

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 June 2017

Report submitted by the Director of Community Services

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
Mid Rossendale;

Burnley Road and Goodshawfold Road, Loveclough - Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

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Executive Summary

This report sets out a proposal to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to Prohibit Waiting at Burnley Road and Goodshawfold Road, Loveclough and to Restrict Waiting at Burnley Road, Loveclough as shown on the attached schedule at Appendix 'A' and location plans at Appendix 'B', and to which objections have been received.

Recommendation

The Cabinet is asked to approve the making of a Traffic Regulation Order which prohibits waiting and restricts waiting as set out in the schedule attached at Appendix 'A' and as shown on the plan at Appendix 'B'.

Background and Advice

The junction of Burnley Road with Goodshawfold Road in Loveclough has a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to restrict waiting but the road markings do not accurately reflect the descriptions in the TRO. After receiving requests to re-mark the restrictions, it was considered necessary to consult with residents who would have become accustomed to the existing layout and may have been unaware of the actual extents of restrictions as set out in the TRO. This represented an opportunity to review the junction requirements and prepare a new TRO to meet the needs of highway users from both a safety and community viewpoint. The proposals are to introduce a 'prohibition of waiting' (double yellow line) at the junction of Burnley Road and Goodshawfold Road and a 'restriction of waiting' (single yellow line) on Burnley Road. The existing TRO would be revoked. The proposals put forward seek to improve safety for all highway traffic, both vehicular and pedestrian.

The proposals were supported by the police who attend the Rossendale Traffic Liaison meeting prior to informal and subsequently formal consultation.

Consultations

Requests have been received for a restriction to be made to prohibit waiting at the junction of Burnley Road and Goodshawfold Road from residents of Goodshawfold who had experienced visibility difficulties when accessing Burnley Road due to parking near to the junction. Investigations revealed that there is an existing Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which includes a restriction of waiting (single yellow line) operating on Monday to Saturday between 8am and 6pm on the west side of Burnley Road extending to a point 20 metres north and 20 metres south of the centre of the junction and into Goodshawfold Road on both sides for a length of approximately 18 metres when measured from the centre of Burnley Road. However, a road safety scheme has been introduced in this vicinity which has inadvertently affected the integrity of the TRO road markings.

An informal consultation was carried out in January 2016 which proposed to reinstate the existing order, refresh the single yellow lines on site to reflect the original lengths and descriptions and also refresh the hatching and junction give way markings in order to improve the sight lines and increase safety for highway users. The informal consultation included the Police, County Councillor and Rossendale Borough Council.

The informal consultation received 11 responses in favour of the proposal and no responses in objection. Of the 11 responses in favour, 5 requested that the order include upgrading the existing single yellow lines to double yellow lines (prohibition of waiting) on Goodshawfold Road at the junction as they had experienced access difficulties at certain times of the day, evening and night. The informal consultation and responses followed by the revised proposals were discussed with the Police at Rossendale Traffic Liaison meetings in November 2016 and March 2017 and the proposed changes to the original order, which would address the residents' concerns, were supported.

This proposal was the subject of a formal consultation and was advertised in the local press and on site between 7 April 2017 and 5 May 2017 and is the subject of this report. The schedule of the proposal is attached at Appendix 'A' and a location plan is attached at Appendix 'B'. The County Councillor, District Councillors and Rossendale Borough Council were consulted.

Two letters of objection were received in response to the formal consultation, both from residents of Burnley Road to the south of the junction with Goodshawfold Road.

Objections

Objection 1

1. Access to and from the junction could be improved by a reduction in the speed limit which is currently 40mph on Burnley Road.
2. The proposed restrictions outside his property will have a detrimental effect on the property value.

3. Parking will still be required by the residents and nearby businesses.
4. Some drivers may now choose to park on the opposite side of Burnley Road thus facing an increase in risk as they would need to cross this busy main road.

County Council Response

1. A reduction in the speed limit would not be supported as a comprehensive review was carried out in 2008 of all category 'A' and 'B' roads in Lancashire and no changes were recommended for this length of Burnley Road (A680).
2. The objector's property is adjacent to the existing section of hatching which tapers from the junction in both directions. The proposal does not introduce any waiting restrictions outside this property and therefore their claim of a reduced value is not supported.
3. The proposal changes the existing restriction from a single yellow line to a double yellow line (prohibition of waiting) for a length of 10 metres in each direction along Burnley Road when measured from the centreline of Goodshawfold Road. This is consistent with the advice and rules given in the Highway Code in relation to parking near junctions.
4. There is no history of pedestrian collisions at this location on Burnley Road. If residents choose to park in a different location then they must take appropriate precautions when crossing the road as they do now.

Objection 2

1. The proposals will increase parking along Goodshawfold Road resulting in more traffic down a very narrow road which is used regularly by large vehicles and HGV's
2. The proposals will force traffic to park further down Burnley Road thus blocking the view out of the junction even more. Currently drivers park near the junction, but further down there are no dwellings and the view for traffic is clear thus drivers can time when to manoeuvre out of the junction. If the restrictions are introduced, cars will park lower down Burnley Road and the clear section around the junction is not enough for vehicles to access safely.
3. The problem with this road is its speed limit, not the parking.
4. Accidents at this junction are as a result of bad driving and not due to parked cars.

County Council Response

1. The proposal does not change the overall extent of the restricted sections on Burnley Road or Goodshawfold Road. The proposal upgrades a section of the existing single yellow line restriction to a double yellow line (prohibition of waiting) for a length of 10 metres in each direction along Burnley Road when measured from the centreline of Goodshawfold Road. It also upgrades the existing single yellow lines on Goodshawfold Road to double yellow lines. The proposal will improve access at the junction for all traffic and has taken into consideration the regular HGV traffic along this road.
2. The critical sight lines are those located immediately around the junction as vehicles approach and these have been calculated using nationally adopted guidelines to assess junction visibility requirements. On-street parking further away from the junction should not impact on the safe operation of the junction.

3. A reduction in the speed limit would not be supported as a comprehensive review was carried out in 2008 of all category 'A' and 'B' roads in Lancashire and no changes were recommended for this length of Burnley Road (A680).

4. The proposed restrictions have been considered as part of the safety review which includes collision data shared by Lancashire Constabulary. Driver error is often cited as a contributory factor to collisions on the highway and it is unlikely that this will be completely removed. However the proposals seek to improve visibility in order to reduce the opportunities for driver error at this junction.

Conclusion

The proposals have taken into consideration the requirement of the residents of Burnley Road for on street parking whilst addressing the concerns of many residents of Goodshawfold Road who access this junction on a daily basis. There is no change to the total length of the restrictions or the length of hatched areas and the upgrading of sections of single yellow line to double yellow line meets residents' requests and the sight lines have been maintained.

The proposal seeks to reinstate the extent of the original order with some additional prohibitions at the junction to improve the sight lines and increase safety for highway users.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

The cost of the proposal will be met from the 2017/18 Rossendale New Signs and Road Markings Revenue budget.

Risk management

The prohibition of waiting and restriction of waiting proposals are sought to maintain sight lines and manoeuvring space at the junction and thus improving the flow of traffic along sections of highway in Rossendale and increasing safety for all users of the highway.

If the proposals are authorised, the works on the highway will be carried out in accordance with LCC Health and Safety Policy and Guidelines.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		