

# Petitions Panel

**Dorset County Council**



Date of Meeting	Friday 13 October 2017
Officer	Andrew Martin – Head of Highways.
Subject of Report	<b>Procedure for Petitions – Petition requesting double yellow lines on both sides of Wellfields Drive, Bradpole to stop the unsafe, dangerous parking.</b>
Executive Summary	A petition has been received (in accordance with the County Council's published petitions scheme) in relation to requesting double yellow lines along Wellfields Drive, Bradpole to stop the unsafe and dangerous parking.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: Not applicable
	Use of Evidence: Site investigations and latest available five years worth of road traffic collision data (June 2012 to May 2017)
	Budget: The cost of introducing a Traffic Regulation Order covering double yellow lines would likely to be between £2500 and £3500 – costs are for context only and do not represent actual costs, they include officer time and costs of the lining as well as costs associated with the legal process.
	Risk Assessment: Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as: Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk LOW
Other Implications: None	

## Procedure for Petitions – Petition entitled Parking on Wellfields Drive, Bradpole

Recommendation	The Panel is invited to note the receipt of this petition and decide how to respond to it.
Reason for Recommendation	In order to comply with the County Council's published scheme for responding to petitions and so as to enable local people to connect with local elected decision makers.
Appendices	Appendix A – Petition Appendix B – Plan showing existing restrictions Appendix C – Location Plan
Background Papers	Dorset County Council Petitions Scheme
Officer Contact	Name: Michael Potter Collision Reduction Team Manager, Dorset Highways Tel: 01305 221767 Email: m.potter@dorsetcc.gov.uk

## **1. Background to the Petition Scheme**

- 1.1 The County Council's Petitions Scheme was adopted on 29 April 2010 and came into effect on 15 June 2010. The Scheme was subsequently updated by the County Council on 21 July 2016.
- 1.2 If a petition is supported by 50 or more signatories then it will be dealt with by a small customer focussed panel. If a petition is supported by 1,000 or more signatories it will be scheduled for a debate at the next meeting of the full County Council.

## **2. Petition – Request for parking restrictions at Wellfields Drive, Bradpole.**

- 2.1 The County Council received a petition organised by Mr G Funnell on 27 February 2017. This reads as follows:

*The junction of Shoe Lane and Wellfields Drive is dangerous due to double yellow lines being painted on one side only, causing traffic to park and obscure the view of oncoming traffic and has the effect of causing vehicles to have to drive on the wrong side of the road which has already resulted in vehicle collisions and could result in injury to drivers.*

*We the undersigned request that remedial action is undertaken by Dorset County Council to render this junction safe.*

- 2.2 As this petition contains more than 50 signatures, the Panel are invited to note and discuss. A copy of the petition can be found at Appendix A and the petition contains 51 signatures.
- 2.3 This discussion should conclude with a decision as to how to respond to the petition. This may include one or more of the following:
  - taking the action requested in the petition
  - considering the petition at a council meeting
  - holding an inquiry into the matter
  - undertaking research into the matter
  - holding a public meeting
  - holding a consultation
  - referring the petition for consideration by the council's Audit and Governance Committee
  - calling a referendum
  - writing to the petition organiser setting out the Panel's views about the request in the petition.
- 2.4 Alternatively, the Panel may determine a combination of the options above, or decide on another course of action as appropriate.

## **3. Context**

- 3.1 A traffic regulation order was made on 11 May 2007 that introduced parking restrictions (double yellow lines) in Wellfields Drive, Bradpole on its north western side from its junction with Shoe Lane for a distance of 27 meters and on its south eastern and south western side from its junction with Shoe Lane for a distance of 84 meters. A map showing the extent of the parking restrictions can be found at Appendix B.

These parking restrictions were advertised on 29 September 2006 and the closing date for objections was 20 October 2006 - no objections were received.

Wellfields Drive is a small estate road with several roads leading off it. It is a residential area and speeds are relatively low and traffic flows are not excessive.

A map showing the area specific to this petition can be found at Appendix C.

The request for additional double yellow lines have been considered previously by Bridport Town Council. The proposal was taken to the Town Council's Highway & Transportation Meeting on 27 June 2013 and the following decision was made;

*“following discussions at this Sub Committee, a letter had been received from a local resident, asking that no further waiting restrictions be introduced in the road. Other representations had also been received, saying that these were not necessary. It was therefore intended not to pursue this matter any further”.*

The matter was discussed again at the Town Council's Highway & Transportation Meeting on 24 October 2013 and the following decision was made;

*“a letter had been received asking for restrictions, but it had been explained that, in view of the objections from other residents, the Sub Committee had decided not to progress this matter”.*

The matter was discussed again in October 2014 when Bridport Town Council wrote to local residents who would directly be affected asking for their comments on the proposals and various objections were received so again it was decided not to progress this matter.

- 3.2 Collision data available to the County Council is provided and validated by Dorset Police. It includes collisions that occurred on public highway reported to the police that resulted in personal injury to any person(s) involved.

It is accepted that this data is not the complete picture of collisions that have occurred however, it is the most robust and reliable data available to the County Council.

It is standard practice to assess the most recent five year period of collisions when considering/identifying safety schemes.

Between June 2012 and May 2017 there have been no injury collisions recorded in Wellfields Drive, Bradpole.

- 3.3 It is important to consider that this double yellow line request is one of close to 200 other requests for a new Traffic Regulation Order across the Dorset County area and is unlikely to rank highly against other requests.

**4. Next Steps**

4.1 The Panel is invited to note the receipt of this petition and decide how to respond to it, possible options are available in paragraph 2.3.

4.2 Based on the available data and information outlined in the report it is recommended that any additional restrictions in Wellfields Drive should not be considered.

**Mike Harries**  
**Director for Environment and Economy**  
**October 2017**