

Divisions: Banbury Neithrop and Banbury Hardwick

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – 14 FEBRUARY 2013

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS – NURSERY DRIVE, FOUNDRY STREET AND BEAUMONT ROAD, BANBURY

Report by Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report considers objections to formal consultations on proposals to introduce new parking restrictions in two separate areas of Banbury, namely Nursery Drive and Foundry Street, and also Beaumont Road. Although unconnected, the two proposals have been combined for consultation purposes.

Background

A. Nursery Drive and Foundry Street

2. In 2010, residents presented a petition to the Banbury Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) seeking the introduction of restrictions to prevent all day parking by commuters. They felt this was impacting on their parking needs, causing access problems at private entrances and for refuse collection vehicles, near the Foundry Street/Cope Road junction and at the double bend in Nursery Drive. Discussion took place at that meeting around a range of options and the possible displacement that might occur should restrictions be introduced. The TAC asked officers to undertake informal consultation with residents to consider single yellow lines that operate on Mondays to Fridays from 8am to 6pm.
3. Informal consultation letters were sent to residents (whose property would front onto the proposed restrictions) in November 2010. Copies were also sent to the emergency services, the District and Town Councils and local Members. The response to this indicated that there were mixed views about the proposals, with some residents seeking different times for the restrictions, or special exemptions for their visitors. Officers discussed these responses with the chairman of the TAC (County Councillor Kieron Mallon) who suggested proceeding with the proposals in the light of a majority of residents being in favour. However, due to the reduction in budgets for minor traffic schemes in 2011/12, funding was not available to progress the proposals.
4. More recently, County Councillor Alyas Ahmed has indicated his desire to use some of his Area Stewardship Fund allocation to enable the proposals (shown on the plan at Annex 1) to be pursued.

B. Beaumont Road (industrial estate)

5. Thames Valley Police have reported receiving regular complaints from a number of businesses in the Beaumont Road industrial estate that indiscriminate parking is preventing larger vehicles from gaining access to their premises. Although most of the road has some restrictions in place, there is a length of around 400m where parking is currently unrestricted on both sides.
6. In response to these concerns, County Councillor Nicholas Turner has agreed to fund some additional parking restrictions from his Area Stewardship Fund allocation (these are shown on the plan at Annex 2).

Formal Consultation

7. Formal consultation was carried out between 6 December 2012 and 11 January 2013. 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, was sent to formal consultees. These documents, together with supporting documentation and plans were deposited for public inspection at County Hall, Cherwell District Council's office at Bodicote House and at Banbury Library. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
8. Officers also wrote to frontagers affected by the proposed restrictions asking for their comments. Public notices were also displayed on site and advertised in the Oxford Times.
9. A total of 6 responses were received regarding the proposals for Nursery Drive and Foundry Street. A further 3 responses were received regarding the proposals for Beaumont Road. These are summarised at Annex 3 with copies available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
10. It is clear from the responses that there is a desire that the issue should be tackled at both locations. In Nursery Drive there is concern about parking problems continuing at the northern end of the proposals and in the vicinity of a 'turning point' outside No's 33/35. In Beaumont Road, there is concern that the proposals will concentrate parking on the east side of that section of the road, near to some industrial unit entrances.

Conclusion

A. Nursery Drive and Foundry Street

11. The issue of extending the restrictions further into Nursery Drive was not raised in any response to the informal consultation and, to be effective, the parking prohibition would have to be extended by a significant amount. Such a change would require further consultation (with no certainty of outcome) and the delay would take the scheme beyond the current funding arrangements, with no guarantee that this could be replaced. It is recommended that the

proposals be implemented as advertised but that the congestion and/or access problems caused by all-day non-resident parking are monitored, with a view to exploring further restrictions at a future date if problems persist. This has been discussed with County Councillors Alyas Ahmed and Kieron Mallon who are both content with this approach.

