

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 9 JANUARY 2014

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS ENSTONE

**Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy
(Commercial)**

Introduction

1. This report considers objections to a formal consultation on proposals to introduce new parking restrictions along a short stretch of road adjacent to A44 Oxford Road in Enstone.

Background

2. The proposals in this report were requested by Cllr Hibbert-Biles to address concerns that uncontrolled parking on the service road off Oxford Road was damaging trade to local businesses, particularly the village Post Office and shop, and the dangers caused by vehicles parking too close to the junction with A44. To deal with these issues a 30-minute limit on parking was proposed along with some double yellow lines to keep the junction clear. These proposals are shown at Annex 1.

Consultation

3. In October 2013 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 County Hall and at Chipping Norton Library. They are also available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre
4. A total of 43 responses were received regarding the proposals which are summarised at Annex 2.
5. Around 47% of respondents object to the proposals, another 47% support the proposals and the remainder have mixed views. The key points raised by respondents are:-
 - (a) The half hour waiting limit is clearly not long enough for the beauty salon
 - (b) The proposal favours Adams Stores (the Post Office) at the expense of others
 - (c) There are 5 adjacent residences with no immediate alternative parking – residents permits should be issued
 - (d) The road is currently congested & unsafe

- (e) There isn't really a problem so leave 'as is'

Several respondents also put forward alternative suggestions.

6. The scale of the responses and the issues raised have been discussed with Cllr Hibbert-Biles who has suggested that the 30-minute restriction be changed to a maximum stay of 2-hours; it is understood that both businesses are content with such a limit. With regard to the needs of residents who have no off-street parking, the proposed restriction only applies to one side of the service road and it is considered that adequate space will remain for these residents' needs; the facility of residents' permits is not currently available in West Oxfordshire.
7. Several respondents, including the Parish Council have suggested that the service road be made 'one-way' to improve safety. Such a change would require a separate consultation and, if approved, additional signing. County Council funding for such a project is currently not available.

Conclusion

8. In the light of the responses received and the subsequent proposed changes put forward by Cllr Hibbert-Biles it is suggested that the advertised restrictions do not proceed but instead a limit on parking of 2-hours be implemented.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

9. The cost of the advertising and consultation have been met from S106 funds but the works described in this report will be met from Cllr Hibbert-Biles Area Stewardship Fund.

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed parking restrictions for Enstone as advertised and amended as described in this report.**

Mark Kemp
Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Highways & Transport)




Background papers: Consultation documentation

Contact Officers: Jim Daughton 01865 815803

December 2013



Drawing No. Revision 2

-  Existing double yellow lines
-  Proposed limited parking bay (approx. 25m)
-  Proposed double yellow lines

 Site Location

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CABINET MEMBER
FOR ENVIRONMENT
JANUARY 2014

ENSTONE
PROPOSED LIMITED WAITING BAY

Drawing Status		
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Approved by:
CJM		
Date drawn:	Date checked:	Date approved:
16/12/2013		

Drawing No. Revision 2

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

RESPONDENT	COMMENT	OFFICER RESPONSE
Thames Valley Police	no complaints have been generated from increased parking due to the success of the retail business to my knowledge no objection to the proposal but suggests an additional short section of 30 minute waiting directly in front of the shop together with no waiting at any time in front of the double gated area only	Noted. In view of the responses received, no additional restrictions are proposed.
Enstone Parish Council	Enstone Parish Council held its meeting last night at which over twenty residents attended to discuss the consultation. 5 Parish Councillors voted in favour of the proposals & 4 voted against as there are five residents who have no parking available at their home and it would cause great disruption to these residents and many other people and cause disruption to village life. All 9 Councillors voted against the proposal of double yellow lines as this would further limit parking space availability. The Parish Council voted unanimously that there should be a one way system to gain access to and from the shop. Hilary Hibbert-Biles was present at the meeting.	Noted. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The short lengths of double yellow lines are to improve safety at the junction. A one way restriction would require further consultation.
Steve & Mandy Kempson Adams Stores Oxford Road Enstone	Express their full backing. They took over the running of Adams Stores nearly three years ago and have introduced a number of different areas. Customers drive away when there is nowhere to park. They have a number of elderly customers and they host the oil syndicate where oil forms are collected. There are problems with obstructive and commuter parking and potential problems for access of emergency service vehicles. Residents will still have all day access to the opposite section of the road as well as the lay-by off the main Oxford Road.	Noted.
Natalie's Beauty Salon The Green Oxford Road Enstone	My Treatments can last between two to three hours. But would have no objection to a Residents Permit Scheme combined with a three hour parking restriction. Also suggests that the Village Green be made smaller and that the Service Road be made one-way to traffic.	The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. The facility of residents' permits is not currently available in West Oxfordshire. A one way restriction would require

