

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL**RESPONSE TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL ON 29TH MARCH 2012****Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of responses to the issues raised in petitions presented to the Chairman of the County Council at the Council meeting on 29 March 2012:

- A. Petition requesting parking bays in Littleworth, Mansfield
- B. Petition requesting a review of road safety in Beeston, North
- C. Petition requesting parking permits for residents of Cromwell Road in Beeston
- D. Petition requesting a review on dropped kerbs in Beeston North
- E. Petition regarding double yellow lines on Main Road, Underwood

A. Petition requesting parking bays in Littleworth, Mansfield**Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways**

1. A petition of 216 names was presented to the County Council on 29th March 2012 by Councillor Stephen Garner requesting the installation of limited waiting parking bays outside four shops situated in Littleworth between the junctions of Cromwell Street and Great Central Road in Mansfield.
2. The area currently has no parking restrictions and is particularly affected by staff parking associated with Nottinghamshire County Council's Meadow House building.
3. It is felt that limited waiting would benefit local businesses by encouraging passing trade as commuters would be prevented from parking across the front of the shops all day. The bays would also assist the shops' loading operations which currently take place by vehicles double parking.

4. A Traffic Regulation Order will be processed to introduce this limited waiting in the current financial year subject to any objections received.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

B. Petition requesting a review of road safety in Beeston, North

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

5. A 113 signature petition was presented to County Council on 29th March 2012 by Councillor Steve Carr. The petitioners were concerned about an increase of traffic and traffic speeds in the ward of Beeston North as a result of the impending tram works. They requested that the County Council undertake a review of road safety in the area prior to these works commencing.
6. The construction works for the tram in the Beeston area are currently programmed to start in September 2012 and are expected to last for two years.
7. It is accepted that with any major construction works on the highway there is a tendency for traffic movements around the area to alter and those movements will change at each phase of the construction works.
8. Discussions have taken place with Councillor Carr and it was recognised that at this stage it is difficult to establish the level of increased traffic movements on any particular road and the impact that these would have, if any.
9. One concern raised was traffic speeds particularly at locations where there are vulnerable road users. It was agreed that two mobile interactive signs would be made available, on a temporary basis, in September and these would be sited at locations, to be agreed with Councillor Carr, in the vicinity of Beeston Fields Primary School.
10. A review of schemes and locations in the Beeston area that will be affected by the impending tram works is to be carried out and a report will be submitted to the Transport and Highways Committee for consideration in the summer 2012.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON
Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

C. Petition requesting parking permits for residents of Cromwell Road in Beeston

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

11. A 41 signature petition was presented to County Council on 29th March 2012 by Councillor Steve Carr. The petition refers to proposals for waiting restrictions to be introduced in the vicinity of Cromwell Road, Beeston. The proposals include the introduction of limited waiting on Cromwell Road and a number of adjacent roads.

12. The petitioners support the proposals on the proviso that parking permits / exemptions are made available for all residents of Cromwell Road who request them. The petitioners are effectively requesting a residents parking scheme be introduced however this is currently not proposed.
13. In light of many competing requests and differing opinion in many parts of Beeston Town Centre regarding parking arrangements a review of the current situation, including all current requests, to provide a more strategic way forward will be carried out. This review is also prompted very much by the impending NET development which will impact upon the area. In addition to the NET construction the A453 improvements will have an impact upon traffic movements across the highway network.
14. This review will be complete during Summer 2012 at which time the future parking strategy will be made public. Local Ward Members will be involved in the development of the strategy.
15. A number of localised Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) will be processed which do not have significant impact upon the wider network. Additionally given that the TRO process is well underway and expectancy for delivery high amongst residents it is intended to introduce the residents parking scheme in close proximity to South Nottingham College, Chilwell. It is proposed to introduce this during the Summer break.

D. Petition requesting a review on dropped kerbs in Beeston North

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

16. A 17 signature petition was presented to County Council on 29th March 2012 by Councillor Steve Carr. The petition requests the provision of pedestrian dropped crossings in the Lowe's Estate Area
17. Discussions have taken place with Councillor Carr, and the following well used access routes to Beeston through the Lowe's Estate were identified as the priority locations:
 - a. Adjacent to 67 Carwood Road at the bottom of the access path - one pair of dropped crossings
 - b. Adjacent to 3 Ludlow Close at the start of the access path - one single dropped crossing
 - c. In Bourne Close (Broxtowe Housing car park) - one single dropped crossing
18. These works will cost £3,500 and will be included in the current year's programme.

E. Petition regarding double yellow lines on Main Road, Underwood

Response of the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

19. A petition of 26 names was presented to County Council on 29th March 2012 by Councillor Gail Turner, requesting that the existing parking restrictions on Main Road to the west of Underwood Church of England Primary School be extended further north to prevent school staff parking outside residents homes all day.
20. The residents contend that this causes a hazard to them as they exit their driveways as it obstructs visibility and forces them to emerge onto the wrong side of the road. The straight course of the road and its downhill gradient contributes to higher than usual average vehicle speeds and speed reduction exercises have previously been undertaken in conjunction with the school.
21. There have been no reported accidents resulting in injury within this road length in at least the last 5 years.
22. The suggested parking restrictions would be likely to displace the staff parking to adjacent areas or the other side of the road. This may cause problems for the residents opposite or the school crossing patrol which operates east of the school. Parking may also transfer to Winter Close which is narrow in places and is the base for a road haulage company.
23. Discussions are taking place with the school to investigate why the staff are parking on the road and whether an accommodation can be made to allow them to park on site. Further parking restrictions will also be considered after consultation with Councillor Turner, the school and local residents.

Reason for Recommendation

24. To update members on the petitions presented to the last meeting of Council

Statutory and Policy Implications

25. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the contents and proposed actions be noted and that the petitioners are informed accordingly.

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sara Allmond, Governance Team

Constitutional Comments

26. The contents and proposed actions in this report are for noting only.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Mansfield South
Beeston North
Selston