B. Beaumont Road (industrial estate)

12. The comment about the possible worsening of access problems on the opposite side to the proposals can be monitored and if problems arise individual business units can request advisory white access protection (WAP) road markings by contacting Oxfordshire County Council, these markings do not require Orders to implement. Officers therefore recommend the proposals should proceed as advertised.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

13. The cost of the advertising, consultation and any subsequent works described in this report will be met from the Area Stewardship Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

18. **The Deputy Leader of the Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the parking restrictions in both locations, as advertised in the Oxfordshire County Council (Various Roads, Banbury) (Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting And Loading) (Amendment No.17*) Order 20****

MARK KEMP

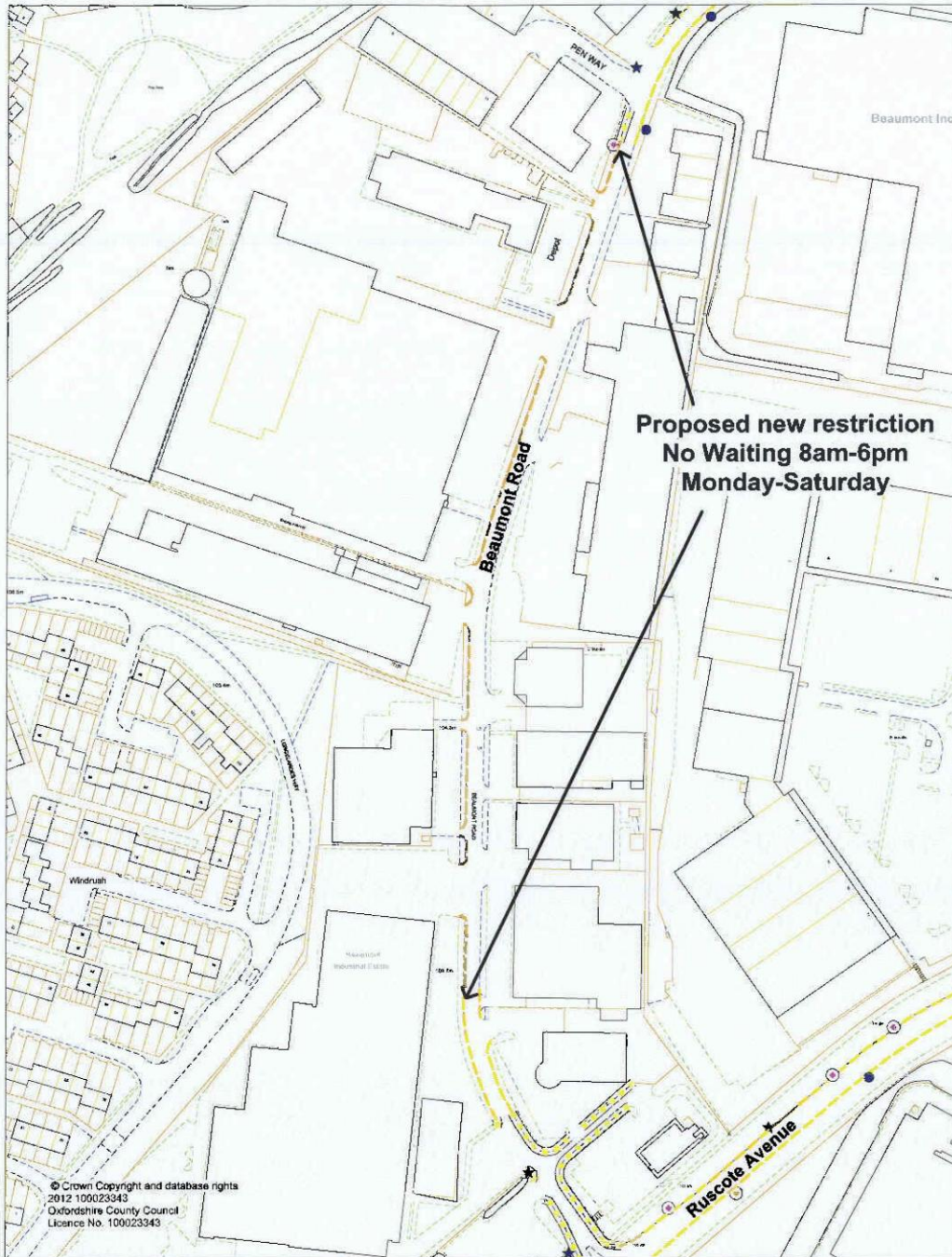
Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Consultation documentation

