

This Report will be made public on 23 April 2021



Report Number **C/20/91**

To: Cabinet Member for Transport, Housing and Special Projects
Date: 23 April 2021
Status: Non key
Responsible Officer: Andy Blaszkowicz – Director of Housing & Operations
Cabinet Member: Councillor David Godfrey

SUBJECT:
The Kent County Council (The District of Folkestone & Hythe, various Roads) (Restrictions and Prohibitions of Waiting, Loading and Unloading) Order 2021 (Amendment No 21).

SUMMARY: This report considers the objections received in respect of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for parking restrictions across the district.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Cabinet Member for Transport is asked to agree the recommendations set out below because:
The proposals will help alleviate problems experienced by residents in these areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To receive and note Report C/20/91.

1. To progress the parking restrictions as advertised with exception to
 - a) Ashley Avenue
 - b) Tudor Road.

2. That officers monitor the new restrictions in Coast Drive during the summer and autumn months and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Transport in early 2022.

1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The requests in the proposals are submitted by members of the public and or District or County councillors. Once considered the proposals were presented to the Joint Transportation Board in September 2020 and February 2021.

2. PROPOSAL AND CONSULTATION

- 2.1 The details proposals are shown in the Proposal Notice in appendix 1. It includes ...Statutory consultees were informed of the proposals on the 17th March 2021 by way of email which included a Public Notice.
- 2.2 The proposals were advertised in the KM Group newspapers on the 19th March 2021 and Public Notices were also placed on street. The consultation ended on the 9th April 2021.
- 2.3 Residents of Coast Drive received letters outlining the Coast Drive proposal.
- 2.4 The proposals which included the Proposal Notice and plans were placed in the outside notice boards for public viewing.

3. CONSULTATION FEEDBACK & COMMENTS

- 3.1 Kent Police responded stating they had no specific observations but would expect the restrictions to comply with the regulations, and that the council ensures resources are in place to enforce them.
- 3.2 The council received correspondence from local residents both in support and against the proposals Coast Drive, Ashley Avenue, Tudor Road, and Dymchurch Road. A summary of the reasons have been listed below.
- 3.3 Objections received centered around the following:

• **Coast Drive**

There were 47 responses from residents. Whilst 35 were against the proposal the majority of these (27) called for having continuous double yellow lines instead.

The other main points raised were:

- speeding vehicles,
- vehicles mounting the footway,
- kite/windsurfers using the beach as a toilet whilst changing,
- difficulty for residents to drive on/off their driveways when vehicles are parked opposite including parking for their visitors,
- The Lade car park being under-used,
- the lines should be both continuous and seasonal (April –September)

Officer's comments

The council received a request from a KCC councilor for installing staggered sections of double yellow lines to help combat the long lines of vehicles parking on the sea-side kerb line and was agreed at JTB to go out to statutory

consultation. The prevailing wind and shallow waters make for an ideal kite/windsurfing site but the long lines of parked vehicles mean that there is not enough room for passing two-way traffic. This means that some vehicles have mounted the footway in order to pass traffic travelling south west. There have also been stand-offs where neither motorist will yield thus causing more problems. With regards to speeding vehicles having continuous yellow lines would effectively open the road up and the Highways Officer believes vehicles are more likely to travel at unsafe speeds on an open road with no apparent hazards but this could be something the Highway Authority would need to look into. Continuous lines may also cause beach users to park in the neighbouring side roads which are unrestricted along with preventing residents' visitors from parking. If these lines were seasonal then this wouldn't help in the winter months when the stronger winds still attract the kite/windsurfers. There are talks regarding extending The Lade car park. If this was to go ahead then a review of available parking would need to be conducted.

Officer's recommendation

It is recommended that the objections are not upheld, and that parking controls are introduced as advertised. Officers should monitor the new restrictions and make further recommendations early 2022 Further monitoring to take place over the summer and autumn.

- **Ashley Avenue**

8 objections were received including one from the District Councillor for Sandgate and West Folkestone .We received no letters of support. The main points raised concerned the build up of traffic around school pick up times and limiting access from Diamond Close.

Officer's comments

The request for this came from a resident who had concerns with finding parking spaces. Historically there used to be some parking along this section of road before a zebra crossing was installed and new houses built nearby. Photographic evidence was presented showing congestion which would be made worse should parking be allowed.

Officer's recommendation

To uphold the comments and not proceed at this time with the proposal.

- **Tudor Road**

3 objections concerning displacement should the proposal go ahead.

Officer's comments

The request came from residents who found vehicles parking on the footway causing them to walk into the road.

Officer's recommendation

To uphold the comments and not proceed at this time with the proposal. Monitoring of the location should continue.

- **Dymchurch Road**
3 objections with two claiming they park between the new cycle/footway and the boundary fence of the Hythe firing range as there is little to no parking directly outside their properties due to us bus stop clearway.

Officer's comments

The request came in with photographs showing vehicles parked on the footway which prevented a pushchair passing so forcing out onto the busy A259. The 2 objections state they park on the grass between the cycle/footway and the Hythe firing range fence but this would mean driving up a non-lowered kerb and across the cycle lane and footpath which we cannot condone.

Officer's recommendation

The objections are not upheld and that parking controls are introduced as advertised.

- **Sussex Road**
1 objection stating the short section of proposed lines would prevent residents parking outside their homes

Officer's comments

The existing double yellow lines already extend past one property and only 1 property would have lines up to and across their driveway which would make pulling out of their drive easier. A dog bone was installed across this drive recently to help with this issue whilst the proposal went ahead.

Officer's recommendation

The objections are not upheld and that parking controls are introduced as advertised.

- **Morehall Avenue, West Hythe Road/Lympne Hill, Canterbury Road; Lyminge, Prospect Road; Sandgate** received no valid objections only support.

Officer's comments and recommendation

No comments and that parking controls are introduced as advertised.

4 CONCLUSION

The recommendations represent the most appropriate action to balance competing requirements, meet the needs of local residents and facilitate the safe operation of the highway.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The costs of introducing the new on-street parking controls will be around £4000. This can met from existing budgets. The costs include expenditure for new road markings and signing.
- 5.2** Enforcement of the restrictions would not need the Civil Enforcement Officers to deviate from their current patrol routes and could be absorbed

within existing resources. The proportion of time spent at each road would be adjusted accordingly. Any additional administrative work will be absorbed within existing resources.

6. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

6.1 Legal Officer's Comments- NM

The Council is required under The Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 to carry out a statutory consultation in relation to Road Traffic Orders. If objections are received at the statutory consultation stage then in accordance with the regulations a report is presented to the Cabinet Member asking for determination of the objections. If the Cabinet Member determines to reject the objections, a traffic order will be made and implementation of parking restrictions can then commence. The Council is following the due procedure.

6.2 Finance Officer's Comments - RH

As mentioned in the report the cost of the installation of the scheme can be met by existing budgets, and due to the number of permits expected the income will be quite low and therefore will not significantly affect the current budget position.

6.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications- PT

There are no diversity or equality implications directly affected by this report.

7. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer.

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Email: paul.thompson@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

N/A

Appendices

1. Proposal Notice