

Divisions affected: *Berinsfield and Garsington*

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 23 JUNE 2022

WARBOROUGH: A329 THAME ROAD - PROPOSED 'NO WAITING AT ANY TIME' RESTRICTIONS

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to
 - a. approve as advertised the proposed no waiting at any time restrictions on the A329 Thame Road Warborough.
 - b. commit Officers to review the restrictions 12 months following implementation.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on the proposal to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions to facilitate the safe access to and from a new residential development off of Thame Road in Warborough.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals has been provided by the developer of land off the Thame Road who will also fund the implementation of the proposals should they be approved.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

4. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

5. The proposals would help facilitate walking and cycling and the safe movement of traffic.

Consultation

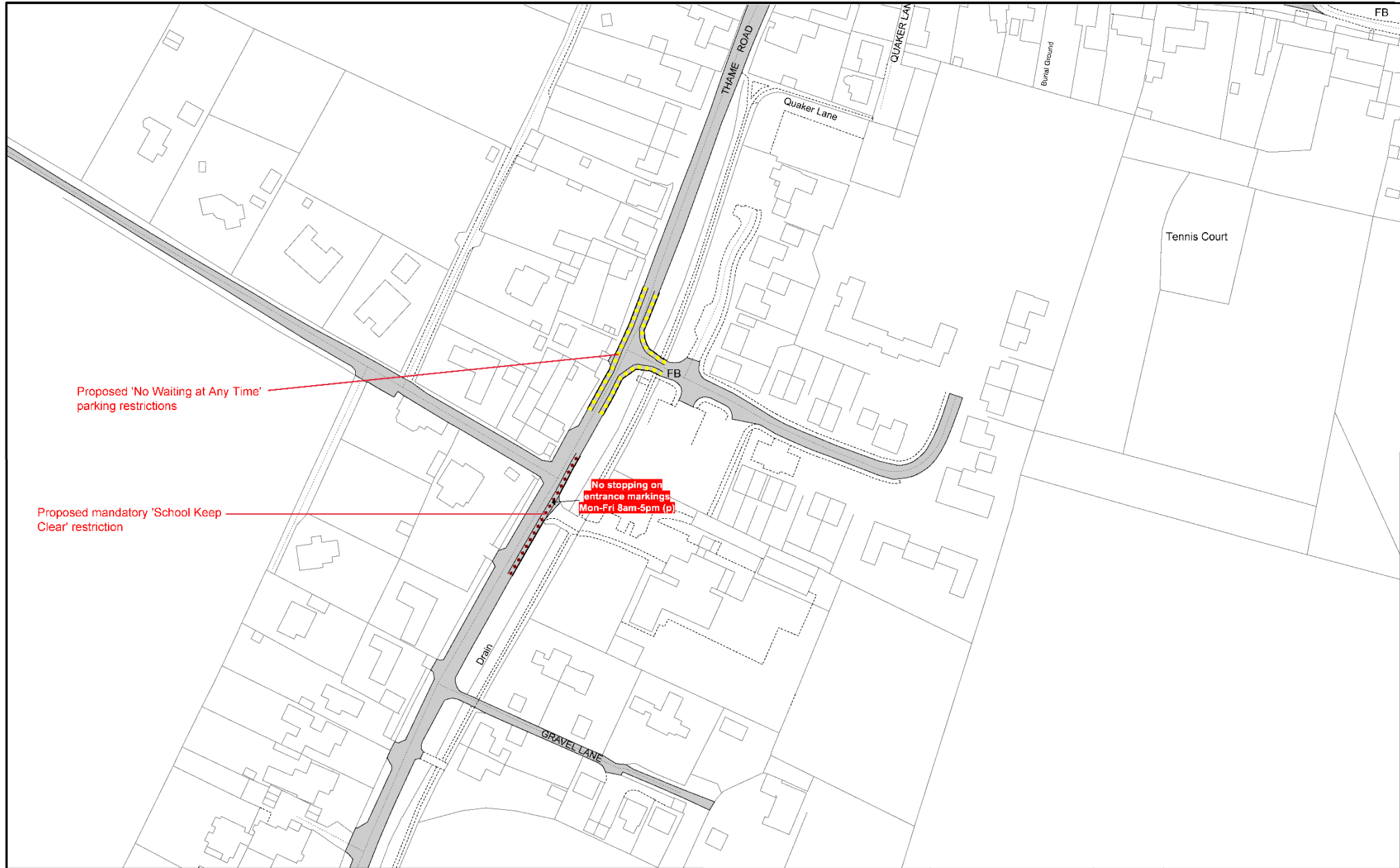
6. Formal consultation was carried out between 6 April and 6 May 2022. A notice was published in the Oxford Times & Oxfordshire Herald newspaper, and an email sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport, access & disabled peoples user groups, South Oxfordshire District Council, Warborough Parish Council, and the local County Councillor. Letters were sent to approximately 50 premises adjacent to the proposals, and street notices were also placed on site in the immediate vicinity.
7. Thirteen responses were received during the formal consultation, with 4 objections, 4 expressions of concern, 3 expressions of support, and 2 neither objecting nor commenting.
8. The responses are shown at **Annex 2**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.
9. Thames Valley Police expressed no objections to the proposal.
10. The concerns from the Parish Council and residents are noted. However, the requirement for the proposed restrictions have come from the S106 associated with this development. There are a series of highway works set out within schedule 5 that the developer is obliged to deliver. One of these specifically relates to the TRO. The Developer is looking to carry out the S278 works very soon, with any delay having a potential impact on the 'sign-off' of these works.
11. Should the proposals be approved, Officers will commit to undertaking a review of the restrictions 12 months after implementation to see if they are still required or if any amendments are needed in light of development works being completed on site.

