

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 16 JANUARY 2020

BANBURY - NORAL WAY: PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Report by Director of Infrastructure Delivery, Communities

Recommendation

1. The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve proposed no waiting at any time restrictions on Noral Way as advertised.

Executive summary

2. Waiting restrictions are reviewed when there are changes to the road layout or usage as a result of development, and when requested by the local member or local councils due to concerns over parking obstructing traffic and / or being detrimental to road safety.

Introduction

3. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation to introduce and amend waiting restrictions on Noral Way, Banbury.

Background

4. The above proposals as shown at Annex 1 have been put forward because of concerns raised over obstruction and danger to road users posed by current parking in the road as a result of increased use of the road by goods vehicles.

Consultation

5. Formal consultation on the proposals was carried out between 14 November and 13 December 2019. A public notice was placed in the Banbury Guardian newspaper and sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Banbury Town Council, Cherwell District Council and the local County Councillor. Street notices were placed on site and letters sent to 42 properties in the immediate vicinity, adjacent to the proposals.
6. Eighteen responses were received. One objection, sixteen in support and one neither objecting nor supporting. The responses are recorded at Annex 2 with copies of the full responses available for inspection by County Councillors.
7. The objection from a business representing ownership of Units 1b, 2a & 2b of Banbury Office Village concerned the removal of areas of permitted parking in

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Noral Way on the grounds that that parking was an important provision for both local business and residents and that its loss would have an impact on the appeal of Banbury Office Village to inward investing companies seeking to locate their operations to premises in the Banbury area and also expressed the view that the current parking did not create an obstruction or adversely affect traffic safety on Noral Way.

8. Thames Valley Police expressed no objection to the proposals but noted the significant pressure for parking in the road.
9. Banbury Town Council expressed support for the proposals also requesting that a yellow box marking be provided at the eastern end of the road to prevent vehicles waiting to enter the premises here obstructing the turning area. The Council also asked if consideration had been given to the displacement of the vehicles currently parked where restrictions are proposed.
10. Cherwell District Council also expressed support for the proposals and similarly requested provision of a yellow box marking at the eastern end of the road.
11. Expressions of support were received from four local businesses including the Hardwick Business Park on the grounds that the current parking resulted in obstruction and danger, including the obstruction of visibility for turning vehicles and for pedestrians crossing the road. However, some responses also noted that the current lengths of no waiting at any time restriction were frequently not complied with.
12. Eleven expressions of support were also received from residents also on the grounds of the current obstruction and road safety hazards caused by the current parking.

Response to objection and other representations

13. The objection from the owners of Units 1b, 2a & 2b of Banbury Office Village is noted and it is accepted that the parking provision within the Banbury Office Village site is limited. The current parking restrictions – approved at the Cabinet Member for Environment decisions meeting on 8 October 2015 – sought to strike a balance between providing some on street parking provision while also helping to address concerns over the obstruction of the road by parked vehicles.
14. Taking account of the significant increase of traffic in the road and particularly that of goods vehicles since 2015 it is, however, considered - taking account also the high levels of support for the proposals - that they are required and are proportionate to the problems now being reported in the road.
15. Noting the query from Banbury Town Council on the displacement of the current parking to other locations, monitoring will be carried out to assess this and the need for possible further measures to address any problems which might be caused. Businesses also need to look at availability for parking areas within their own curtilages, plus the attractiveness of alternative means

of transport for staff getting to these sites. The current bus service along the Southam Road will be improved from August 2020 with a 30-minute service in place. There are existing cycling and walking links and these will be reviewed as part of planned improvements along the Southam Road corridor.

