ITEM TIC8

TRANSPORT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE - 20 JULY 2006

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (BICESTER) (TRAFFIC REGULATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 200*

Report by Head of Transport

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to consider objections received during formal advertisement of a draft order and to determine whether or not that draft order should be made or amended.

Background

- 2. Following requests received by members of the public, forwarded both on an individual basis and via Town Councillors through the Traffic Advisory Forum, the Northern Area office agreed to investigate the potential for improvements to the junctions of Cedar Drive and Woodfield Road with Buckingham Road in Bicester. Initially this was intended to be completed in conjunction with a residents parking scheme promoted by Cherwell District Council. However, support from residents was not sufficient to justify the scheme and it was considered that the protection of the junction was still an important issue.
- 3. The basis of the concern was parking (mainly by commuters using the nearby Chiltern Rail Link to London) right up to and on the junctions with Buckingham Road causing visibility problems for vehicles accessing and egressing these side roads.

Consultation

- 4. The Draft Order was advertised in the Bicester Advertiser on 28 April 2006 for 28 days. At the same time copies of the Draft Order and Notice together with copies of Drawing N° LEH/129/Wood/Cedar were sent to statutory consultees. Notices were also posted on the affected roads.
- 5. In total six letters containing comments in respect of these proposals were received including support from Thames Valley Police and the local County Councillor. A summary of all written responses received is set out at Annex 1.

Environmental Implications and Local Transport Plan Justification

- 6. Implementation of restrictions to protect the junctions will reduce the hazard currently being experienced and at Woodfield Road will improve access for pedestrians to the footways on either side, which are currently blocked by parked vehicles.
- 7. It is acknowledged that the proposals will lead to some displacement of parked vehicles but the safety of road users at these junctions is of primary importance and we will seek to consider further measures around this area, including dialogue with Chiltern Railways and Cherwell District Council, once the full effect of these restrictions has been observed.

Financial and Staff Implications

8. The introduction of these waiting restrictions will cost approximately £2000 funded from the Environment and Economy Traffic Aids Budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. The Committee is RECOMMENDED to authorise the making of the Oxfordshire County Council (Bicester) (Traffic Regulation) (Amendment) Order 200* as originally advertised without amendment.

STEVE HOWELL Head of Transport

Background Papers: Consultation documentation and correspondence received.

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July 2006

ANNEX 1

RESPONDENT	COMMENT	OFFICER RESPONSE
Thames Valley Police	Support for all proposals	Noted
Resident Bassett Avenue	Concern re displacement	Advised scheme was mainly for junction protection and that a resident scheme had already been proposed but unsuccessful
Resident Cedar Drive	Concern re displacement	Would consider further restrictions and that a resident scheme had already been proposed but unsuccessful
Resident Cedar Drive	Concern re displacement	Would consider further restrictions but would seek to liaise with Chiltern rail rather than affect residents parking capacity
Resident Cedar Drive	Concern re displacement	Would consider further restrictions, but current proposals are to address junction protection
Resident Cedar Drive	Support with additional concern over obstruction	Will provide access protection to alleviate concerns

