



23rd April 2015

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS

THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (CLIFFE HILL AVENUE AND WINDSOR STREET, STAPLEFORD) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2015 (5188)

CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the objections received in respect of the above proposed Traffic Regulation Order and whether it should be made as advertised.

Information and Advice

2. Stapleford is a small town located approximately 7 miles west of Nottingham, close to the Nottinghamshire / Derbyshire County boundary. Cliffe Hill Avenue is a one-way street, predominately residential in nature, though with some small offices and business to the northern end. Windsor Street consists mainly of semi-detached houses, with off-street parking.
3. Residents' parking schemes have been introduced across the town centre to reduce the impact of commuter and shopper parking on residents. Broxtowe Borough Council has introduced parking charges to their local car parks and this has resulted in increased parking on nearby streets as people seek to avoid these charges. Requests have been received from the Police and the local County Councillors to address issues caused by commuter parking and visibility issues caused by obstructive parking.
4. The initial consultation took place between 27th October 2014 and 19th November 2014. The proposals are summarised below:-:

Cliffe Hill Avenue

- Double Yellow lines (no waiting at any time) to be installed on both sides from its junction with Nottingham Road to the footpath
- Single Yellow Line (limited waiting) to be installed on the north-west side from the footpath to the junction with Windsor Street. The times of operation are proposed as Monday to Friday 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Windsor Street

- Extension of the double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) on the north side to be 20 metres.
5. During this consultation period a total of three responses were received, two of these were considered as objections. The proposals were publicly advertised between 30th January and 20th February 2015 and can be seen on the enclosed drawing H/04078/2072/01. A further four responses were received, all of these were considered as objections.

Objections received

6. During both rounds of consultation, a total of seven responses were received. A number of comments were raised:
- Concerns that the restrictions would reduce the availability of on-street parking;
 - Concerns that the restrictions would result in parking migrating further along the street.
 - Concerns that it would make it harder for residents with health / mobility problems to park near their homes.
 - Comments that drivers currently ignore the one-way traffic order on Cliffe Hill Avenue.

Replies have been sent direct to respondents and six replies are considered to be outstanding objections to the proposals.

7. Objection – Stapleford Town Council

Minutes from the Town Council Meeting state that Members agreed that the proposed changes as shown in this consultation were not ideal and further refinements were required to deal with the particular issues in this area. No specific measures were identified by Members.

Response

The design process has been developed in discussion with local County Councillors. Throughout the consultation process a number of differing comments have been received, including requests to reduce the proposed restrictions and to significantly increase them. Whilst every attempt is made to develop a scheme that is acceptable to everyone, it is not always possible to achieve this. The proposed waiting restrictions are intended to address the issue of obstructive parking and maintain a clear visibility at junctions and have been kept to the minimum levels required to achieve this.

8. Objection – Availability of on-street parking

A common theme in all objections was the reduction of on-street parking for residents and / or the transfer of residential and non-residential parking further up Windsor Street.

Response

It is recognised that there is likely to be some element of displaced parking with any new highway waiting restriction, however the double yellow lines (No Waiting At Any Time) are required to improve safety at the junction of Windsor Street and Cliffe Hill Avenue. The purpose of the junction protection is to ensure sufficient carriageway is available at the specified junctions to enable the safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians and thereby the efficient operation of the junction.

The primary purpose of the highway is to facilitate the movement of people and vehicles. However it is recognised that parking on the highway does occur, particularly for

households with no alternative parking provision. With that balance in mind the limits of the restrictions have been kept at the minimum lengths considered possible to ensure effective and safe operation of the highway.

9. Objection – health / mobility concerns

Two objections also raised concerns about health / mobility issues for family members which they felt necessitated being able to park in close proximity to their houses.

Response

Where residents have significant health issues it may be appropriate to request an advisory disabled bay marking on the Highway, which would be provided free of charge by the County Council. These markings are only intended for use in very exceptional circumstances where parking levels are frequently high but available vehicle spaces are very limited.

The provisions of markings is strictly controlled, this is to ensure that they are only provided where there is a defined need. Applicant drivers should have a serious physical impairment, which severely restricts their movements, and should possess or qualify for Special Access Permits. This means possessing a Blue Badge and being in long term (2 year minimum) future receipt of the higher rate of the Mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence Payment (PIP). If the applicant is not in receipt of this allowance but still considers themselves to be eligible, they may have their impairment independently assessed by the County Council's Medical Adviser, in conjunction with their own doctor. A marking may be provided to accommodate ambulances regularly visiting the home of a non-driving applicant.

10. Objection – double yellow lines on Windsor Street

One resident objects to the proposals to extend the double yellow lines (No Waiting At Any Time) by 20 metres; they feel a shorter distance would be more reasonable.

Response

The double yellow lines are not being extended by a further 20 metres; the total length of both existing and proposed lining combined will be 20 metres, measured from the apex of the junction.

Other Options Considered

11. Whilst other configurations of restrictions are possible those proposed are considered most appropriate.

Comments from Local Members

12. The local County Councillors Stan Heptinstall and Jacky Williams are in support of the proposals

Reasons for Recommendations

13. The proposed restrictions on Cliffe Hill Avenue and Windsor Street are intended to address obstructive parking, improve safety and support the efficient movement of vehicles along the highway. As such the order is considered appropriate taking into account a balanced view of the needs of all road users and safety concerns.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled having given due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty and 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.

Constitutional Comments (SLB 18/03/15)

15. Transport and Highways Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Implications

16. The scheme is being funded by the 2015/16 Traffic Management Revenue budget (Broxtowe) and will cost in the region of £1500.

Crime and Disorder Implications

17. Nottinghamshire Police have made no comments on the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that the Nottinghamshire County Council (Cliffe Hill Avenue and Windsor Street, Stapleford) (Prohibition of Waiting) Traffic Regulation Order 2015 (5188) is made as advertised and the objectors informed accordingly.

Andrew Warrington
Service Director (Highways)

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Financial Comments (TMR 18/03/15)

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, Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.

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

Bramcote and Stapleford

Councillor Jacky Williams
Councillor Stan Heptinstall