

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 8 FEBRUARY 2018

GOSFORD AND WATER EATON: WATER EATON LANE – PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Report by Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Introduction

1. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation to introduce waiting restrictions comprising a length of double yellow lines - 'no waiting at any time' - on both sides of the road within 25 metres of its junction with Bicester Road, and single yellow lines (with waiting prohibited Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm) also on both sides of the road for a further 355 metres southwards.

Background

2. The above proposals as shown at Annex 1 have been put forward at the request of Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council to address concerns over the use of the road for commuter parking.

Consultation

3. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 16 November and 15 December 2017. A public notice was placed in the Oxford Times and sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance Service, Cherwell District Council, Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council and the local County Councillor. Street notices were also placed in the vicinity of the proposed crossing location and letters sent directly to approximately 100 properties in the immediate vicinity of the proposals.
4. Seven responses were received. No objection from Thames Valley Police and five responses from members of the public (four of which were from local residents) all of which expressed objections to the proposals, although one response expressed no objection specifically in relation to the proposed double yellow lines in the vicinity of the Bicester Road junction. The grounds for objection were that the relatively small number of vehicles parking on the road were very largely visitors to, or contractors etc. working for, residents, rather than parking by commuters. These responses are summarised at Annex 2. Copies of the full responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Response to objections and other comments

5. The response of Thames Valley Police is noted.
6. The objections received from members of the public on the grounds of the lack of need for the restrictions are noted. While no formal parking surveys have been carried out, site observations made in the course of this project indicated very little parking taking place, including at times when use by commuters could be anticipated. In view of this, it is suggested that while the proposed no waiting at any time restriction in the vicinity of the Bicester Road junction is appropriate on traffic safety grounds and in order to facilitate the efficient operation of the signalled junction there does not appear to be, at present, a sufficiently strong case for progressing the proposed prohibition of waiting Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm as advertised.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

7. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

8. Funding for the proposed measures has been provided by Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council.

RECOMMENDATION

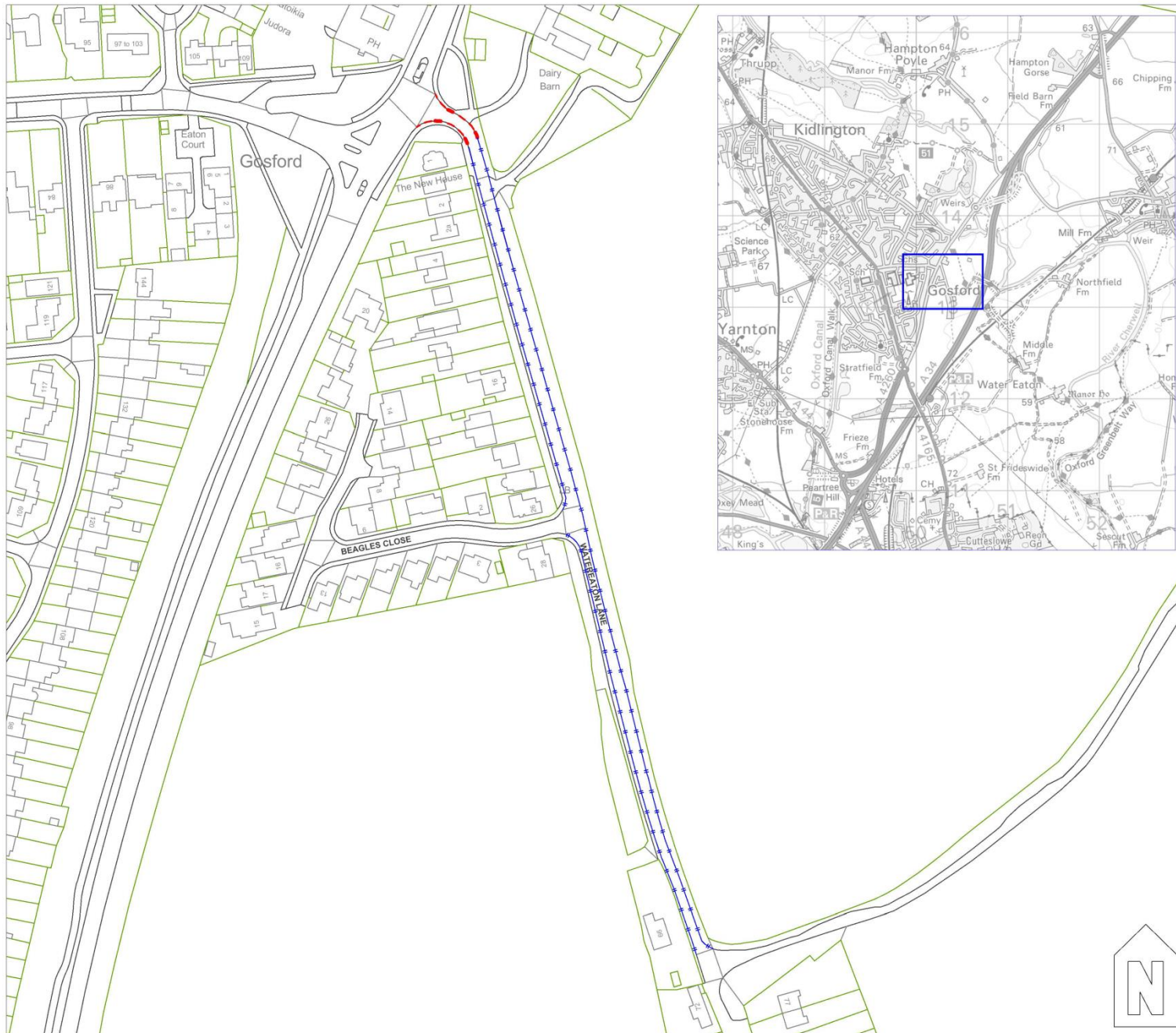
9. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to:**
 - a) **approve the proposed double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) restrictions on Water Eaton Lane in the vicinity of the junction with Bicester Road;**
 - b) **not to approve the proposed single yellow lines (waiting prohibited Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm) further to the south on Water Eaton Lane.**