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January 2013

ANNEX 2



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**Banbury: Beaumont Road
Proposed waiting restrictions**

SCALE	1 : 2200
DATE	Dec 2012
DRAWING No.	TRO/MDH
DRAWN BY	

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

A) Proposed parking restrictions Nursery Drive and Foundry Street, Banbury

Respondent	Comment	Officer response
Station Manager Banbury Fire Station	Has no adverse comments on the proposals.	Noted
A resident of Nursery Drive	Agrees with the parking restrictions but disappointed that the yellow lines will only come up to his neighbour's property. This would just move the problem. Both he and his wife are disabled and totally rely on the use of their car. He fears the proposal will cause a problem if a vehicle is parked opposite or to the right of their steep driveway which will make it difficult to get their car off the driveway and this has happened in the past, and he has great difficulty and pain in manoeuvring his vehicle.	If approved, the restrictions would be monitored with a view to exploring further restrictions at a future date if problems persist. It would also be possible to install advisory white access protection (WAP) road markings to help protect against indiscriminate parking.
	Suggests that the yellow lines continue to the turning point around no. 31 Nursery Drive which is the original end of the road when it was first constructed. Beyond this point the houses are more modern, the road is wider and therefore access is easier.	The extent of the proposed restrictions mirrors the details that were informally consulted upon in 2010, The road is slightly wider from a 'turning point' at the entrances to property no's 33/35, but shortly after this the road has a slight bend which negates this minor increase in width (of about a metre).
A resident of Nursery Drive	Suggests that it would be better to extend the proposal through to a position outside no. 33. After this point the road is wider and parking will not restrict through traffic.	The extent of the proposed restrictions mirrors the details that were informally consulted upon in 2010,

	<p>Under the present proposal which is certainly an improvement on the present situation, if vehicles are parked outside 27, 29, 31 and also outside numbers 20 and 22 then there will be little space for the through traffic which will create other difficulties.</p>	<p>The road is slightly wider from a 'turning point' at the entrances to property no's 33/35, but shortly after this the road has a slight bend which negates this minor increase in width (of about a metre).</p>
<p>A resident of Nursery Drive</p>	<p>Although grateful for what is proposed feels they may still have a problem with parking as the vehicles at present causing the problem will just move to the area beyond the boundary to their driveways.</p> <p>Nursery Drive was originally built as a Cul-de-sac with staggered driveways to allow for a narrow roadway i.e. 16 feet in width up to No's 26 on the left and No's 39 on the right with turning access outside No's 35 & 37. This part of Nursery Drive was built with an access road being one of the narrowest in the town at 16 feet and is practically impossible to turn into the driveways with cars parked opposite. It would be great if the parking restrictions could be extended to No's 26 and 29 to cover the narrow road area.</p>	<p>If approved, the restrictions would be monitored with a view to exploring further restrictions at a future date if problems persist. The extent of the proposed restrictions mirrors the details that were informally consulted upon in 2010,</p>
	<p>The 'traffic restrictions notice' in the Nursery Lane (Right of Way) has been positioned in the wrong place as it still allows at least two cars to park in the lane causing an obstruction, it requires moving forward to the yellow line boundary. This maybe a local Council problem along with the tree and bush management of the dangerous overhanging trees from the old ambulance station which are unavoidably hit by anything other than a car.</p>	<p>This matter will be referred to Countryside Services who manage this Public Right of Way. The overhanging tree will need to be inspected and dealt with, if it is a highway tree. If it is on private land then an enforcement notice will need to be raised to the landowner concerned.</p>

