

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL– 3 JANUARY 2013

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS – STATION ROAD, HAYDON ROAD AND EDMUNDS COURT, DIDCOT

Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report considers objections received to a formal consultation on proposals to introduce new or amended parking restrictions in Station Road, Haydon Road and Edmunds Court, Didcot.

Background

2. The proposals in Station Road and Haydon Road were developed with Councillor Tony Harbour to address local parking issues within his Division to be funded through the Area Stewardship Fund. The proposals in Edmunds Court are a result of an adjacent development site, which has provided funding through a S106 Agreement. These were advertised at the same time to make best use of resources.
3. The current restrictions in Station Road were relaxed when Hitchcock Way was opened and this part of Station Road became a cul-de-sac. The unrestricted parking, which was intended to benefit residents has become attractive to commuters and local shop-workers. Following discussions with Councillor Harbour, county council officers and Thames Valley Police a package of measures has been proposed consisting of some additional parking prohibitions in the adjacent White Leys Close and a prohibition of driving (except for access). The results of the consultation on the former are included in this report whilst the prohibition of driving is to be introduced as an experimental order with any objections reported after the first six months of operation.
4. Haydon Road is a residential road linking Broadway with the railway station. It is traffic calmed and has 'anti-commuter' parking restrictions with No Waiting on the west side from 12 noon to 1pm and on the east side from 2pm to 3pm. Following complaints from local residents about the effect on traffic of parking on the east side between Lydalls Road and Station Road, the proposal is to prohibit parking completely on that part of the road.
5. Finally, restrictions in Edmunds Court are a requirement of (and funded by) a S106 agreement for an adjacent site which is to be developed into flats.

Formal Consultation

6. Oxfordshire County Council sent a copy of the draft amendment orders, statement of reasons and a copy of the public notice appearing in the local press containing the proposed changes, to formal consultees on 8 November 2012. These documents, together with supporting documentation and plans were deposited for public inspection at County Hall and at Didcot library. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
7. At the same time, the Council wrote to local residents affected by the proposed restrictions asking for their comments. In addition public notices were displayed at each site and in the Oxford Times.
8. A total of 7 responses were received: 2 regarding the Station Road (White Leys Close) proposals, 3 regarding Haydon Road and 2 regarding Edmunds Court. These are summarised at Annex 1.
9. The proposals for Station Road (White Leys Close) are generally welcomed. Those for Haydon Road have also been supported but with some concerns about the effect on residents and a desire for residents parking and for further restrictions at junctions. The main comment on the Edmunds Court proposals concerns the displacement effect, particularly by vehicles parking in connection with a nearby motorcycle shop.
10. It has previously been agreed with Thames Valley Police that no further resident parking schemes will be introduced in areas where they retain responsibility for parking enforcement, which is the case in Didcot. On the issue of the resident's concerns of displaced parking along Park Road, this matter will be monitored and appropriate action considered.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

11. The cost of the works described in this report will be met from County Councillor Harbour's Area Stewardship Fund allocation and S106 contributions.

RECOMMENDATION

18. **The Deputy Leader of the Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the parking restrictions set out in this report and as advertised as the Oxfordshire County Council (Various Roads – South Oxfordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Permitted Parking) (Variation No.6*) Order 20****

MARK KEMP

Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Consultation documentation
Contact Officers: Jim Daughton 01865 815803
December 2012

