

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 9 November 2017

Report of the Head of Service Highways

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
South Ribble West

Prohibition of Waiting Traffic Regulation Order Liverpool Old Road and Smithy Lane, Much Hoole, South Ribble Borough (Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:
Kathryn Eastland, (01772) 534212, Engineer
kathryn.eastland@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

As part of a Section 278 agreement for a new housing development on Liverpool Old Road and following investigation and public consultation, the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order to prohibit waiting on a length of Liverpool Old Road west of its junction with Smithy Lane is proposed. The proposals are put forward to provide suitable visibility for vehicles exiting the new development.

Recommendation

The Cabinet is recommended to approve the proposals for the introduction of prohibition of waiting restrictions on Liverpool Old Road and Smithy Lane as detailed within this report and as set out in the schedule and plan contained within Appendix 'A'.

Background and Advice

The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is being sought as part of Section 278 works relating to a new housing development located to the west of The Smithy Arms on Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole. Access for the development is at Liverpool Old Road. In order to provide suitable visibility for vehicles exiting the new development it is considered that parking restrictions are required to deter parked vehicles at this location.

Consultations

The proposed Order was advertised in the local newspaper and during the consultation period of 25 August 2017 to 22 September 2017 Notices were displayed on site and the divisional County Councillor consulted.

Four objections were received from local residents and a petition signed by approximately 124 members of the public. The divisional County Councillor raised no objections.

The basis of the four objections are set out below:

- The four objections received were from local residents, all objectors were concerned that the prohibition of waiting would adversely affect the local pub and shop. In addition the objectors were concerned that the restrictions would displace existing parking to unsuitable locations.
- One local resident expressed concern that the displacement of parking may result in congestion through the village.
- The 124 signature petition was submitted in support of the objections made by one of the local residents.

Officer Response

The primary objections centre around the loss of the Smithy Inn car park and the resultant increase in on street parking. The car park has been sold to a private developer, who has gained planning permission for housing on the site, therefore the existing car park will be reduced in size to accommodate six vehicles off highway once the development has been completed.

It should be noted that the car park will not be owned, managed or maintained by Lancashire County Council and therefore the future provision of this amenity cannot be ensured.

During the planning consultation process Lancashire County Council raised concerns regarding the impact the loss of off street parking may have on the public highway. At that time the County Council recommend that if approval was granted with a reduction to off street parking, visibility splays at the junction with Smithy Lane should be protected. Subsequently, the district planning authority attached a condition requiring the provision of parking restrictions prior to occupation.

The proposed restrictions would lead to a reduction in the availability of on street parking proximate to both the Smithy Inn and the local store. However, officers consider that restrictions are required to protect the safety and operation of the public highway in and around the junction of Liverpool Old Road with Smithy Lane.

In view of the concerns raised by local residents it is recommended that the parking situation in the vicinity of the development is monitored and additional measures considered if appropriate.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Road safety may be compromised should the proposed restrictions not be approved.

Financial

The scheme would be funded from the Section 278 monies from the Much Hoole Development and as such there is no financial implication for the County Council.

Legal

The fact that there is a planning condition relating to this Traffic Regulation Order is not relevant to consideration of this matter and should not in any way fetter the discretion of the County Council in considering the merits of the recommendation.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A