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		further consultation.
Resident of The Mount Enstone	Properties 1-4 The Mount and the cottages along the footpath connecting to the Service Road park here, at all times, and the Proposal should only be implemented if an appropriate parking area is found for these properties.	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side.
Resident of The Mount Enstone	Objects. Not everyone has been consulted correctly and that the Village Newsletter reported the matter as being already decided. It puts the needs of one shop above the needs of residents around The Green. Will not improve safety aspects. Suggests one-way traffic on The Green entering from the Chipping Norton end and Residents Parking Permits for the 8 households who have no off-road parking – Would then not object to a one hour waiting restriction without the need to extend the double yellow lines on The Green.	The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. A one way restriction would require further consultation. The facility of residents' permits is not currently available in West Oxfordshire. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. The short lengths of double yellow lines are to improve safety at the junction.
Resident of The Mount Enstone	Objects. What traffic surveys and analyses have been carried out and used to inform these proposals. Not everyone has been consulted correctly and that the Village Newsletter reported the matter as being already decided. Puts the needs of one shop above the needs of residents around The Green. Will not improve safety aspects. Suggests one-way traffic on The Green entering from the Chipping Norton end and Residents Parking Permits for the 8 households who have no off-road parking – Would then not object to a one hour waiting restriction without the need to extend the double yellow lines on The Green.	As above.
Resident of The Mount Enstone	Objects as the proposal is wholly unnecessary as the parking problem is rush hour only and Saturday mornings. This is the second attempt at proposing the same discredited scheme. This is the second attempt at proposing the same discredited scheme previously vetoed by Councillor Ian Hudspeth. The Green provides the only parking and access to ours and several houses and rural housing without somewhere to park is unsellable. It is the shops responsibility to	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side.

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	provide new parking and at the back of Adams Stores is an abandoned farmyard with potential spaces for many tens of cars which as it should be would be a private sector arrangement for additional parking.	
Resident of Chapel Lane Enstone	They are a pensioner and they and their visitors have nowhere else to park. There should be a public meeting regarding this.	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side.
Resident of Chapel Lane Enstone	Objects. Village Newsletter reported the matter as being decided. The Councillor has no idea of the situation and has only responded to the Shopkeepers complaint. They and their visitors park there. The Beauty Salons Treatments take longer than 30 minutes. The Shopkeeper has created the problem, not the existing Residents, and a balanced view needs to be taken.	The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.
Resident of Chapel Lane Enstone	Objects. Does not strike a fair balance between competing needs they and their visitors have no adjacent or immediate parking Natalie's Treatments can last at least 2 hours, 4 restricted spaces is wholly inadequate for the needs of the community enforcement costs of such a proposal are wholly out of proportion properties that abut...the village green will be devalued a public meeting...is not the correct forum but would like a site meeting. Suggests alternatives if there is no option but to change: should be turned into a one way street; should be...permit holder parking...with 2 hour timed restriction; parking immediately outside the front of the shop...should be subject to the 30 minute penalty zone; 3 or 4 metres should be scalloped from the green and nose in parking spaces provided; or simply restrict parking on the shop side and leave the green side untouched.	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. A one way restriction would require further consultation. The facility of residents' permits is not currently available in West Oxfordshire. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.
Resident of Chapel Lane Enstone	The Enstone Parish Council Meeting was polite and reasonable and achieved something of a consensus (if anything needs to be done at all, residents and visitors permits are required) until Cllr Biles turned up (35 mins late). Everyone wants to save the shop, but this proposal is manifestly unfair to residents. The Councillor had nothing to say to say about how the proposal could kill the business next door to the shop (Natalie's). Furthermore, she told residents with no off street parking to simply park down the track which nothing wider than a wheelbarrow could pass. The Parish Council have only said they are worried	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The facility of residents' permits is not currently available in West Oxfordshire. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.

