

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 27 MARCH 2014

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS BURFORD ROAD/MOOR AVENUE, WITNEY

Report by Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report presents objections received in the course of the statutory consultation on a proposal to introduce waiting restrictions on Moor Avenue and Burford Road in the vicinity of Tower Hill Community School.

Background

2. A contribution for introducing waiting restrictions in this area was obtained from developers of adjacent land in view of concerns over the dangers posed by cars parking close to the junction of Burford Road (including the service road) and Moor Avenue, in particular at school journey times given the parking related to the adjacent Tower Hill Community Primary School.
3. A consultation on more extensive proposals for waiting restrictions was carried out in June and July 2013 but in view of the responses received, revised proposals – comprising more limited lengths of road where waiting restrictions are proposed – were prepared. Following discussions on these with County Councillor Price, Tower Hill Community Primary School and the Police, it was agreed to take these to public consultation. These proposals are shown at Annex 1.

Consultation

4. The consultation on the revised proposals was carried out between 9 January and 7 February 2014. Details of the proposals were sent to properties within the vicinity of the proposed restrictions and also to formal consultees. Public notices were also displayed on site and in the Oxford Times. These documents, together with supporting documentation and plans were deposited for public inspection at West Oxfordshire District Council Town Centre Shop, Witney Library, and County Hall. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.
5. Three objections were received from residents of Burford Road and Moor Avenue which are summarised at Annex 2. One objection related to a concern that the proposals would lead to a displacement of the parking resulting in significant inconvenience for residents of the Burford Road service road in particular. A related concern was that the proposals should either include waiting restrictions on the full length of the Burford Road service road, or none at all, on the grounds that the plans did nothing to address the present

problems and could risk aggravating them by displacement. The last objection, however, was on the grounds that parents should not face further difficulties in dropping off or picking up children from the school, and that the school time congestion was of very short duration.

6. A further respondent supported the proposals but raised wider concerns about obstruction and damage to verges in the vicinity. Thames Valley Police have not objected and the proposals reflect the outcome of a site meeting held between officers, police, the local member County Councillor Laura Price and a representative of the school.
7. In response to the points raised by the objectors it is considered that the reduced extent of the proposals strikes a reasonable balance between the desire to keep parked cars away from the areas where children cross to access the school and the need to avoid creating further problems from nearby residents.

How the Project supports LTP3 Objectives

8. The proposals would help reduce the risk of accidents and improve road safety.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

9. Full funding for the proposal has been secured from a section 106 agreement from the developers of adjacent land. The appraisal of the proposals and consultation has been undertaken by Environment & Economy officers as part of their normal duties.

RECOMMENDATION

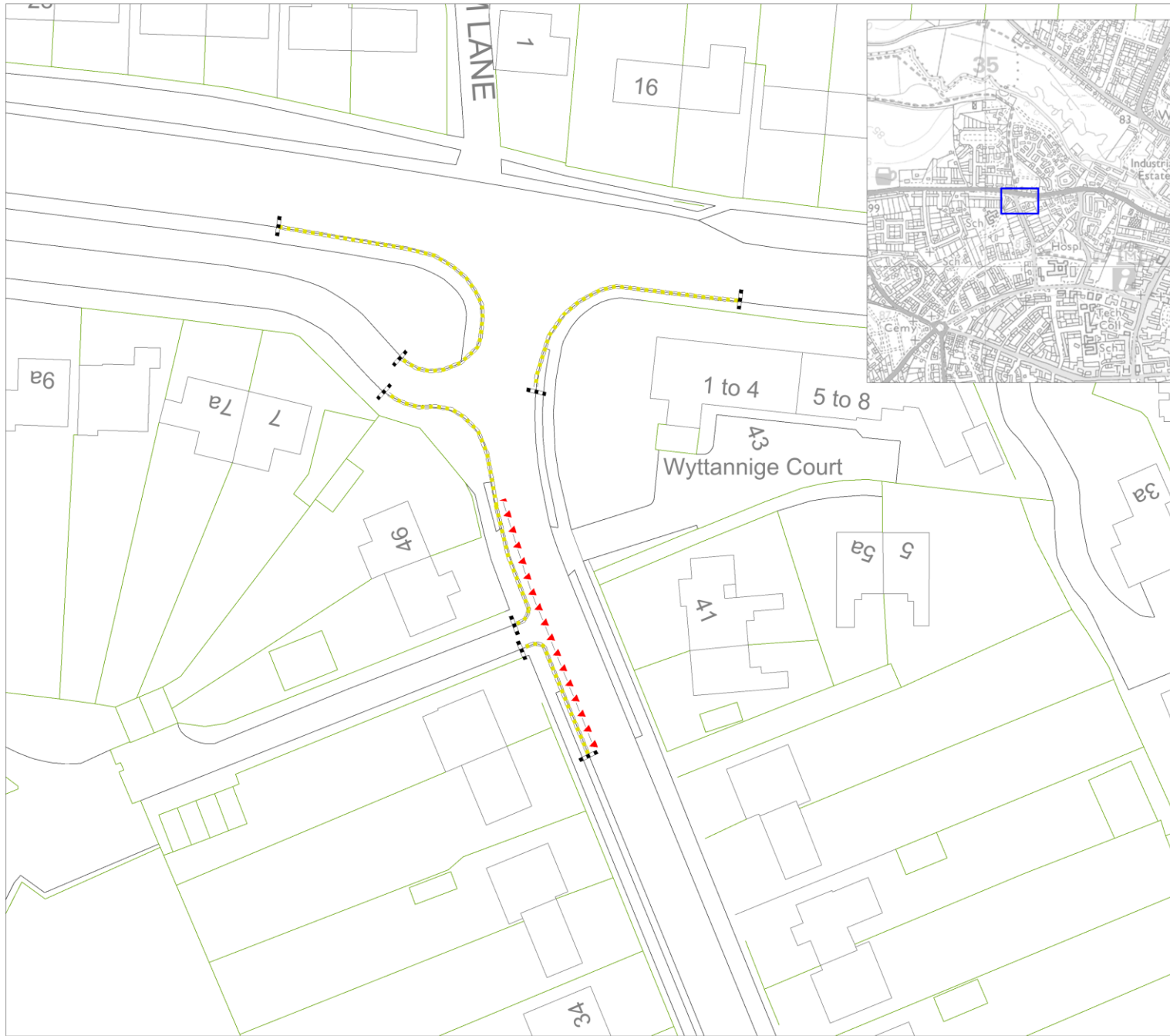
10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve implementation of parking restrictions on Burford Road/Moor Avenue, Witney as advertised and set out in this report.**