Bill Cotton
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes
Annex 1: Consultation Plan
Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Tim Shickle 07920 591545
Aaron Morton 07393 001028

June 2022



Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions

Proposed mandatory 'School Keep Clear' restriction

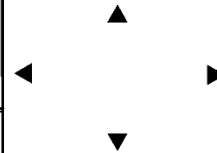
No stopping on entrance markings
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm (p)



Order Title:
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS - SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE (MAP BASED) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND PERMITTED PARKING) ORDER 20--

NOTE: SEE STATIC MAP SCHEDULE LEGEND FOR RESTRICTIONS DISPLAYED

STATUS: PROPOSED



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| SCALE | 1 : 1250 @ A3 |
| DATE | 23/03/2022 |
| MAP | Thame Road, Warborough |
| REVISION | |

| RESPONDENT | COMMENTS |
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| (1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police) | No objection |
| (2) Oxford Bus Company | No objection – We have no issues with these proposals. |
| (3) Warborough Parish Council | <p>Object – Further to your notice relating to the provision of yellow lines and associated parking restrictions in on the A329 Thame Road, Warborough, please note the following comments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The potential requirement for yellow lines and parking restrictions was initiated by a new housing development adjacent to the existing school. In fact the parking issue at point is actually caused by school drop off traffic, not parking for the development. School parking issues should be alleviated by the provision of a new 29 space car park constructed at the same time. The purpose of the car park is to move traffic off the road at this point. 2. Your current notification and consultation, from a timing perspective, may have been driven by an expectation that the development and its car park would be completed in 2021. In fact both have been delayed and are not anticipated to be completed until the autumn of this year. 3. Previous objections to this scheme included recommendations to wait to implement any yellow lines or other street markings until after the development and parking comes on line and the Parish Council and OCC complete a post event traffic survey. This will help deliver practical recommendations for any additional marking. 4. The Parish Council and Parochial Church Council who own school land all made this point during the previous consultation in 2019. The clear recommendation was to wait for a meaningful period after the car park comes on line and the traffic survey completed before assessing and implementing any recommendations. 5. Warborough is fighting to preserve its small village character and any urbanisation ought to be carefully considered. The principle of managing village character is clearly outlined in policy VC1 of its made Neighbourhood Plan. As a |

