



31st October 2013

Agenda Item: 10

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS

THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (BARNBY GATE AND LOVERS LANE, NEWARK ON TRENT) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2013 (3195)

CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the objections received in respect of the above proposed Traffic Regulation Order for Barnby Gate and Lovers Lane in Newark.

Information and Advice

2. Barnby Gate is a densely populated area close to Newark Town centre. The road and adjacent side roads provide an attractive parking area for commuters and shoppers as well as providing necessary parking space for local residents.
3. Problems on Barnby Gate have developed over a number of years with indiscriminate parking causing obstruction for moving traffic, and particularly emergency vehicles, on the narrowest sections of the road, and blocking access to private premises. In addition, the limited parking space available is often taken up by non-residents, causing difficulty for residents who have no off-street parking facilities being able to park within a reasonable distance of their homes. Changes to parking habits since earlier restrictions were introduced also mean that many of the existing restrictions on Barnby Gate are no longer appropriate for current local needs.
4. Lovers Lane is a narrow residential road which also provides access to several private flat complexes. Parking close to these accesses restricts visibility and creates difficulties for vehicles accessing these premises.
5. The proposals seek to address these problems by:-
 - Redistributing parking space on Barnby Gate by removing excessive lengths of yellow lines through particularly wide sections and introducing new restrictions in narrow sections where parking is currently obstructing the free passage of traffic or access to premises;
 - Introducing additional restrictions on Lovers Lane around critical accesses

6. The proposals were publicly advertised during June 2013 and ten comments were received. Whilst only three comments are classed as objections, one of these is from the Town Council and requires consideration by the Transport and Highways Committee.
7. Six responses were positive, and included support from several residents, County Councillor Maureen Dobson and Newark and Sherwood District Council.
8. One response asked for some minor changes to the extents of waiting restrictions on William Street, which can readily be accommodated in the final scheme subject to further consultation with those affected.
9. Objection 1 and 2
Two Residents of Barnby Gate commented that there was a parking problem but the proposals would not solve this, preferring instead the introduction of a Residents' Parking Scheme for Barnby Gate.

Response

Whilst the provision of a Residents' Parking Scheme may serve to create additional parking space for residents and remove some of the extraneous traffic from the area, there are still locations within Barnby Gate that are too narrow to allow parking by any vehicle and a Residents' Parking Scheme would still require the introduction of a series of parking restrictions similar to those currently being proposed to be effective. The impact of the proposed restrictions will be monitored. A Residents' Parking Scheme was consulted on over four year ago and at the time didn't generate enough support to progress.

10. Objection 3
Newark Town Council objected to the proposed removal of restrictions on Barnby Gate on the grounds that this would lead to obstruction of through traffic and particularly emergency vehicles.

Response

The proposals seek to redistribute the available parking space to locations where parking would not cause significant obstruction and to provide restrictions to prevent such obstruction in locations where the road is narrow. It is considered, therefore, that the proposals will not increase the risk of obstruction, and will in fact reduce the likelihood of this in some locations where parking is currently permitted.

Other Options Considered

11. Many alternative arrangements relating to the street restriction have been considered. However, the proposed scheme is considered to be the most appropriate to meet the many and varied requirements of local residents and road safety concerns.

Comments from Local Members

12. County Councillors Maureen Dobson and Stuart Wallace support the proposals. County Councillor Tony Roberts did not raise an objection to the proposals.

Reasons for Recommendations

13. The recommendations are made to address the parking/obstruction issues raised and in view of the minimal objections received and the additional letters of support received. County Councillor Maureen Dobson supports the proposals.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

15. The scheme is being funded by the Local Transport Plan (Integrated Transport Measures) budget for 2013/14. The cost of implementing the scheme and the associated works will be in the region of £5,000.

Crime and Disorder Implications

16. Nottinghamshire Police has raised no objection to the proposals.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

The Nottinghamshire County Council (Barnby Gate and Lovers Lane, Newark on Trent) (Prohibition of Waiting) Traffic Regulation Order 2013 (3195) is made as advertised with the minor amendments as discussed, subject to agreement from affected local residents, and the objectors informed accordingly.

Constitutional Comments (SHB 10/10/13)

17. Committee have the power to decide the Recommendation.

Financial Comments (TMR 09/10/2013)

18. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 15 of the report.

Background Papers

All relevant documents for the proposed scheme are contained within the scheme file which can be found in the Major Projects and Improvements section at Trent Bridge House.

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Newark East	Councillor Stuart Wallace
Collingham	Councillor Maureen Dobson
Newark West	Councillor Tony Roberts

Note:

The Electoral Division (ED) boundary for Barnby Gate between Sherwood Avenue and Cross Street lies along the centre of the road affecting both the Newark East and Collingham member areas.

Lovers Lane is entirely within the Newark West ED.