16. Provision of a yellow box marking at the eastern end of the road will be discussed with the police and, if agreed, installed at the same time as the implementation of the waiting restrictions should the latter be approved.
17. It is accepted that the resources currently available for enforcing waiting restrictions are under severe pressure and that that is unlikely to change ahead of civil enforcement of parking restrictions being introduced in the district.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

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

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

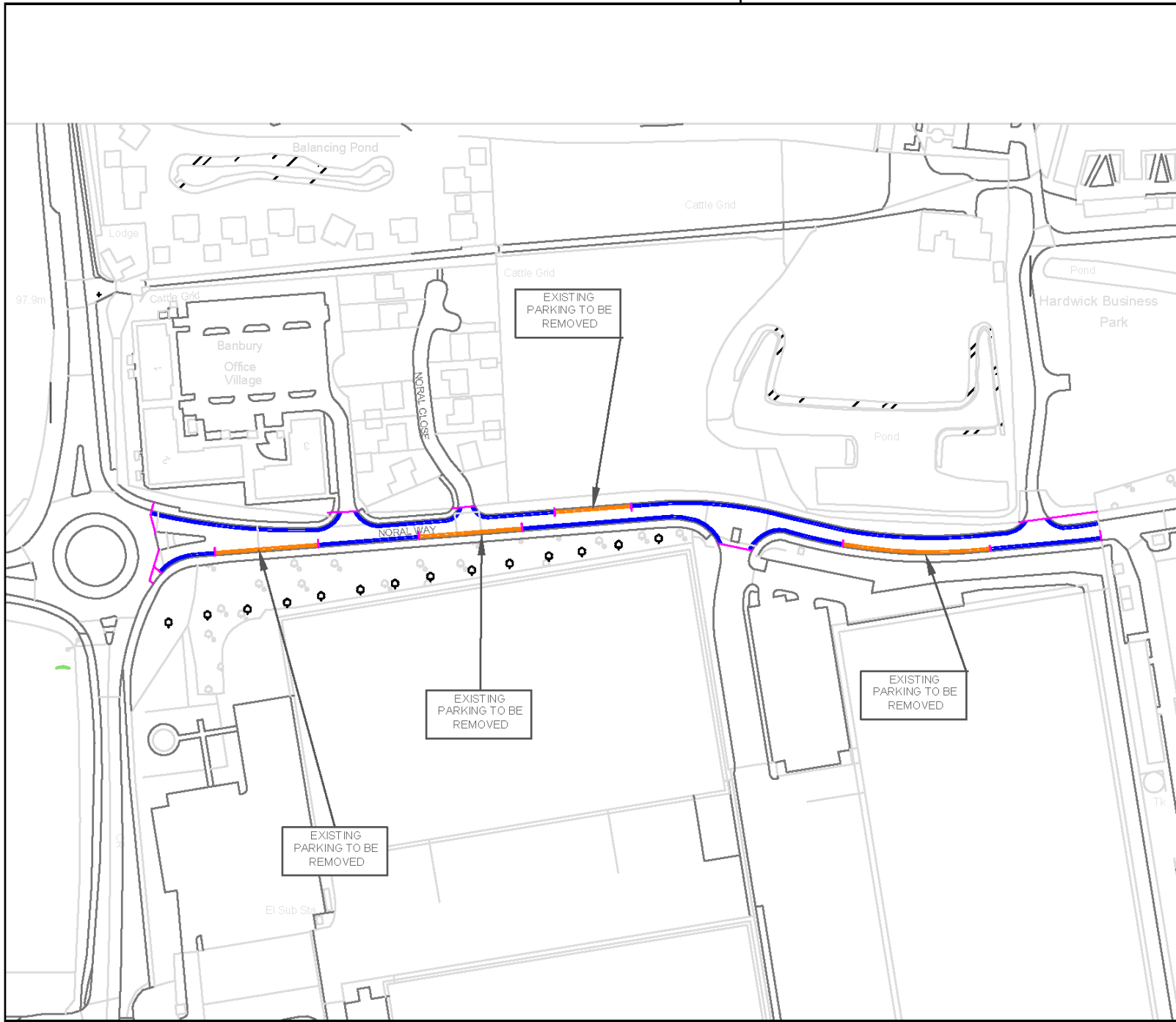
19. Funding for the proposed measures has been provided by a local business.

