

Petitions Panel

Dorset County Council



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| Date of Meeting | Thursday 3 May 2018 |
| Officer | Andrew Martin – Head of Highways. |
| Subject of Report | Procedure for Petitions – Petition requesting an extension of double yellow lines in Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen. |
| Executive Summary | A petition has been received (in accordance with the County Council's published petitions scheme) in relation to requesting an extension of the double yellow lines in Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen. |
| Impact Assessment: | Equalities Impact Assessment: Not applicable |
| | Use of Evidence: Site investigations and latest available five years worth of road traffic collision data (January 2013 to December 2017) |
| | Budget: The cost of introducing a Traffic Regulation Order would likely to be between £2500 and £3000 – 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 extension of double yellow lines in Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen

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| 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 - Copy of petition Appendix B - Plan of Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen |
| 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 and 15 February 2018.
- 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 4,250 or more signatories it will be scheduled for a debate at the next meeting of the full County Council.

2. Petition – Request for an extension to the double yellow lines in Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen.

- 2.1 The County Council received a petition organised by Chris and Barbara Parker in January 2018. This reads as follows:

"We have been residents of Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen for over seven years and are concerned about the dangerous situation at the junction of Blythe Road with Wareham Road. Blythe Road is very narrow probably due to the fact (we have been informed) that it is the oldest road in Corfe Mullen. Double yellow lines have been painted on the road for the first part as per Highways Statutory requirements but this does not stop the dangerous situation that exists. Cars park sometimes in a continuous line turning the road into a single track and vehicles entering the road from Wareham Road turn in on a blind bend often to find they are faced with a vehicle trying to exit Blythe Road. Since that vehicle is on the correct side of the road the vehicle attempting to enter Blythe Road often has to reverse almost into the main Wareham Road to allow it to pass. Any other vehicle coming round that blind bend could easily plough into the reversing vehicle and, as often happens, if the vehicle behind is travelling at speed, this could result in a serious accident.

If the double yellow lines were increased in length to the first dropped kerbs (a distance of about 10 metres) this would alleviate the situation considerably and would give more time for both vehicles approaching each other to take evasive action".

- 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 61 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 Blythe Road is a small residential cul-de-sac in Corfe Mullen with approximately 56 houses all of which have off street parking. There are no parking restrictions on the road except for a short 17 metre stretch of double yellow lines at the junction with Wareham Road. Although the request does have the support of the local Parish Council, it is important to consider that this double yellow line extension is one of close to 120 other requests for a new Traffic Regulation Order across Dorset and it does not rank highly against the others.
- 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 January 2013 and December 2017 there have been zero collisions at the junction of Blythe Road and Wareham Road.

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.

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Andrew Martin

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May 2018