	<p>Also there have been quite a number of near misses with pedestrians and cyclists who come straight out of Nursery Lane thinking they have the right of way walking down the middle of the road instead of using the footpath, sometimes causing aggravation between driver and pedestrians or cyclist.</p> <p>A sign saying Pedestrians and cyclists give way, cross with care and use footpath provided should be displayed at the end of the lane.</p>	<p>If the proposals are approved, the presence of a single yellow line should help to remind pedestrians and cyclists that they are entering a main carriageway.</p>
	<p>Who is going to enforce these parking restrictions as we have been without a full time traffic warden for about 5 years and about 3 years without any kind of enforcement officer. There seems to be some confusion as to whom between Police and Council is responsible for employing the traffic warden. This is probably why there is a blatant abuse of the restricted parking area's in Banbury be it single or double yellow lines.</p>	<p>As parking enforcement in the Cherwell District has not been decriminalised, the responsibility remains with Thames Valley Police.</p>
<p>A resident of Nursery Drive</p>	<p>Relieved to read the plans for parking in the street. There is shunting of cars trying to get a space, and doors banging etc. from 8.00am all day. Sometimes as many as 16 cars are parked. HGVs have to use the pavement to go up or down the street. They hope the plan is put into action.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>A resident of Nursery Drive</p>	<p>In agreement with the proposed waiting restrictions. However, would like to see the restrictions extended to include Saturdays and ideally Sundays too for the section of Foundry Street between Cope Road and Nursery Drive. This is because access to a garage (and hence off road</p>	<p>The proposals are primarily aimed at preventing the indiscriminate parking which takes place by non-residents on weekdays. It would also be possible to install advisory white access protection (WAP) road markings adjacent</p>

	<p>parking space) is within this section of road which is always very congested with vehicles. They have a very disabled son who has to visit at weekends and finds it frequently difficult to manoeuvre his wheelchair-adapted vehicle into (and especially out of) our parking space due to the on-street parking. Secondly, congestion along this section of road makes access for emergency vehicles quite difficult.</p>	<p>to the single yellow line to help discourage indiscriminate parking outside the restriction hours.</p>
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B) Proposed parking restrictions Beaumont Road (industrial estate), Banbury

Respondent	Comment	Officer response
<p>A business on Beaumont Road</p>	<p>Welcomes the proposed restrictions however they can see one problem which is that there should be a minimum distance with double yellow lines on the entrances to the properties along the opposite side of the road where parking will be allowed. This already occurs at the moment when vehicles park so close to the entrance that HGV vehicles cannot enter or exit sites without shunting backward or forward and also restricts visibility for safe exit from sites. They hope that when finalising the plans for the change that yellow lines will be introduced at the entrances to businesses along the allowed parking (east) side of the road.</p>	<p>In drawing up the proposals, officers were asked to promote removing daytime parking on only one side of the road; the west side of the road was chosen as it has the most private entrances to businesses, which would therefore require the removal of more parking. The restrictions will be monitored, and if individual business units wish it, advisory white access protection (WAP) road markings can be installed at the same time as any new markings are provided.</p>
	<p>The root cause of the parking problem relates to staff that don't use a car park because it is too far to walk back to their workplace.</p>	<p>The reduction in on-street parking resulting from the proposals is likely to lead to staff parking further away and, depending on availability of alternatives, may encourage better use of this off-street car park.</p>

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<p>A business on Beaumont Road</p>	<p>Welcome the proposals as it would be excellent news as traffic flow has been an increasing problem over the last few years on this estate.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>A business on Beaumont Road</p>	<p>Very pleased that the waiting restrictions are to be extended on the west side but concerned that the restrictions currently in place are not enforced and so question how the new restrictions will be enforced on a regular basis. Lorries regularly park on Beaumont Road while waiting for their delivery slots to the various businesses in the area. There is currently a daytime no waiting restriction in this area which seems to be completely ignored and unenforced. Although they would welcome any move which will improve the safety and traffic flow on Beaumont Road for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users, this must be enforced or any costs incurred will be a complete waste of funding and resources.</p>	<p>As parking enforcement in the Cherwell District has not been decriminalised, the responsibility remains with Thames Valley Police.</p>