

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – 21 MARCH 2013

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS ROCKHILL FARM COURT, CHIPPING NORTON

Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report considers objections to a formal consultation on proposals to introduce new parking restrictions in Rockhill Farm Court, Chipping Norton. Annex 1 sets out a plan of the proposals.

Background

2. The proposals in this report are aimed at protecting the access into the residential 'courtyard' development of Rockhill Farm Court and also the entrance to Chipping Norton War Memorial Community Hospital.
3. Opposite to Rockhill Farm Court on London Road is the entrance to Holy Trinity Primary School. In common with many primary schools, at dropping off and picking up times, a lot of parking occurs as close to the school entrance as possible. Although school keep clear 'zig-zag' markings are present to safeguard the school entrance and are also across the entrance to the nursery school outside Holy Trinity Catholic Church (which is slightly further west on London Road), the amount of parking taking place at school times can lead to an overspill of problems into Rockhill Farm Court. This causes access problems for residents, ambulances ferrying passengers to Hospital and, potentially, other emergency vehicles.
4. Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles has agreed to use some of her area stewardship fund to promote 'No waiting at any time' restrictions throughout the access road and around the turning head of Rockhill Farm Court and adjacent parts of London Road.

Formal Consultation

5. A copy of the draft traffic regulation order, statement of reasons and a copy of the public notice appearing in the local press, containing the proposed changes were sent to statutory consultees on 30 January 2013. These documents, together with supporting documentation and plans were deposited for public inspection at County Hall, West Oxfordshire District Council's Town Centre Shop, Witney, and Chipping Norton Library. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.

6. Officers also consulted frontagers affected by the proposed restrictions. Public notices were also displayed on site and advertised in the Oxford Times on 31 January.
7. A total of 9 responses were received. All are summarised at Annex 2.
8. It can be seen from the summary that whilst there is general support for some restrictions to be introduced the main issues raised by those commenting are concerns about possible displacement of parking problems to Russell Way (on the other side of the Hospital development) and further along London Road, and also that the proposals will prevent overnight and weekend parking by local residents and their visitors.

Conclusion

9. The responses to the consultation have been discussed with Councillor Hibbert-Biles and whilst it is recognised that the restrictions may lead to some additional parking on London Road and Russell Way, the proposals should proceed as advertised but the situation be kept under review.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

10. The cost of the advertising, consultation and any subsequent works described in this report will be met from County Councillor Hibbert-Biles' area stewardship fund allocation.

RECOMMENDATION

18. **The Deputy Leader of the Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the restrictions as advertised in the Oxfordshire County Council (Various Roads – West Oxfordshire)(Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting And Permitted Parking) (Variation no.2*) order 20****

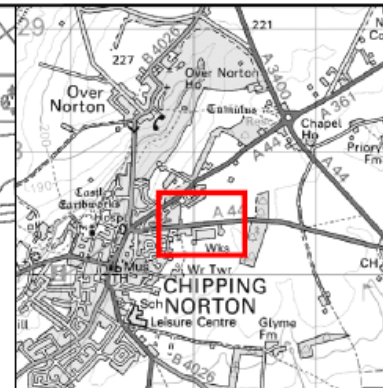
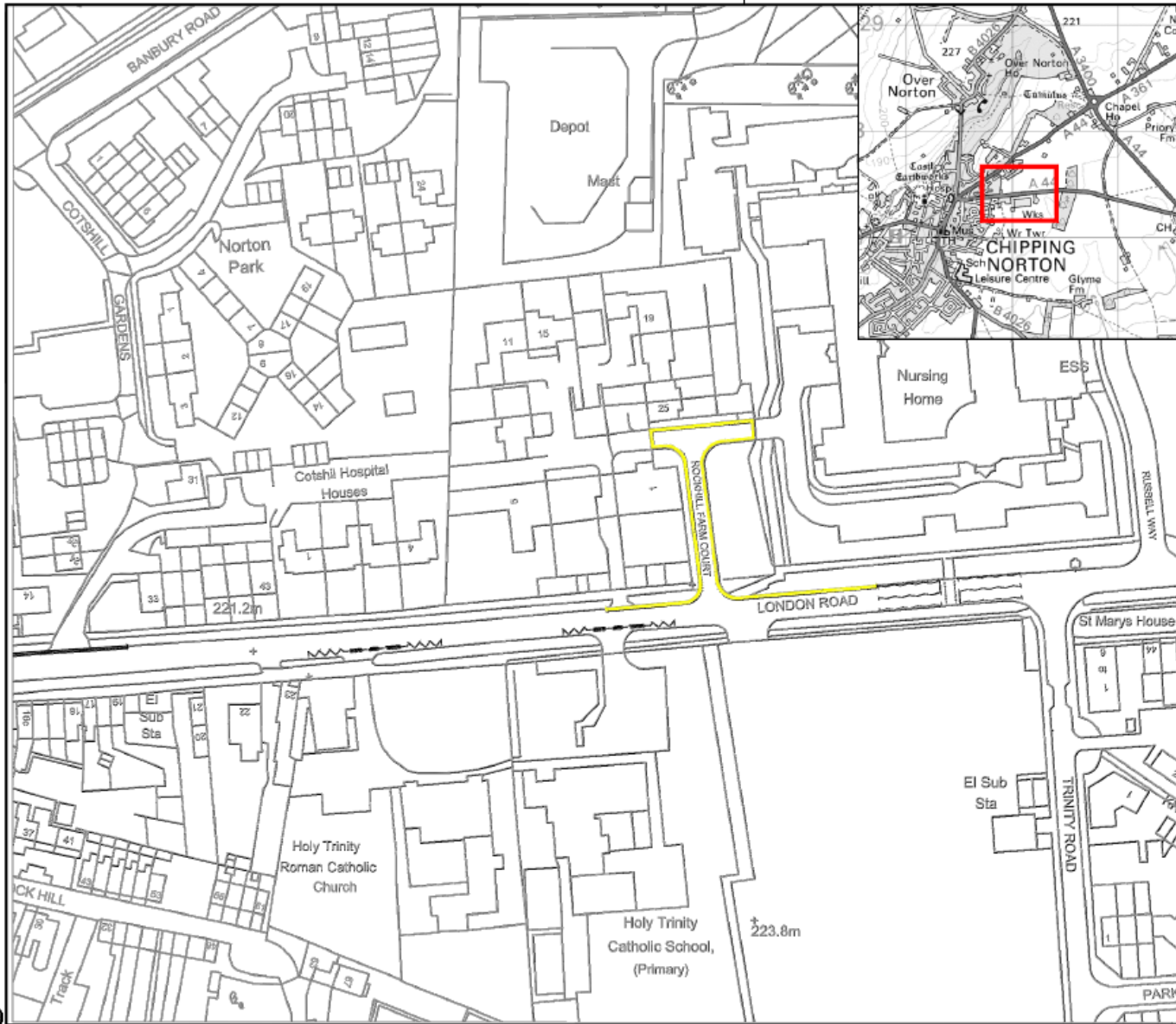
MARK KEMP

Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Consultation documentation

Contact Officer: Jim Daughton 01865 815803

February 2013



Drawing No: **Annex 1** Revision: **0**

- Key**
- Site Location
 - Proposed No Waiting At Any Time
 - Existing No Waiting At Any Time

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| Rev. | Date | Purpose of revision | Drawn | Checked | Approved |
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 21 MARCH 2013

Drawing title
**CHIPPING NORTON
 Rockhill Farm Court
 Proposed Parking Restrictions**

Drawing Status
 Decision by cabinet member

| Scale @ A1 | Drawn by | MDH | Checked by | LJT | Approved by | DMT |
|------------|------------|--------|--------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| NTS | | | | | | |
| | Date drawn | Feb-13 | Date checked | Feb-13 | Date approved | Feb-13 |

Oxfordshire Project No. 6. The Site
 Drawing No. **TRO/MDH/W/20131001/Annex1** Revision: **0**

P:\2. Network Management\Traffic Regulation Orders\PERMANENT TRO\Chipping Norton\Rockhill Farm Court\committee areas plan.dwg

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

Proposed parking restrictions Rockhill Farm Court, Chipping Norton

| <u>Respondent</u> | <u>Comment</u> | <u>Officer response</u> |
|---|--|---|
| Site Administrator Chipping Norton War Memorial Community Hospital Out-Patient Unit | <p>I fully appreciate the need to implement the proposed parking restrictions around Rockhill Farm Court.</p> <p>The parking around the area of Holy Trinity School (on London Road) is always a cause for concern. Over the last few weeks I have noticed that parents have been parking to drop off and collect children in the entrance of Russell Way. This is the service road to our Out-Patient Unit and as such has to be clear at all times. I wrote to the head teacher, politely requesting that she remind parents not to park in Russell Way. My concern now is that if the restrictions go ahead around London Road and Rock Hill Farm Court, Russell Way will become even more appealing.</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Parking near schools is often problematic for short periods of the day, and apart from keeping pedestrian exits clear of parked vehicles (by use of 'school keep clear' markings) it is not easy to find solutions to school travel problems. With regard to any overspill of these problems onto Russell Way, this road is wide enough to accommodate parking on one side, and is located further away from the school than Rockhill Farm Court.</p> |
| A resident of Rockhill Farm Court | <p>I agree to the proposed parking restrictions, but I'd like to highlight an issue. I am aware that the worst time of day is during school drop off and pick up due to the amount of traffic and also cars parking on London Road. I would like to suggest a parking restriction from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. This allows local residents mainly in the courtyard I live in to have parking on weekends and during the night. It is often required that we park outside the courtyard especially when snow is forecast</p> | <p>The proposals are aimed at safeguarding access to both the courtyard residences themselves, but also the hospital entrance which necessitates the restrictions applying at all times</p> |

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| | <p>overnight, as the courtyard is a large area to clear of snow and is not salted in adverse weather due to not being serviced by the council.</p> <p>Also on a personal level, We have limited space for visitors and the road serves as useful overflow parking for us as residents. This requirement is obviously more likely during weekends or in the evenings/ overnight when other school traffic isn't adding to traffic flow problems.</p> | |
| A resident of Rockhill Farm Court | We would also like to see further parking restrictions applied to London Road from the school down to the garage/police station. | This suggestion was also initially requested by Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles but, following discussion with the Town Council, was not taken forward. |
| A resident of Rockhill Farm Court | I agree that some restriction for parking in this close is necessary but wonder if it is desirable to include the north side. Its availability could be helpful to visitors to Rockhill Farm Court, but presumably should be restricted to, say, 30 minutes. | The proposals are aimed at safeguarding access to both courtyard residences and also the hospital entrance. |
| 5 residents of Rockhill Farm Court | Support the proposals. | Noted. |