JASON RUSSELL
Interim Director for Community Operations

Background papers: Plans of proposed waiting restrictions
 Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704
 Mike Wasley 07393 001045

January 2020



Drawing No. Parish 120	Revision						
KEY TO RESTRICTION							
	No Waiting (Existing Double Yellow Line)						
	No Waiting (Proposed Double Yellow Line)						
ALL RESTRICTIONS ARE NEW UNLESS OTHERWISE MARKED							
© Crown Copyright and Database rights 1 0023343 2017							
Rev.	Date						
Purpose of revision	Drawn						
Checked	Approved						
<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle; font-size: x-small; margin-left: 10px;"> Owen Jenkins Director of Communities & Operations Oxfordshire County Council County Hall New Road Oxford OX1 1ND Tel: 0845 310 1111 </div>							
Project title							
Proposed Parking Restrictions							
Drawing title							
Noral Way - Banbury							
Drawing Status							
Scale @ A3	Consultation						
NTS	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="font-size: x-small;">Drawn by LN</td> <td style="font-size: x-small;">Checked by MW</td> <td style="font-size: x-small;">Approved by MW</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="font-size: x-small;">Date drawn 04/10/2019</td> <td style="font-size: x-small;">Date checked 04/10/2019</td> <td style="font-size: x-small;">Date approved 04/10/2019</td> </tr> </table>	Drawn by LN	Checked by MW	Approved by MW	Date drawn 04/10/2019	Date checked 04/10/2019	Date approved 04/10/2019
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Date drawn 04/10/2019	Date checked 04/10/2019	Date approved 04/10/2019					
Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref							
Parish 120							
Drawing No.	Revision						

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection – understand the justification but could expect some comment from residents in the consultation due to pressure for parking.
(2) Banbury Town Council	Support – This was considered at Banbury Traffic Advisory Committee last week. The Committee agree with Noral Way parking restrictions provided that a “yellow box” is provided at the eastern end for turning vehicles. I was also asked to seek OCC confirmation that they have considered the displacement of the cars/vans parked.
(3) Cherwell District Council	Support – there is a current planning application on Noral Way and am aware of the traffic issues at present and the District would support this measure being put in place. Further to my comments below, later last week and this week I have discussed this issue with colleagues in the Council and the CEO of DCS, the business at the end of Noral Way. It has been suggested that a yellow hashed box is put in place over the access to Hardwick Business Park to stop lorries accessing DCS from waiting in front of this access. This is something that the Council would support.
(4) Hardwick Business Park	Support – On behalf of all companies and residents at Hardwick Business Park, we would be very happy for double yellow lines along the entire length of Noral Way. Could we also request for a Yellow Grid Box at Hardwick Business Park entrance as lorries continuously block our access in and out, because they have to wait on Noral Way for access onto DCS premises.
(5) Local Business, (Banbury)	Object - Representing ownership of Units 1b, 2a & 2b of Banbury Office Village, we object to the removal of areas of permitted parking in Noral Way. The permitted parking provides an important provision for both local business and residents. The loss of this parking will have an impact on the appeal of Banbury Office Village to inward investing

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	<p>companies seeking to locate their operations to premises in the Banbury locality. The authority should be seeking to support business and facilitate the ability for staff to access their place of work and visitors to have sufficient areas to park. The same applies to residents within the recently developed Noral Way scheme.</p> <p>We do not agree that the parking creates an obstruction or impacts on the safety of traffic movements along Noral Way.</p>
(6) Local Business, (Banbury)	<p>Support - Noral Way has become dangerous with illegal parking from vans waiting for Amazon and the entrance to Hardwick Business Park unusable at times due to the lorries waiting to get into DCS and DCS not having an appropriate entranceway for a distribution unit. This disrupts our entry and exit to the offices and therefore disrupts our business. It is dangerous pulling out between waiting lorries and then only having a single carriageway to drive down due to the parking bays and illegal parking. If a yellow box could also be considered outside the entrance to Hardwick Business Park at least leaving the site will be safer.</p>
(7) Local Business, (Banbury)	<p>Support - I fully support the proposed parking restrictions on Noral Way.</p> <p>The road is too narrow for parking anywhere along its length.</p> <p>I have several employees, including some with disabilities, who walk to work down Noral Way and find crossing in-between parked HGVs and high vans to be difficult and dangerous.</p> <p>If double yellow lines run the entire length it will need to be enforced. The partial double yellow lines already present are frequently ignored.</p>
(8) Local Resident, (Banbury)	<p>Support - The current parking and waiting significantly increases the risk of traffic collisions and pedestrian injuries due to (i) residents from Noral Close being unsighted while turning onto Noral Way, (ii) pedestrians being unsighted to oncoming vehicles and HGVs due to the proximity of the waiting areas to the roundabout and (iii) the effective transformation of the road into a single lane carriageway with HGV traffic proceeding in both directions</p>