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	about people using the Service Road as a park and ride. How is it that such a proposal can have progressed to this stage, seemingly on a whim of one shopkeeper and a shockingly ignorant Councillor?	The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.
Resident of The Green Enstone	I would like to welcome the proposed plans to apply the parking restriction to the west side as I believe this to be an amicable compromise for all persons.	Noted.
Resident of The Green Enstone	Supports the Proposal because: Adams Stores is an important local resource; They have lived there since 1963 and the parking facility for Adams stores should be maintained; Local Residents will still be able to use the 30 minute spaces overnight and During the working day there are ample spaces in a free car park situated just behind the local Primary School.	Noted.
Resident of The Drive Enstone	In support...but not sure that it goes far enough and suggests that restrictions be introduced to both sides of the road and that a 45 or 60 minute period might be kinder to those who avail themselves of Adams Stores luncheon service and to Beauty Salon customers.	Noted. In view of the responses received, no additional restrictions are proposed. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.
Resident of Cleveley Road Enstone	In support not only for those of us who wish to use the shop and for whatever reason take a vehicle but more importantly to enable the shopkeeper to make a living and not close down. For far too long the area outside the shop has been used by people living near or taking the bus into Oxford. On a number of occasions having walked to the shop, I have found only one person in there but not one single parking place available.	Noted.
Resident of The Paddocks Enstone	The needs and concerns of the whole community should be considered. Suggests that instead of enforcing time limits that the west side be for residential parking for the five houses in need of a parking space and the east side be for customer parking. Others should use the public car park occupying the playing field which is an extremely short walk from the Village Green. The parking is a problem, has long been a problem and will continue to be a problem if not resolved.	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. Noted.
Resident of Enstone	In support of the proposed changes In order to sustain its now very high level of service to local residents the shop (Steve and Mandy) clearly needs more	Noted.

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	customers but on occasions it is impossible to park anywhere close and the modest reduction in long stay parking is well worth the benefit of keeping our shop open.	
Resident of Enstone	Supports the Proposal. Steve and Mandy have built the business up and Any customer lost is totally damaging to them. I find it inexplicable that those who are unlucky enough to have bought houses locally with no parking feel it their right to own a parking space by the shop for their convenience. I also think it is most sensible to not allow people to simply park up in order to go walking or use the bus. Also Natalie seems to run a thriving business and we need to protect our local businesses!	Noted.
Resident of Enstone	Strongly oppose the proposal. It is unfair to the local residents who have no alternative parking and implementing these parking restrictions will cause serious safety issues for them. Parking restrictions should not put one business (Natalie's Beauty Salon) at a disadvantage in order to favour another. The proposal is unnecessary and disruptive as there is only occasionally, at peak times, an issue with parking. They were disappointed and dismayed by the attitude of Councillor Hilary Biles at a local meeting had explained that she had put together these proposals solely on the basis of the local shop owner telling her that he was losing business because there was not enough parking outside his shop and that she did not consider the other local business or the residents because she didn't have to. This proposal should be rejected and Oxfordshire County Council should take into account the needs of ALL parties involved.	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.
Resident of Enstone	Fully support the provision of a time controlled parking system and the much valued local shop run by Mandy and Steve. On occasion have been unable to park due to long term parking including those leaving their cars and catching a bus to Oxford.	Noted.
Resident of Enstone	I hope that a sensible compromise is reached and fully support the parking proposal as it stands. They are very disappointed that some residents have not supported Steve and Mandy as the village shop is now a valuable asset to the community. Their Mother holds a disabled badge and due to people parking to catch the bus to Oxford she is sometimes unable to park outside of the shop and the elderly people of the village rely on the services provided by the shop and this may be their only form of socialising. Their family have lived in the village	Noted.