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

RESPONDENT	COMMENT	RESPONSE
Residents of Station Road	Welcome the plans for Station Road and White Leys Close and the future proposal for Station Road, it can't come too soon. However, the current double yellow line parking restrictions in Station Road are not enforced at any time, with cars often parked on them for some distance down the road, especially at weekends, perhaps this is because there is no signage any more. I would like to suggest that this signage is renewed and policed properly as part of this plan so that the full benefits of these restrictions can be realised.	Enforcement of the restrictions in Didcot is a matter for Thames Valley Police who have said that this area will have greater attention once the new restrictions are in place.
Resident, Station Road	It's nice to see things are coming to fruition. The only question I have is regarding the restriction of driving on Station Road, and a possible roll out date? Will it be around the same time as White Leys?	If the parking restrictions are approved they will be introduced in parallel with the experimental order restricting access.
Residents of Haydon Road	We definitely welcome the proposed parking restrictions in Haydon Road. The only comment is that we would like to be able to park outside our properties at any time, either lifting the 12-1 parking restriction or with residents parking permits.	Noted. Removing the current restriction would lead to increased commuter parking. Residents parking permits cannot be introduced without decriminalised parking enforcement.
Resident, Haydon Road	<p>Living close to the junction of Haydon and Lydalls Roads Didcot I am very aware of the regular congestion and restricted flow of 'through traffic' from Station Road especially during late afternoon and especially by 'tea time' commuter traffic.</p> <p>However, I am mindful of the effect the proposals for Haydon Road will have on the residents in houses 42 to 60 Haydon Road. As you have made no apparent provision for them to park all day then the One Hour per Day NON Parking period will put them in violation of the parking restrictions outside their properties. Those with limited personal parking facility on their property will</p>	<p>The proposed restrictions will assist the flow of traffic.</p> <p>Alternative parking is available in Lydalls road, including some 2-hour bays.</p>

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	<p>therefore have to relinquish 'ownership' of the parking space secured in the morning and park elsewhere. In other words: Free Parking at the expense of the resident. Would there be facility for "Resident Parking Spaces" for residents so as to discourage "Casual / Visitor" parking thus keeping the peace and harmony?</p> <p>In addition, I recommend double yellow lines be added (as with most other corners) to the corner with Lydalls Road and Haydon Road North side to a point close to the post box. Thus allowing drivers proceeding (North) to Station Road a clear view of oncoming traffic however large and still allow sensible parking along the same 'housed side'.</p>	<p>Residents parking permits cannot be introduced without decriminalised parking enforcement.</p> <p>This suggestion will be considered when the opportunity arises to make further changes to parking restrictions in this part of Didcot.</p>
<p>Residents of Lydall Road</p>	<p>Live on corner of Haydon Road where all the unauthorised parking takes place and our front windows overlook the problem. We are so pleased that this is now to be made No Parking on the east side, as this will no doubt help and some of the horrendous congestion should be relieved.</p> <p>However, we do get people parking all day on the East side of upper Haydon Road on a regular basis and, unless this road is included, we may find that people will just start to park there instead.</p> <p>We already have people parking in the 2-hour bays in front of our house all day.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The issue of enforcement will be discussed with Thames Valley Police.</p>
<p>Resident, Edmonds Court</p>	<p>Agrees with proposals for Edmonds Court. There is a need for restrictions to assist with improved visibility for current & new residents from the new development.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Resident, Park Road</p>	<p>Concerned about the proposals for Edmonds Court. Park Road is extremely busy both during the week and at weekends with drivers who continually drive too fast on approach and on leaving the roundabout too.</p> <p>Drivers stopping at Premier Bikes frequently park outside our house because as they do not have customer car parking, making it very difficult and dangerous when we want to drive into or reverse out of our drive. This is because our vision is obscured by parked vehicles and it is difficult to see past them particularly if cars are parked outside on either side of the driveway.</p>	<p>The issue of speeding will be discussed with Thames Valley Police.</p> <p>Some parking will still be available in Edmonds Court. However, the matter will be monitored and suitable action considered.</p>

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	<p>Once the Edmunds Court restrictions are in place, where will visitors to Edmunds Court, customers of Premier Bikes and indeed Premier Bikes staff park their vehicles then? On Park Road and this will then mean a major increase in the amount of vehicles regularly parking for long periods of time. I appreciate residents of Edmunds Court want to be able to park outside their properties but it is a Cul-de-Sac and they don't have to worry about through traffic. Park Road is busy enough and any extra stationary vehicles are only going to make the situation worse.</p>	<p>The presence of parked vehicles may lead to a reduction in traffic speed along Park Road.</p>
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