

Regulatory Committee

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	5 January 2017
<u>Local Member:</u> Cllr Mike Lovell - Member for Purbeck Hills <u>Lead Officer</u> Martin Farnham, Senior Technical Officer, Regulation Team, Dorset Highways	
Subject of Report	Proposed Waiting Restrictions, Various Roads Worth Matravers
Executive Summary	Following the advertising of proposed changes to parking restrictions in various roads in Worth Matravers, objections have been received to the proposals for the D53204 unnamed road on the north side of the Village Pond. This report considers those objections, and whether the proposals for this unnamed road should be implemented as advertised.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: The proposed waiting restrictions will have the usual exemption for disabled badge holders.
	Use of Evidence: Site investigations, public consultation and support of Local Member, Town and District Councils and the Police.
	Budget: The cost of making the Order is estimated at £2500 inclusive of advertising charges.
	Risk Assessment: Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the

	<p>level of risk has been identified as: Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk: LOW</p>
Other Implications	None
Recommendation	That having considered the objections received, Cabinet be recommended to approve the proposed waiting restrictions for the D53204 as advertised.
Reason for Recommendation	The proposals will allow visitors to have 1 hour to enjoy the village. The requirement of not being able to return within 2 hours affords the County Councils Civil Enforcement Officers the opportunity to visit and revisit the area within the 2 hours period.
Appendices	Appendix 1 – Drawing No 2265/1/13B shows the Existing and Proposed Restrictions
Background Papers	<p>The letters of response are available in the Members Room prior to the meeting or in the Regulation Team Office</p> <p>Consultation responses from the District and Town Councils, Dorset Police and the local County Councillor are held on file in the Environment and the Economy Directorate.</p>
Report Originator and Contact	<p>Name: Martin Farnham Senior Technical Officer, Regulation Team, Dorset Highways Tel: 01305 225606 Email: m.c.farnham@dorsetcc.gov.uk</p>

1 Background

- 1.1 In 2011 Worth Matravers Parish Council approached Dorset County Council (DCC) concerning amendments to the existing Traffic Regulation Orders covering Worth Matravers Village. The intention was to improve the safe and free flow of traffic through the Village. It was felt that parking in the centre of the village was restricting access for larger vehicles e.g. farm vehicles and delivery vehicles. A meeting was held with the Parish Council where it was agreed that to be able to enforce the existing 'limited wait' parking restrictions by the Village pond they would need to be amended and their request to change the 'no waiting at any time' from seasonal to all year round was also agreed.
- 1.2 Proposals were advertised for public consultation on 25 February 2016 for a change to waiting restrictions in Worth Matravers following a request from the local County Councillor. The only objections received were to the proposed limited waiting restrictions on the D53204 unnamed road on the north side of the Village Pond. This report considers those objections.
- 1.3 The D53204 forms the northern side of the triangle of roads in the Village Centre around the Village Pond, St Nicholas Parish Church and the Worth Tea and Supper Room.
- 1.4 Parking restrictions already exist in the centre of the Village. Existing restrictions and proposed changes are shown on Drawing No 2265/1/13B attached as Appendix 1.

2 Information

- 2.1 The existing restrictions in the centre of the village are seasonal i.e. between 1 May and 30 September.
- 2.2 County Council officers proposed that the seasonal restrictions should be applied all year round, with the limited waiting by the pond changing from "Waiting limited to 30 minutes, return prohibited within 30 minutes between the hours of 9.00am and 6.00pm, 1 May to 30 September, except resident permit holder vehicles" to "Waiting limited to 1 hour return prohibited within 2 hours 9.00am and 6.00pm". There are currently no resident parking permit holders. The last permit issued expired in September 2009.

3 Law

- 3.1 Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 allow the County Council to make an Order prohibiting or restricting the waiting of vehicles or the unloading of vehicles. The circumstances where an Order may be made include:

For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road;

For facilitating the passage on the road of any class of traffic.