OWEN JENKINS
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Background papers: Plan of proposed waiting restrictions
 Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704

February 2018



<p>Drawing No. _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Revision 2</p>	<p>Proposed extents of 'No Waiting at any Time' parking restriction (Double Yellow Lines) approx. 25m in length on both sides</p> <p>Proposed extents of 'No Waiting Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm' parking restriction (Single Yellow Lines) approx. 350m in length on both sides</p> <p> Site Location</p> <p><small>Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Oxfordshire County Council. © Crown Copyright and database rights 2017. 100023343</small></p>																
<p>Chris McCarthy (Interim Director) Infrastructure Delivery Communities Oxfordshire County Council County Hall New Road Oxford OX1 1ND Tel: (0345 310 1111)</p>																	
<p>OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</p>																	
<p>CONSULTATION PLAN</p>																	
<p>WATER EATON LANE (GOSFORD) PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER</p>																	
<p>Drawing Status</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Drawn by:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Checked by:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Approved by:</td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">CJM</td> <td style="text-align: center;">ADK</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date drawn:</td> <td>Date checked:</td> <td>Date approved:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">26/07/2017</td> <td style="text-align: center;">26/07/2017</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Drawn by:	Checked by:	Approved by:		CJM	ADK			Date drawn:	Date checked:	Date approved:		26/07/2017	26/07/2017		
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RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection.
(2) Local Resident, (Water Eaton Lane, Gosford)	<p><u>Double-yellow lines</u> – Object – Traffic flow can be maintained with parking restrictions on one side of Water Eaton Lane only, not both sides. The restrictions can be implemented on the East side of the road allowing for vehicles to pass cars parked on the other side of the road nearest to the houses.</p> <p><u>Single-yellow lines</u> – Object – As above.</p>
(3) Local Resident, (Water Eaton Lane, Gosford)	<p><u>Double-yellow lines</u> – Object – I live close to the junction with Bicester Road where the supposed problem is worse. I often work from home and my home office is in the front room with the desk facing the road so i get to notice the traffic on the road.</p> <p>I must admit that I am NOT aware of any parking issues on the road. Occasionally there are cars parked on the street but I have never seen any congestion.</p> <p>The only time that I have experienced issues is with extra wide farm traffic and when the heavy plant was using the road during construction of oxford parkway station.</p> <p>I urge you to research this situation further before investing resources into solving a problem that does not exist."</p> <p><u>Single-yellow lines</u> – Object – As above.</p>
(4) Online response, (unknown)	<p><u>Double-yellow lines</u> – Object – It is completely unnecessary. There is never an issue with cars parked outside our house. Any cars that do park there are only for a few hours and are never a concern.</p> <p>People are NOT using this street to park in for the railway or Edward Field School. I strongly object.</p>

	<p><u>Single-yellow lines</u> – Object – As above, it is not necessary; however this is the lesser of the two evils.</p>
<p>(5) Local Resident, (Gosford)</p>	<p><u>Double-yellow lines</u> – No objection.</p> <p><u>Single-yellow lines</u> – No objection – will not help solve the current problems with parking. Most of the vehicles that park during the day are usually tradesmen, service engineers or visitors. Where will my visitors park? We do get the odd car that parks and leaves it for a few hours but I think that drivers realise that we get a lot of large farm vehicles up and down the lane, who drive rather too fast and this has stopped drivers leaving vehicles all day, as they have been damaged in the past.</p> <p>One problem that the suggested parking restrictions will not solve is that since October someone parks a large works van every night, from around 4.30, with two wheels on the footpath and facing the oncoming traffic. When it is parked on Friday evening it rarely moves until Monday morning causing problems for mothers with pushchairs who have to go off the footpath and onto the road then back on to the path. There are also two blind gentlemen who use the footpath and this must cause them problems.</p> <p>As yellow lines won't deal with inconsiderate drivers and we have little problems during the day I think the Council could save some money and forget yellow lines.</p>
<p>(6) Local Resident, (Water Eaton Lane, Gosford)</p>	<p>Object - As a resident on Water Eaton Lane I still do not see any benefit from double yellow lines.</p> <p>The only benefit would be for construction site vehicles again (proposed housing development), as it was when we had traffic for the construction of the Railway Station. It was noisy, dirty and dangerous for any other road or pavement users, double yellow lines does not help this.</p> <p>The problem is with the speed of vehicles driving down the Lane. The speed limit of 40mph on such a short lane is dangerous and excessive. Either this should be reduced and monitored which is unlikely, or traffic calming measures need to be in place.</p> <p>I appreciate I have already made these observations after receiving the first proposal back in March.</p>