm-4pm be No waiting At Any time to keep that side of the road clear of parked cars to avoid danger to schoolchildren	The proposed restrictions are designed to give the maximum improvement to congestion near the school whilst minimising the disruption to local residents
21.	A Resident, Raymund Road	Objects strongly to the proposed restrictions on Raymund Road as the problems only exist for a short part of the school year and rarely cause her any inconvenience. Challenges the need for the restrictions to apply in school holidays as this could cause greater	The proposed restrictions are designed to give the maximum improvement to congestion near the school whilst minimising the disruption to local residents It is not permitted to apply parking restrictions on schooldays only

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		<p>inconvenience for residents Doesn't think the restrictions will have any effect on parking, and considers that the existence of parked cars slow down traffic using Raymund Road.</p>	
22.	Two Residents, Raymund Road	Requests a rethink of the proposals for restrictions near the school entrance	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required.
23.	A Resident, Lewell Avenue	<p>Would like additional restrictions at the Lewell Ave/Rippington Drive junction to deal with displaced parking Would like Access Protection marking as egress from driveway can be difficult</p>	<p>The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required. Noted</p>
24.	Two Residents, Haynes Road	Concerned that the proposed restrictions will increase commuter parking problems in other parts of the estate, including Haynes Road, where there are already difficulties for elderly and disabled residents	The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required.
25.	A Resident, Arlington Drive	<p>Requests that the proposed No Waiting restrictions on Arlington Drive be extended further along the road Wants action taken against drivers who park on the footway</p>	<p>The situation will be kept under review and action proposed if required. Footway parking can be dealt with by the Neighbourhood Police</p>
26.	A student attending Brookes University (Milham Ford site)	<p>Lives in Banbury and commutes by car to attend her course. Annoyed at how unfair the proposals are to students as this is one of the only places left to park without a permit. Suggests that a car park be provided for students at Milham Ford site as public transport and Park & Ride are unreliable and cannot be used Introducing these restrictions will prevent some students from attending their course/exams</p>	Noted