

Recommendations from Regulatory Committee - 1 June 2017

Proposed Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting - Various Roads, Wimborne

37 The Committee considered a report by the Service Director - Highways and Emergency Planning on proposals to implement waiting restrictions on various roads in Wimborne on road safety grounds and in the interests of maintaining the free flow of traffic around the roundabout at the Rowlands Hill, Cranfield Avenue and St. John's Hill junction. The proposals were designed to alleviate the on street parking which occurred, for convenience, at that point. Following the proposals being advertised, two objections had been received raising concerns that limiting parking opportunities was detrimental to their parking needs and was considered unnecessary. However officers considered that the proposals were, on balance, the best achievable in meeting competing needs and addressed the issues being experienced. Consequently, the Committee was now being asked to give consideration to those objections and decide whether the proposals should be implemented, as advertised. As no objections to the proposals for East Street and Brook Road had been received as a result of advertisement, the Committee were informed that the implementation of these could be progressed in any event.

With the aid of a visual presentation, officers explained the reasoning behind the need to impose the waiting restrictions and the basis of the objections received. Photographs and plans were shown to the Committee by way of illustration. This showed where the proposals would be situated, the character, configuration and topography of the roads and their setting within the townscape. It also showed the relationship between the roads and commercial and residential properties and the effect that displaced parking was having on the roundabout at the Rowlands Hill, Cranfield Avenue and St. John's Hill junction.

Whilst there was no evidence of any reported accidents around the roundabout, the purpose of the proposals was to deter inconsiderate parking at that point in order to ensure that the junction of St Johns Hill with Cranfield Avenue and at the roundabout was kept clear of parked cars. This was designed to improve visibility, keep this bus route free from unnecessary obstructions and generally improve road safety so that there was no need for vehicles to have to veer to the middle of the road to avoid any obstacle. Furthermore, in order that cars did not park at the request bus stops in St Johns Hill, the proposals extended to include these.

The proposals had been supported by the local members for Colehill West and Wimborne Minster and for Colehill East and Stapehill; Wimborne Minster Town Council and Dorset Police. Councillor Shane Bartlett welcomed the proposals as advertised, considering them to be necessary on the grounds of road safety and moved their acceptance by Committee.

The Committee heard from local resident Tony Worth who was wholly in favour of the proposals being implemented on road safety grounds, particularly in that they were designed to avoid traffic from having to manoeuvre their vehicles to negotiate obstacles that compromised their safe passage.

Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions of the officer's presentation and took this opportunity to have their understanding of what the proposals entailed clarified. A suggestion was made that a "SLOW" marking be painted on the road, at the crest of Rowland's Hill, to complement the measures being proposed was considered to be beneficial and could be implemented in its own right and was not conditional on the waiting restrictions being implemented.

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Having considered the objections received, the Committee considered that the proposed waiting restrictions were necessary to address the issues being experienced and were both reasonable and proportionate in achieving this. Given this, and taking into account the support of the local county councillors and other primary consultees, on being put to the vote, the Committee considered that the proposals should be implemented as advertised.

Recommended

That Cabinet be asked to approve the proposed prohibition and restriction of waiting on various roads in Wimborne, as advertised.

Reason for Recommendation

The proposals would remove the current inconsiderate and dangerous parking situation at the roundabout and the junctions of Cranfield Avenue, Rowlands Hill, Royston Drive and St John's Hill and would contribute to the Corporate Policy outcomes enabling people to be safe and prosperous.