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| | <p>result any additional road markings ought to be carefully planned with all information available and with general support from the community.</p> <p>6. The Parish has also recommended an application for a 20 mph zone to operate across the villages, including this stretch of road. This will also change the nature of the requirement for parking provision and may mean that any work completed in your current project may need to be repainted, changed or moved. There is further case for delaying the work contemplated here.</p> <p>Given all the above, “parking” this project until the development is complete, car parking provisioned, the 20mph zone implemented and traffic survey completed may save OCC money and get the best outcome in a community where there is little demand for the restrictions contemplated.</p> <p>In short, the car park will be completed in the next few weeks (the contractors have begun works to paint their way out of the development having finished the last house - this and the remainder of the block paved road laying are the last large items it appears), and we would like to see its adoption and use monitored before acting. The village is decidedly rural and would prefer to avoid yellow lines and other hallmarks or the urban setting where possible. We are about to apply for 20mph which should also help. It seems sensible to us to delay committing to costs which may neither be wanted nor required until an assessment has been carried out (we anticipate we would do one at the end of the year or start of 2023 once the site is fully occupied and the car park has had time to bed in).</p> |
| <p>(4) Member of the public, (Warborough, Thame Road)</p> | <p>Object - I live right where the yellow lines will be and I can assure you, traffic will only get worse. Not only cars will go faster during pick up and drop off times but also children will be more at risk when crossing the roads. Cars slow down when they see cars parked on the side of the road, they don't have a choice but to be more vigilant and reduce the speed. I see this every day. Outside School days drop off and pick up times (which are only 10/15 minutes each), cars go as fast as they please. I strongly believe double yellow lines would only encourage cars to go faster as there wont be anything to stop them (and this would be closer to the school!!!). Kids will be left with very unsafe longer distances to walk. You can't impose these just because in theory it makes sense for you. Every day life here is safer as it is. Those double yellow lines will only make this unsafe for all children and the disabled.</p> <p>This road need speed calming measures and a zebra crossing from the school, NOT double yellow lines. Absolutely pointless. You will be moving the issue further away and making it more dangerous in the process. I can guarantee you would agree with me if you live where I live.</p> |

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| <p>(5) Member of the public, (Warborough , Thame Road)</p> | <p>Object - I object against the restrictions being suggested for the six bells development.</p> <p>The Rectory development when planning advised they would provide alternative parking for the school. This has not happened. They use the car park themselves for their show home site/cabin. There are no alternative parking places for parents. Further restrictions forces people parking for the school further down the road to the corner or on the estate itself.</p> <p>I object based on the danger this poses to children leaving and entering school in an area where there are no crossings for them to use. What would be more useful on the six bells site is a crossing. At present it's a very dangerous entry way, small children heading to/from preschool pelt across that entrance on bikes and scooters and residents from the estate speed in and out with no care toward what is happening around them.</p> <p>The existing restrictions are adequate, residents can see their way in and out of their junction.</p> |
| <p>(6) Member of the public, (Warborough, Green Lane)</p> | <p>Object - Whilst I approve broadly of improving the flow of traffic past St Laurence School, I am concerned as a resident of Green Lane (which is privately maintained). The proposal to add restrictions around the entrance to Six Acres and the extension around the school makes no mention of when this will be implemented. I am aware of the provision of a car park in Six Acres for drop off and pick up for school and hopefully can assume that these proposals only come into effect when it is available. My concern is that all the school parking will be pushed both up Thames Road where there is an already dangerous corner and into Green Lane, which is narrow and not suitable for parking and, as stated, privately maintained at considerable cost.</p> |
| <p>(7) Member of the public, (Warborough, Green Lane)</p> | <p>Concerns - I hope that you will take into consideration the impact that these proposals are likely to have on the residents of Green Lane (opposite St Laurence School). Green Lane is designated a bridleway. The exit from Green Lane onto Thame Road is considered to be dangerous because of the bend in the road from Shillingford. There are times when cars are parked in Green Lane when parents are dropping off their children to school this makes it more difficult for residents to exit Green Lane. These proposals are likely to lead to an increase in the number of cars using Green Lane to drop off their children. A number of children walk with their parents to school along Green Lane. I fear that these proposals are likely to make it less safe for children to walk to school along the lane.</p> |

