

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

24 September 2012

Report of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure

Part 1- Public

Matter for Recommendation to Borough Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 PARKING ACTION PLAN

Summary

This report updates Members on the phased approach to on-street parking management with a focus on the detail of the current initiative – Phase 6b

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The Borough Council's approach to on-street parking management has been divided into phases so economies of scale can be applied and work is delivered in a timely manner. Phase 6a was introduced earlier this year, and we have been carrying out informal consultation on proposals that form Phase 6b. We have also started compiling requests that will form Phase 7 for future investigation.

1.1.2 We have received comments on most of the proposals in Phase 6b, some in favour, some against and others suggesting changes and alterations. The Board is invited to consider these responses, and to accept (or otherwise amend) the recommendations so that these proposals can proceed to formal consultation.

1.1.3 Informal consultation has already been carried out on the proposals for Aylesford, forming part of the Aylesford Local Parking Plan and the responses were reported to the Board in June. To take advantages of the economies of scale the agreed proposals in Aylesford Village will join in with the formal consultations as part of Phase 6b.

1.2 Phase 6b

1.2.1 Phase 6b consists of approximately 40 locations across the Borough. We sent out letters and plans to 1184 properties that 'front' the proposals and received replies from 462 properties, an overall return rate of 39%, which is significant when compared to an average of 15-20% for this sort of consultation.

1.2.2 Table of locations and summary of proposals

Parish or Ward	Annex	Location	Summary
Aylesford	01.01-1	McKenzie Close	New double yellow lines
Aylesford (Eccles)	01.01-2	Bull Lane & Cork Street	New double yellow lines
	01.01-3	Bull Lane & Mackenders Lane	New double yellow lines
	01.01-4	Mackenders Lane & Skinners Close	New double yellow lines
	01.01-5	Papion Grove	New double and single yellow lines
Aylesford (Walderslade)	01.01-6	Fernbank Close	New double and single yellow lines
	01.01-7	Catkin Close	New double and single yellow lines
	01.01-8	Tunbury Avenue	New double yellow lines
Burham	01.01-9	Rochester Road	New double yellow lines
Ditton	01.01-10	Ditton Corner (Station Road)	New double yellow lines
	01.01-11	Bell Lane & Fernleigh Rise	New double yellow lines
	01.01-12	Kiln Barn Lane & New Road	New double yellow lines
Hadlow	01.01-13	Carpenters Lane	New double yellow lines
East Malling & Larkfield	01.01-14	The Lakes	New double yellow lines
	01.01-15	Sheldon Way	New double yellow lines
	01.01-16	Thackeray Road & Chaucer Way	New double yellow lines
	01.01-17	Chaucer Way	New double yellow lines and bus stop clearways
	01.01-18	Laburnum Drive & Maple Close	New double yellow lines
Mereworth	01.01-19	Butchers Lane & Kent Street	New double yellow lines
Ryarsh	01.01-20	Birling Road	New double yellow lines
Snodland	01.01-21	High Street & Cantium Place	New double yellow lines
Tonbridge (Vauxhall)	01.01-22	Baltic Road & Hilltop	Changes to parking bays and new single yellow lines
	01.01-23	Springwell Road, White Oaks Close, Woodfield Road	Changes to parking bays and times of operation
Tonbridge (Cage Green)	01.01-24	Coventry Road & Truro Walk	New double yellow lines
Tonbridge (Castle)	01.01-25	Dernier Road	New double yellow lines
	01.01-26	Yardley Park Road	Changes to parking bays
	01.01-27	Market Quarter (Annisson Street, Bradley Street & Exchange Court)	New residents parking area
	01.01-28	The Crescent	New double yellow lines
Tonbridge (Trench)	01.01-29	Greenfrith Drive & Trench Road	New double yellow lines
Tonbridge (Higham)	01.01-30	Higham Lane	New double yellow lines
	01.01-31	Hunt Road & Whistler Road	New double yellow lines
Tonbridge (Judd)	01.01-32	Masefield Road & Shakespeare Road	New double yellow lines
	01.01-33	Shakespeare Road & Burns Crescent	New double yellow lines
Tonbridge (Medway)	01.01-34	Mountfield Park & Kings Road	New double yellow lines
	01.01-35	Pembury Road	New double yellow lines
	01.01-36	Gorham Drive & Lodge Oak Lane	New double yellow lines
Wouldham	01.01-37	Garden Court	New double yellow lines

1.2.3 Additionally, there were two locations where informal consultations with residents were not carried out, both related to new developments that are currently under construction, as the surrounding residents have had the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to parking arrangements as part of the planning process.

Parish or Ward	Annex	Location	Summary
Tonbridge (Castle)	01.01-38	River Walk	Changes to double and single yellow lines
Tonbridge (Vauxhall)	01.01-39	Deakin Leas (northern end)	New double yellow lines and removal of parking bay

1.2.4 The informal consultation on parking restrictions in Aylesford Village related to the following locations.

Parish or Ward	Annex	Location	Summary
Aylesford Village	01.01-40	Forstal Road	New to double and single yellow lines
	01.01-41	Station Road	New double yellow lines
	01.01-42	Unwin Close	New double yellow lines
	01.01-43	Powell Close	New double yellow lines
	01.01-44	Rochester Road	New double yellow lines
	01.01-45	High Street	Changes to parking bay times
	01.01-46	Bush Row	Removal of disabled bay
	01.01-47	High Street (west)	Removal of single yellow lines

1.2.5 There was one other location where changes to parking restrictions were proposed. Previously there had been limited waiting parking bays in The Street in Ightham that had been removed at the request of residents, businesses and the local Member. However, the items within the Traffic Regulation Order still exist and need to be removed. Informal consultation has not been carried out for this removal as the bays have long since disappeared.

