

WIRRAL COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC REPRESENTATION PANEL

12 SEPTEMBER 2014

SUBJECT:	PARKING BAYS, WOODCHURCH ROAD / STORETON ROAD, OXTON
WARD/S AFFECTED:	OXTON WARD AND PRENTON WARD
REPORT OF:	MARK SMITH, HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATION
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report considers a proposal to incorporate the parking lay-bys fronting 261 to 289 Woodchurch Road into the Prenton Resident Parking Scheme following a recommendation from a meeting of Highways and Traffic Representation Panel on 16 July 2014.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 A report entitled "Petition against Except for Access road, Woodchurch Road / Storeton Road, Oxton" was presented to Panel on 16 July 2014.
- 2.2 Panel resolved that "enquiries are made into the possibility of allowing parking provisions in nearby resident parking zones and that the outcome is reported back to a future meeting of the Highways Panel" (Minute 10 refers).
- 2.3 Discussions have since taken place between Officers and representatives of the residents of 261 to 289 Woodchurch Road which have established that residents would prefer to be included within the Prenton Resident Parking Scheme which includes Cecil Road and Elm Road North. A plan is appended (**Appendix 1**).
- 2.4 The Prenton Resident Parking Scheme (Zone E) operates from Monday to Saturday between 8am and 6pm and includes some bays where non-permit holders can park for up to 60 minutes to cater for visitors to the local businesses. Disabled (Blue) Badge holders are exempted from the requirement to display a permit, as long as they display their Blue Badge. Permits for this scheme are currently provided free of charge, each residential property within the scheme being entitled to a single visitor permit plus one resident permit for each vehicle registered to the address.
- 2.5 Observations of the lay-bys fronting 261-289 Woodchurch Road indicate that they are generally fully parked up during the daytime and that many of those vehicles do not appear to belong to residents. It is

therefore likely that residents do experience difficulties parking near to their houses, as they have confirmed in discussions with Officers. This is also likely to impact on adjacent businesses, as their customers will also experience difficulty in parking.

- 2.6 Incorporating these lay-bys into “Zone E” with an allowance for non-permit holders to park for up to one hour will provide space for residents to be able to park closer to their homes and will also free up space for customers of local businesses.
- 2.7 This could be initially achieved through a 12-month experimental traffic regulation order, which would allow representations to be considered and the impact monitored during that period and appropriate amendments made if necessary prior to the order becoming permanent.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 The risks arising if this issue cannot be satisfactorily resolved may include:
 - a. Impact on the financial viability of existing businesses due to the lack of convenient parking space for customers.
 - b. Impact on relations between neighbours, visitors, businesses, etc vying for limited unrestricted parking space within the lay-bys.
 - c. Impact on the amenity of residents unable to park within close proximity of their houses on a regular basis.
- 3.2 The risks arising if the location is included in Zone E may include:
 - a. Creation of a precedent increasing the expectations of residents elsewhere within the Borough experiencing similar difficulties.
 - b. Businesses would not be issued with permits; therefore staff employed in those businesses would need to park elsewhere.
 - c. There may be insufficient space within the existing lay-bys to cater for all vehicles registered to properties on that stretch of road that could qualify for a permit.
 - d. Incorporating these properties into the wider Prenton Resident Parking Scheme may lead to an increase in parking demand in nearby streets that are part of the same scheme.
 - e. There would be an increase in street furniture related to signing of the resident parking scheme.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Incorporation into the Tranmere Rovers Resident Parking Scheme (Zone T) has been considered but the hours of operation of that scheme, which relate to football matches being played at Prenton Park, would not resolve the parking issues experienced by residents and businesses in these lay-bys.

- 4.2 Take no action in relation to this issue. Parking in the lay-bys would continue to be unrestricted, which would impact on residents and businesses as outlined in 3.1 above.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Discussions have been held with representatives of the local residents and with other residents and businesses of Woodchurch Road.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 There are no specific implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 Existing staff resources would be utilized in the progression of this scheme.

- 7.2 The estimated cost of implementation is £1,000 and would be met from the revenue budget for new traffic signs, which currently stands at £37,500.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no specific implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report other than the traffic regulation order process referred to in paragraph 2.7.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes – the impact review can be found at the link below.

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-april-2014/eias-regeneration-envir>

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no specific implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no specific implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

12.1 Panel is requested to note the content of this report and recommend to Regeneration and Environment Policy and Performance Committee that a 12-month experimental traffic regulation order adding the parking lay-bys fronting 261 to 289 Woodchurch Road to the Prenton Resident Parking Scheme (Zone E) shall be advertised and that the impact of the order shall be monitored and representations considered during that period and appropriate amendments made if necessary prior to the order being made permanent.

13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 The introduction of a 12-month experimental traffic regulation order will allow representations to be considered and the impact monitored during that period and appropriate amendments made if necessary prior to the order being made permanent.

REPORT AUTHOR: Keith Rodgers
Traffic Network Manager
Telephone: (0151) 606 2101
Email: keithrodgers@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Parking Bays, Woodchurch Road / Storeton Road, Oxton
Plan Ref No. TE0023P0

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Highways and Traffic Representation Panel	16 July 2014