4 Consultation

- 4.1 Under Dorset County Council's procedure, primary consultation was carried out on the proposed scheme in July 2015 and is supported by the Local Member for Purbeck Hills, Purbeck Dorset District Council, Worth Matravers Parish Council and the Police.

4.2 There have been two responses to the public consultation process, which are summarised below. Both objections to the proposals are from residents who live in the centre of the Village on the north side of the pond.

Name and Address	Summary of Response
<p>1. Resident of D53204 opposite the Village Pond, Worth Matravers</p>	<p>Objects to the proposed change from seasonal restrictions to all year restrictions in particular the amendments to the limited waiting Parking Bay by the Village Green. They also believe that the current restriction of 30 minutes and no return within 30 minutes should be revised to allow parking for at least 1 ½ hours. They run a Tea Room in the Village and believe that the proposed all year restrictions will have a detrimental effect on their business. They also believe that the existing seasonal restrictions for the parking bay should be amended to allow parking for at least 1 1/2 hours. They also pointed out that while the parking bay is used by lots of their customers throughout the year, the parking bay is used by their more elderly customers between October and April (when there are no restrictions) when the walk in wintery conditions from the Parish Council car parking down into the village is just too far away [over 300 metres].</p>
<p>2. Resident of D53204 opposite the Village Pond, Worth Matravers</p>	<p>Objects to the proposed changes as there are no traffic or parking problems in the winter whatsoever. Summer obstructions to heavy farm vehicles, milk and good delivery lorries are caused by parked cars whose drives ignore the existing restrictions imposed by the current single yellow lines, not by the 30 minute limited parking bay. They also believe that to amend current the restriction of 30 minutes to 1 hour as completely ineffectual and unfathomable. They run a bed and breakfast at the Old Post Office and also believe that the proposed all year restrictions will have a detrimental effect on their business. They also cannot understand why they were not directly consulted on these proposals as the proposed new restrictions directly affect them. They state that they have written to the Chair and Clerk to the Parish Council several times and attended Parish Council meeting when the subject of parking has been in the agenda, at which they raised their complaint about the complete lack of consultation between the Parish and the residents in the centre of the village.</p>