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	since 1948 and the people opposing the plan have themselves only moved into the village in recent years.	
Resident of Church Enstone	Supports the proposal as Enstone Village Stores are a vital facility for the village and must be given every chance to attract custom by stopping people parking their car for long periods just in front of the business. The number of houses is increasing and the problem could become serious and cause accidents.	Noted.
Resident of Church Enstone	Strongly object They have lived in the village and used the shop for forty years and they have never failed to be able to park Dismayed to read in the Enstone Ensign that thanks to our County Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles the County Council is in the process of installing a 30 minute waiting time. Is a regular customer at Natalie's Beauty Salon and the 30 minute waiting time would make it impossible for the vast majority of her customers to park outside her salon There is plenty of room for residents and the customers of the shop. Residents will simply park in other areas and cause congestion and hazards there.	The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side.
Resident of Church Enstone	In support as It is quite clear that many residents are using the slip road as a permanent parking place and the shop is losing business as a result and It is essential that local shops are supported	Noted.
Resident of Church Enstone	Strongly oppose the plan Enstone It would seem rather heavy-handed to put in the type of parking restrictions that would be found in a busy city-centre and How would these restrictions be supervised and controlled? I have lived in Church Enstone for over 10 years and never has a lack of parking prevented me from using the local shop. Five adjacent houses have no other parking close to their homes which would be inconvenient and devalue their property. Most of Natalies clients need to park their cars for longer than 30 minutes and this would push these clients to park on the Playing Field Association car park and with small children being taken to and from school would be rather dangerous. If necessary then perhaps have 2 or 3 reserved spaces for the two businesses perhaps residents permits and an element of free parking. I hope an alternative approach can be found which covers the needs of the village as whole.	Enforcement will be carried out by West Oxfordshire District council. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. The facility of residents' permits is not currently available in West Oxfordshire.
Resident of Church Enstone	I understand that an initiative put forward by Councillor Hilary Biles may have encountered opposition, primarily from those who use the road as a regular parking space. The clogged Service Road is clearly having a deterrent effect on	Noted.

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	the shops business and sets its face against all of us who depend upon Adams Store. I therefore trust that you and the Council will take the right decision and act in favour of the broader interests of our community against the opposition of the selfish few.	
Local Resident	The proposed restrictions are certainly a step in the right direction However there must be concerns over the dangerous and inconsiderate long term parking on both sides of the access road outside the Post Office Out of restriction hours ANY vehicle wider than a car has to reverse out onto the A44 on a blind bend. In addition to your proposed restrictions the only answer would be double yellow lines immediately outside the Post Office.	Noted. In view of the responses received, no additional restrictions are proposed.
Local Resident	In favour of the original proposal which provides a lifeline for the shop. It is often difficult to park there. We gather some people who we hear have up to three cars but having bought houses nearby with no parking are demanding residential parking on The Green. This is totally unfair as it is a public highway and Adams Store is a vital place for the local community.	Noted.
Local Resident	At the Enstone Parish Council Meeting The Parish Councillors were taken by surprise by the number and strength of the objectors. Councillor Hilary Hibbert-Biles who we thought represented the whole of the community and not one individual was completely out of touch and had no prior knowledge that residents had been parking in the Service Road since motor vehicles had been invented, she didn't know that there was a small alley leading to the cottages which have no vehicle access. I have e-mailed Ian Hudspeth to stop wasting public money on a scheme that clearly will be counterproductive and will in due course have to be removed!	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.
Local Resident	It is quite reasonable to restrict long term and all day parking but to limit it to 30 mins you will simply kill off Natalie's – Parking limit should be 2 hours and then also there is some chance it will be enforced.	Noted. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.
Local Resident	In support of restricted parking outside the village shop as I have on a number of occasions been unable to park so have gone to Chipping Norton or Charlbury to do all my shopping. Too many local businesses are being driven out.	Noted.
Local Resident	I have been asked to forward my views in favour as frequently parking places	Noted.

