

WIRRAL COUNCIL

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 1 JUNE 2009

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

PETITION – REQUEST TO REFUSE ADVISORY ON STREET PARKING BAY – 23 PARKHILL ROAD, PRENTON (PRENTON WARD)

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report considers a petition seeking that a request for an advisory on-street disabled parking bay outside 23 Parkhill Road, Prenton be refused.
- 1.2 The report requests Committee to endorse the recommendation that a disabled bay be introduced for the resident of 23 Parkhill Road outside their home and the decision be referred to the Cabinet Member for endorsement.

2.0 REPORT

- 2.1 The resident of 23 Parkhill Road requested consideration of an advisory disabled parking bay on 14 May 2008. The resident of 23 Parkhill Road is holder of a blue badge and has a vehicle registered to their home address. On the 7 August 2008 residents and local Ward Members were consulted on this proposal.
- 2.2 Following consultation a resident submitted a petition containing 26 signatures on 28 August 2008.

3.0 OBJECTION

- 3.1 The petitioners request that the advisory on-street parking bay outside of 23 Parkhill Road, Prenton (as indicated on the Plan Ref 30/09) is refused. The reason the petitioner's state for this request is the lack of parking for residents in the area as people are unable to park outside their own homes, it is also alleged that disabled parking bays will affect future sale and value of their homes and that disabled parking bays are unsightly.

4.0 RESPONSE

- 4.1 Officers have closely examined the situation and in line with the current policy on On-Street Parking Bays confirm that the current criteria is met in this residents application. Notably no more than 20% of the kerbside space would be taken up by On Street Disabled Parking Bays if the application is approved.
- 4.2 The markings used to define a disabled are advisory and introduced in the spirit of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002. The marking out of the bay is marginally longer in length than a standard car length if parked without the benefit of a marking. This is to ensure that the disabled person can safely manoeuvre into and out of the bay. A bay has only a small effect on the general availability of kerbside parking accepting that the disabled resident would be parking somewhere within the road.
- 4.3 Officers cannot agree that On-Street Disabled Parking Bays are unsightly as they are a recognised symbol as defined in the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.
- 4.4 Officers have no proof to hand that house sale prices are affected by the presence of On-Street Disabled Parking Bays. Should an On-Street Disabled Parking Bay be no longer required then it is removed.

4.5 An officer from the Traffic Management Division has met on site with the lead petitioner to discuss the petition. The petitioner asks that Committee consider this situation.

4.6 There have been no recorded personal injury accidents at this location during the last three-year period.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There is a financial implication of £45 to introduce the bay. This would be met from the existing Revenue Budget.

6.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Existing staff have carried out the investigations.

7.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Within equal opportunities there is a potential positive impact to persons of disability via the introduction of a disabled persons parking bay.

8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific community safety implications arising from this report.

9.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Within Local Agenda 21 implications the control of parking is part of a wider strategy to reduce reliance on the motor vehicle.

10.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct planning implications arising from this report.

11.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no anti-poverty implications arising from this report.

12.0 SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no social inclusion implications arising from this report.

13.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

13.1 This report has implications for the Prenton Ward.

14.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 A petition and letters has been used in the preparation of this report.

15.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 15.1 Committee is requested to
- (i) Endorse the recommendation of this report that the disabled persons parking bay be introduced as indicated on the Plan Ref 30/09.
 - (ii) Refer the decision to the Cabinet Member for approval.

DAVID GREEN, DIRECTOR
TECHNICAL SERVICES