MARK KEMP
Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Consultation documentation

Contact Officers: Jim Daughton 01865 323364

March 2014



Drawing No. Revision 1

- Proposed double yellow lines
- Proposed end point of double yellow lines
- Existing school 'Zig-Zag' lining (to remain)

Site Location

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OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
 Mark Kemp
 Deputy Director - Commercial
 Environment and Economy
 Oxfordshire County Council
 Speedwell House
 Speedwell Street
 Oxford
 OX1 1NE
 Tel: (01865) 815700
 Fax: (01865) 241577

**CABINET MEMBER
 FOR ENVIRONMENT
 27 MARCH 2014**

**MOOR AVENUE, WITNEY
 PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS**

Drawing Status		
Drawn by: CJM	Checked by:	Approved by:
Date drawn: 14/02/2014	Date checked:	Date approved:

Drawing No. Revision 1

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

RESPONDENT	COMMENT	OFFICER RESPONSE
Thames Valley Police	Following a site visit with local councillors and OCC, residents' concerns about parking controls adjacent to frontages and entrances is reflected in these amended proposals . The shortened section into the Burford Road service road together with extended sections to cover the main A40 junction areas are understood. The school informal zig zag markings are also included appropriately. Thames Valley Police have no further comment or objections to the proposals.	Noted.
Resident Burford Road	<p>By putting double yellow lines in place you will just be moving the problem further up the road. We suffer from really inconsiderate parking when parents collect children from Tower Hill School resulting in residents not being able to access or leave their properties during this time and getting abusive insults from parents who are waiting to collect their children from school.</p> <p>This is a particular concern as it will likely result in parking on Burford Road that will obstruct access for special schools transport for my son with the potential to cause him and myself great distress; another nearby resident will face the same potential difficulty.</p> <p>Either put double yellow lines up all the road or leave as it is. Please do not make the situation any worse by pushing the problem along the road.</p>	<p>It is considered that the reduced extent of the proposals strikes a reasonable balance between the desire to keep parked cars away from the areas where children cross to access the school and the need to avoid creating further problems from nearby residents.</p> <p>Whilst only advisory, White Access Protection markings can be very effective in keeping driveways clear in situations such as this.</p>
Resident Burford Road	We are extremely disappointed in your proposed new set of plans for the parking in our cul de sac. The first set of proposed double yellow lines were better than your second effort, which has left us all mystified as to	The earlier proposals received a greater number of objections from residents than these revised

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	<p>why you reduced the double yellows to allow more thoughtless parking of school parents cars in the cul de sac.</p> <p>This new proposal does nothing to cure the obstructive parking that goes on further up in the close, the parking over our driveways, the parking in the turning circle at the end and the abuse of parents to residents. All you are doing is curing the parking around the junction but pushing the problem further into our road. This parking restriction does us no favours whatsoever and none of our complaints have been taken into account. The speeding vehicles that race past our houses to the turning circle and then race back to get a space as near to the school as possible is a hazard and danger not only to the residents but to the parents and their children. If you dare say anything you get a mouthful of abuse. You have appeased the school parents by letting them still park wherever they want, and you have done nothing for the residents who live in amongst it all.</p>	<p>proposals have.</p> <p>These proposals focus on keeping parked cars away from the areas where children cross to access the school.</p> <p>Whilst only advisory, white access protection markings can be very effective in keeping driveways clear in situations such as this.</p>
<p>Resident Burford Road</p>	<p>Objection on grounds that parents need to drop off and pick up their children from the school. Parents having to park further away would have to unload their younger preschool children, just to take their school child a few 100 yards up the road to school. This would be very stressful for parents and cause unnecessary hardship. Not aware of any accidents at this junction and the congestion that the school run causes is only for a very short while in the morning and after school.</p>	<p>The proposals are intended to keep parked cars away from the areas where children cross the road to access the school.</p>
<p>Resident Moor Avenue</p>	<p>The planned proposal of double yellow lines at the Burford Rd, Moor Ave is an excellent idea but regulations are of little use if they are not enforced. There is chaos when the school day starts and ends.</p> <p>Would consideration be given to the placing of some posts or bollards on the corner near No. 46 to prevent vehicles blocking the kerb and parking on this pavement?</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The parking restriction applies to the footway as well as the carriageway so bollards should not be required, but this will be kept under review.</p>