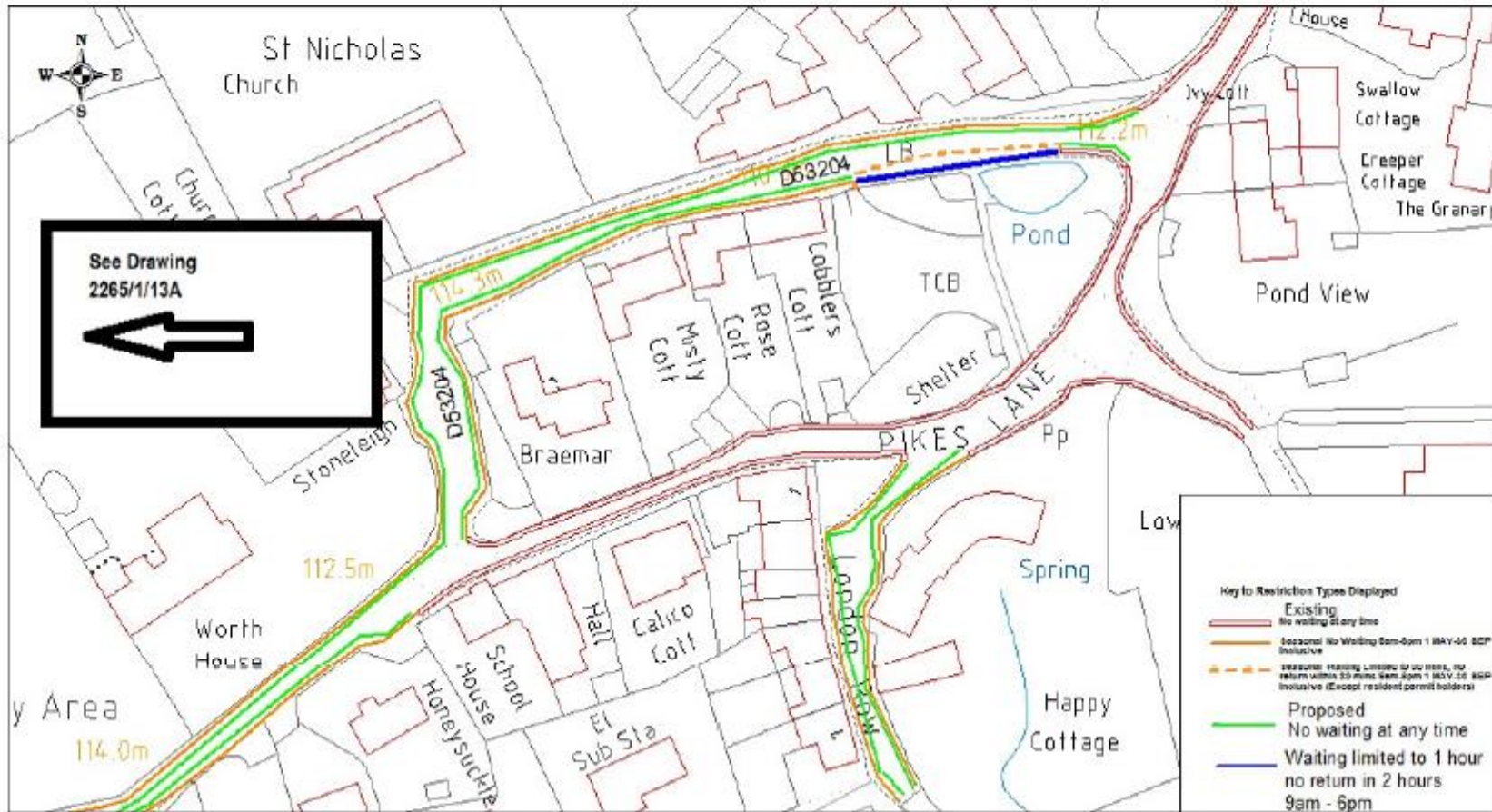
5 Comments on Objections

- 5.1 The objectors have raised the question as to why they were not directly consulted on the proposed amendments. The legal process is for the County Council to advertise the proposals in the local press. Additionally, but not required by the legislation we also put notices up on site. When we do receive any requests for amendments or new restrictions from a Parish/Town Councils these would have already gone through their meeting process and it is assumed that they have carried out their own consultation process before forwarding their request to the County Council. With only two objections received it has again to be assumed that the wider community does not object to the proposals as advertised.
- 5.2 A meeting was held on the 22 June 2016 at the Village Hall in Worth Matravers attended by the Chair and Clerk of the Parish Council with the two objectors and County Council Officers. The local member was unable to attend. The meeting was held to see if any common ground could be found so that the proposed Traffic Regulation Order could either go ahead as advertised or be taken forward with minor amendments. Agreement could not be reached at the meeting.
- 5.3 The overall effect of the proposed restrictions will increase the amount of parking available in the centre of the village in the summer months from 30 minutes to 1 hour. For those unable to park in the village centre, there is a large public car park available 250 metres away.
- 5.4 Those who hold a disabled parking badge (Blue Badge) will continue to be able to park on-street in accordance with the Blue Badge scheme.
- 5.5 If the proposed restrictions are implemented, the public will still be permitted to stop to load or unload or while passengers board or alight as necessary, in accordance with the Highway Code.

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 It is accepted that the changes will not suit everyone, however, having considered the objections it is proposed that the Regulatory Committee recommend that Cabinet approve the proposals as advertised.

Andrew Martin
Service Director Highways
December 2016



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved
Dorset County Council
Licence No. LA076570 2002

SCALE	1 : 767
DATE	19/06/2015
DRAWING No	2265/1/13B
DRAWN BY	AJLB



D53204 and London Row, Worth Matravers

APPENDIX