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| (8) Member of the public, (Warborough, Green Lane) | Concerns - My concern is that Green Lane is a very restricted space, a bridal way. I am worried that if parents are not able to park in Thame Road they will park in the entrance to Green Lane. The concern is that Green Lane has poor visibility onto Thame Road and is used by many people walking their children to the school or just out walking. Any additional traffic or parked cars is going to be a hazard to pedestrians and to other motorists. |
| (9) Member of the public, (Warborough, Thame Road) | Concerns - The proposal doesn't make reference to the new car park at the entrance to the new 6 Acres development which will be available for drop off and pick up at school times and should ease much of the congestion to Thames Road during school hours. This will be a welcome improvement. My suggestion would be to ensure at the entrances to 6 Acres, Green Lane, W&S School and Gravel Lane there are "Keep Clear" markings for several metres either side of the junctions to ensure vehicles from these roads can safely join Thames Road. If double yellow lines are needed they need to run the length of Thame Road on the west side for 100m either side of the school entrance. |
| (10) Member of the public, (Warborough, Thame Road) | Concerns - We support the new parking restrictions. Our main comments concern : (i) Will implementation be synchronised with the opening of the new school drop off zone being constructed as part of the Rectory Homes 'Six Acre' development ? (ii) The hedges of properties close to the Oaklands properties on Thame Rd are now overgrowing the highway verge. Adjacent to this the Thame Road has a bend. When vehicles park on either side of the road at this point, vehicles are forced to almost drive 'virtually blind' on the other side of the road to get past the parked vehicles. It could be if the school does not manage the new drop off zone well with parents (highly likely) then school traffic is forced to park near the oaklands development. A possible remedy could be to continue the yellow lines further along Thame Road so they are past the Oaklands development. (iii) A further safety aspect could be to implement a 20 mph restriction along this stretch. |

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| (11) Local group/organisation, (Warborough, Wharf Road) | Support - Much needed |
| (12) Member of the public, (Warborough, The Green North) | <p>Support - To reduce emissions close to school. Especially important to make it possible for cars trying to get to the main road to get past numerous parked cars belonging to parents collecting/delivering children to school, early morning and mid-afternoon. Currently there are as many as 42 cars parked at the same time, with almost not gaps for cars to try to move forward and past the parked cars. A much bigger 'refuge' for cars trying to make progress will be so much safer than the current frustration, risk-taking and anger at this problem.</p> <p>I have to allow 15mins extra if I leave the village during morning drop-off due to consistent lack of consideration shown to road users. The parents regard the road as a carpark, linger chatting to friends, with no regard to the detriment of those who actually want to use for travelling on. This improvement is well overdue and will be a blessing to all cars using this road to actually get somewhere in a reasonable time.</p> <p>I know that there is a plan for the parents to have parking area for school in the Six Acres development, but I very much doubt if the parents will bother using it as it will be less convenient for them than just stopping somewhere on the road and parking their car on the road.</p> |
| (13) Member of the public, (Warborough, Thame Road) | <p>Support – I live on Thame Road, Warborough, which is across from the school and my drive is to the right of the junction for Six Acres.</p> <p>I am so pleased for this proposal to go ahead as from 8.30am-9.15am and 2.30pm-3.30pm it is nearly impossible to get out of my drive as they park huge four by four cars and people carriers across my drive on the opposite side of the road. I plan all my journeys outside of these hours and try and depart and not return within these times as it is bedlam on the road outside, no consideration is given for residents who live by the school.</p> <p>Meanwhile, what will happen though now is they will all try and park on the bridleway Green Lane immediately opposite the school and will block all the residents drives down that bridleway. It is not for vehicles only residents but</p> |

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| | even now they park in front of your drive and will offer abuse if you say anything. They use it for turning and drive full speed down a public bridleway. |
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