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	are unavailable for those who wish to visit the Post Office and the Shop and it is not in the interests of the community that the store is losing business. A friend said he could not see why the car owners who currently park outside the P.O. for long periods should not park them in Lichfield Close, and he lives in the Close!	Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side.
Local Resident	Strongly oppose the proposal. They regularly use Natalie's Beauty Salon & Adams Store and they are greatly concerned that the needs of one business are being overlooked in favour of another. There are people living directly around The Green who do not have off road parking this will force such residents to park in surrounding residential streets and no provision is in place for safe crossing the A44. They do not agree that timed bays are the answer and regarding the Parish Council Meeting they were appalled to hear the way in which the Councillor conducted herself.	The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.
Local Resident	In full support of some parking restrictions outside the Enstone Store and the Beauty Shop as there are people parking there all day and catching a bus into Oxford. We all want to support our local shops or we shall lose them. They personally think there should be yellow lines on both sides with a time limit of a maximum of 45mins.	Noted. In view of the responses received, no additional restrictions are proposed. The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.
Resident of Wootton Woodstock	Objects. Regularly travels there, including to the Beauty Salon where treatments take longer than 30 minutes.	The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction.
Resident of Great Rollright	Supports as the shop run by Steve & Mandy is an excellent local amenity – not just for the village of Enstone but also the surrounding villages. Particularly need to prevent commuter parking.	Noted.
Resident of Great Rollright	Supports as Steve and Mandy run an extremely efficient business where nothing is ever too much trouble it would appear that the said parking is used for overflow parking by residents and even park and ride. To lose the Store would be an enormous loss.	Noted.
Resident of Sandford St Martin	In favour of the original proposal which provides a lifeline for the shop. Steve has built up an enviable reputation and If residential parking only is allowed on the Service Road Adams Stores will lose vital custom and probably not survive.	Noted.

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<p>Resident of Kiddington</p>	<p>As a regular customer of the shop and Natalie's Beauty Salon I find it unjust that parking restrictions should be imposed I regularly park my car for longish periods whilst visiting Natalie's I do not feel that parking restrictions are necessary in the quiet village of Enstone and that any restriction simply looks after the concerns of a small minority and does not consider the larger majority of people using the two businesses.</p>	<p>The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.</p>
<p>Resident of Little Tew</p>	<p>There are a number of reasons that I object to this proposal, chiefly that I feel it to be an unnecessary waste of resources I have never struggled to park on Oxford Road and often visit Enstone Stores and Natalie's Beauty Salon and the time limit of 30 mins would have a negative impact on Natalie's Salon as most Treatments last longer than this. I also feel that the restrictions would be unfair to local residents who don't have parking. I feel that the present system is fairest for all users and generally works well. The money would be better spent on a lolly-pop lady to help children crossing the road or on some bins at the public playground.</p>	<p>The proposal is being amended to a 2 hour waiting restriction. Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.</p>
<p>Resident of Staffordshire</p>	<p>I am 75 and my Husband is 80 and we have family who live in the alleyway at the back of Elm Tree Cottage. When we come and visit, the Village Green is the only place that we can park safely. The proposals would mean not only a lengthy walk but inconvenience to other residents in the area which we will be forced to leave our car. Please reconsider this proposal or at least make provision for long term parking for visitors and nearby residents. May I suggest reducing the size of The Green.</p>	<p>Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side.</p>
<p>Resident of Chipping Campden</p>	<p>I regularly visit this pleasant village to see relatives (whose property back on to the main road but do not have its own street frontage). They have mobility issues and would not look forward to a painful walk from some distant parking spot. Asks What change of circumstances prompted the Councils cursory proposals? Were the likely reactions taken into consideration? Has any preliminary study been carried out? Has the cost/benefit been provisionally calculated? What consideration does the Council have for the ill-feelings if a few people appear to benefit but most are inconvenienced? Has the Council worked out the possible knock-on effect of this Scheme? and comments regarding bureaucracy and other ways to improve safety and the environment here.</p>	<p>Residents will still be able to park without restriction on the Eastern side. The matter will be determined by Cabinet Member.</p>