Parish or Ward	Annex	Location	Summary
Ightham	01.01-48	The Street	Removal of limited waiting bays

1.2.6 Each location where restrictions or changes are proposed are considered in detail in their respective Annexes, where the history of the request, the proposals and the consultation responses are discussed, along with a recommendation for the Board's consideration.

1.2.7 Where alterations have been recommended, an amended plan has been included for consideration.

1.2.8 It worth noting that whilst some of these proposals were not supported by the public, most of them were and some just needed some minor tweaking to address a particular local issue.

1.3 Next steps

- 1.3.1 Those areas that meet with the Board's approval will now be taken through the formal consultation process and objections reported back to the next meeting. In the meantime the focus of our work will turn to the following projects. Our rate of progress on each will, as always, depend on how extensive the solutions are at various locations.

1.4 Borough Green and Snodland – Parking Reviews

- 1.4.1 Over the next couple of months we will revisit particular aspects of the Local Parking Plans for Borough Green and Snodland with local members and consider any alterations to the existing parking regime at specific locations identified.

1.5 West Malling Local Parking Plan Review

- 1.5.1 I anticipate calling a meeting of the Steering Group for West Malling within the next two months to consider the results of the consultation held earlier this year following, to take stock of the options and to consider any further steps required before proposals are formulated. A further report will then be made to the Board.

1.6 East Malling Local Parking Plan Review

- 1.6.1 Though most of the changes and restrictions introduced in East Malling have settled in well, there are a few locations where there have been reports where parking issues remain, or where the changes associated with the parking review have led to a change in parking habits.
- 1.6.2 In consultation at the turn of the year with local Members, the locations where changes may be required will be assessed and, if appropriate, can be included with other proposals as part of Phase 7.

1.7 Phase 7

- 1.7.1 We are currently compiling a list of locations for investigating the possibility of new parking restrictions. Currently the list of locations for consideration is as follows;

Parish or Ward	Location	Issue
Aylesford	The Beeches	Parking near the Surgery
Aylesford (Eccles)	Bull Lane (opposite No's 271-293)	Parking by weekend footballers' cars
Aylesford (Walderslade)	Woodbury Road (near No's 68 & 70)	Access problems for residents
Aylesford (Walderslade)	Tunbury Avenue & Walderslade Woods	Commuter parking issues
East Malling	Mill Lane	Changes to parking bays around access to No.33

Parish or Ward	Location	Issue
Aylesford (Ditton)	New Road	New disabled parking bay outside the Post Office
Wrotham	A20 (near Tower Ind. Est.)	Parking around the entrance to the industrial estate
Tonbridge (Higham)	Penn Way	Junction protection
Tonbridge (Higham)	Gainsborough Gardens	Access problems for large vehicles
Tonbridge (Medway)	Royal Avenue	Commuter/school parking
Tonbridge (Medway)	Goldsmid Road	Commuter parking
Tonbridge (Cage Green)	Whistler Road & Rutherford Way	Commercial vehicle parking
Tonbridge (Castle)	Dry Hill Park Road	Changes to parking bays
Tonbridge (Vauxhall)	Hilltop & Silver Close area	Commuter / school parking

1.8 Future Work

1.8.1 Development of the Hadlow Local Parking Plan was put on hold some four years ago pending the Parish Council moving forward with a village redesign project. I am advised that the Parish Council is now ready to consider options to address parking issues in various areas. An assessment of the current parking restrictions and an overall review of the requests and aspirations of the Parish Council can be considered, in consultation with local Members, following Phase 7.

1.9 Legal Implications

1.9.1 The on-street parking service is undertaken by the Borough Council on behalf of the County Council under the terms of the formal legal agreement

1.10 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.10.1 Funding to implement the parking action plan is provided within existing approved Borough Council Budgets

1.11 Risk Assessment

1.11.1 The assessment and consultation process applied to parking management should provide the assurance that the Borough Council has the will and ability to adapt the Parking Plans in the light of comment and circumstances to ensure that it achieves a best balance of local parking needs. A regular review of the schemes is crucial to ensure that we can correctly and effectively manage on street parking in these areas as the proposals are either introduced for safety reasons or to provide a more appropriate balance of parking needs.

1.11.2 A major risk is that scheme proposals encounter significant lack of local support. This risk is mitigated by the considerable effort devoted to ensuring there is widespread consultation on proposals through two stages of informal consultation before any formal stage of consultation is reached. There is also care given to ensuring that schemes are adjusted and adapted in the light of comments and observations received from the local community without compromising safety of the Councils commitment to deal appropriately with identified safety concerns.

1.12 Equality Impact Assessment

1.12.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report.

1.13 Recommendations

1.13.1 That the 'Recommendation' stated for each location within Annex 1 **BE ENDORSED**.

1.13.2 That the endorsed proposals proceed to formal consultation, with any arising objections reported to the next meeting of this Board for consideration.

The Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

contact: Andy Bracey

Informal consultation responses supplied as Annexes 02.01-37, (Available in unredacted form on the night of the meeting and electronically in redacted form)

Steve Humphrey
Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure

Screening for equality impacts:		
Question	Answer	Explanation of impacts
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	All of the proposals are in line with national guidelines and re-iterates advice set out within the Highway Code. Any such parking that is affected by these changes is already contrary to that advice. There is no established right to park on the public highway, and the proposals all assist the maintenance of the right of access along the highway and to properties.

Screening for equality impacts:		
Question	Answer	Explanation of impacts
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	Yes	The proposals should ease traffic movements and improve access to properties for all road users.
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		N/A

In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above.