

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 10 May 2018

Report of the Head of Service - Highways

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
Accrington West &
Oswaldtwistle Central;

Lancashire County Council (Barlow Street, Bobbin Street, Dale Street, Grimshaw Street, Lower Antley Street, Wheat Street, Accrington, Hyndburn) (Prohibition of Waiting) Order
(Appendices 'A' - 'C' refer)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

This report sets out proposals to introduce restricted daytime No waiting (8am - 6pm) on streets close to a new mosque on Lower Antley Street, Accrington to manage parking in the area and to maintain adequate visibility and the safety of all road users.

Proposals were advertised in the local press and a number of objections were received. To address the objections the proposal has been amended to retain as much on street parking as possible. The amended proposal has been advertised on site and each of the original objectors had a copy posted to their address. It is this amended proposal that is being presented for decision.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the making of a Traffic Regulation Order as set out in the plan attached at Appendix 'B' and in the Schedule at Appendix 'C'.

Background and Advice

As part of the planning conditions for a new Mosque on Lower Antley Street there is a requirement to manage the on street parking leading to the new building due to the significant increase in both vehicle and pedestrian traffic at certain times. It is also expected that there will be an increased demand for on street parking and this could result in situations where cars could park close to junctions creating a detrimental

impact on drivers' sightlines. The proposed order has been designed to ensure that parking is restricted at junctions to improve road safety for both drivers and pedestrians.

Consultations

Formal consultation was carried out between 2 February 2018 and 2 March 2018 and advertised in the local press. Notices were displayed on site where the new restrictions were proposed. The divisional County Councillors were also consulted. A plan of this proposal can be seen at Appendix 'A'.

During the consultation period eleven objections were received indicating that the original proposals were excessive and would not provide sufficient on street parking.

The nature of the objections

All the objections received were on the basis that the proposed order as advertised would be in excess of what is needed to ensure safety in the area and if such measures were implemented then local residents would not have sufficient provision to park their cars. A number of the objectors' remark that the problems with parking in the area would only be significant during the period covering Friday Prayers, and that this is for one hour each week. The majority of concerns were from residents of both Blackburn Road, where there is presently a daytime waiting restriction 8am - 6pm Monday to Saturday and residents of Bobbin Close, who say that there is already insufficient parking.

Comments on the objections

As part of the planning approval the developer will provide a controlled crossing on Blackburn Road west of its junction with Barlow Street. It is considered that when the new controlled crossing is built Barlow Street would be the main pedestrian route to the new Mosque. The inclusion of a daytime restriction on the west side of Barlow Street will deter footway parking and so promote a safe pedestrian route.

The objections also indicated that the parking problems were only at the time of Friday Prayers. It is envisaged that the new Mosque will offer a range of community facilities and therefore safe access to the site will be required for more than the main prayer times.

The proposal is intended to maintain traffic flows whilst ensuring pedestrian safety. The proposal has been reviewed taking into consideration the points raised in the objections to preserve as much on street parking as possible in the area whilst also achieving the necessary safety measures. A revised proposal has been advertised on site for a period of three weeks between 30 April 2018 and 21 May 2018 and all the objectors to the original proposal have been notified by post. No objections were received as a result of this process.

As a result of the review, with the exception of Barlow Street, the restrictions have been amended to both maintain visibility for drivers at junctions and retain more on street parking availability whilst meeting the highway safety needs.

The amended proposals will help to ensure that the main pedestrian route is maintained throughout the day and retain more kerbside parking provision on Grimshaw Street, Wheat Street and Dale Street.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

The cost of the Traffic Regulation Order and the associated works will be funded by the Raza Jasjid Trust which is building the new mosque. Therefore there will be no cost to the county council.

Risk management

As the new mosque will increase the pedestrian and road traffic in the area, therefore the waiting restrictions are necessary to ensure the safety of all highway users.

List of Background Papers

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