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<p>(9) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - We live in Noral Close off Noral Way, the parking bay across the junction of Noral close when in use, poses an unsafe right turn into oncoming traffic. There have been several near misses with HGV`s that frequently use Noral Way to transport goods.</p> <p>To add the no waiting (double yellow lines) will improve the safety of the turning and allow free flowing traffic for the businesses along Noral Way.</p>
<p>(10) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - As a local resident, the proposed double yellow lines along Noral Way cannot come soon enough. There has been an increase of white vans parking along the road during the day and night and even over the weekends causing a huge amount of congestion. Only today I witnessed a HGV having to reverse down the road to allow an oncoming HGV to pass due to the parked vehicles. The road is not wide enough to allow the safe flow of traffic with the current parking bays. Van drivers are also coming into Noral Close and using residents` driveways to turn around, an annoyance in itself. It is not only white vans that use the bays but HGV's despite signage forbidding parking. There have been instances where my family have been kept awake due to HGV drivers keeping their engine running at night. There is also an increase of rubbish including bottles of urine, which are being discarded in the hedgerow beside the road. The junction of Noral Way and Noral Close is particularly dangerous as residents have to exit the junction and enter the carriageway on the wrong side of the road due to a parking bays being located opposite the junction.</p>
<p>(11) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - This road has become very dangerous due to the number of vans parking and restricting the road to one lane. The number of HGV's along with the two business industrial sites and residential site all off Noral Way, the congestion has caused several near misses including HGV's having to sometimes reverse on the main road.</p>
<p>(12) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support – Dangerous, Disruptive, Environmental Impact when lorries leave their engines running.</p>
<p>(13) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - The volume of traffic has increased to a dangerous level. Additionally, there is a health and safety issue as obstructive vision when turning in and out of the junction as well as an environmental impact due to HGV vehicles leaving engines running.</p>

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<p>(14) Local Resident, (Resident of Noral Close - adjacent to Noral Way)</p>	<p>Support - It is very obvious that nothing has been done so far to resolve this issue. Residents of Noral Close are constantly having to drive on the wrong side of the road when turning into Noral Way. There will be a serious accident if the bays across from Noral Close entrance and the entire length of Noral Way are not removed. Having found myself driving head on towards a moving HGV is no laughing matter. On numerous occasions the road is gridlocked. The Amazon depot have told their delivery staff to no longer park their white vans within their own car park so Noral Way is now being used as a car park instead.</p>
<p>(15) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - We are extremely lucky that there hasn't been an accident to date. I witnessed a HGV having to reverse on Noral Way to let another one come down the road. Thank you for your assistance.</p>
<p>(16) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - i strongly support this decision as it has become worse and worse getting in and out the close safely. i have 2 girls aged 7 and have had on a couple of occasions a near miss to having a crash with my girls ay the back. I got stuck with a huge lorry coming in the opposite direction and with vans and lorries parking along or either side of the road nowhere to go!!! and we cannot see any oncoming traffic as the view is always blocked so so dangerous!</p>
<p>(17) Local Resident, (Banbury)</p>	<p>Support - The parking of vehicles in Noral Way Banbury, is a constantly threat to the residents and general public. The large trucks and vans blocking the view of incoming drivers makes a very dangerous road for drivers and pedestrians particularly children's who are walking to the school. I am 100% I favour of parking restriction</p>
<p>(18) Local Resident, (Banbury, Noral Close)</p>	<p>Support - No comments.</p>