

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**11 March 2019**

**Report of the Director of Street Scene, Leisure & Technical Services**

**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**

**The Borough Council has for many years divided requests for changes to parking restrictions into separate Phases of the “Parking Action Plan”.**

**This report covers the content of the next Phase (Phase 11) of the Action Plan highlights the outcome of consultations on Access Driven Amendments and provides an update on the ongoing Parking Reviews.**

**1.1 Phase 11 (2019/20)**

1.1.1 A list of location requests recommended for consideration in Phase 11 (2019/20) of the Parking Action Plan is shown in **Annex 1**.

1.1.2 Members will note that the list includes 40 locations, which is considered to be the maximum number of schemes that can be addressed within the available staff resources with the Parking team. In addition to the schemes in Phase 11, the Parking Team are already committed to programming 3 separate Parking Reviews detailed later in this report.

**1.2 Future Phases**

1.2.1 A further list of requests is shown in **Annex 2** which will be held on a ‘holding list’ for consideration in future phases of the Plan.

1.2.2 Members may recognise that some sites that were previously reported as being on the Holding List. **Annex 3** shows a list of sites that have now been resolved by other authorities or may no longer be required.

**1.3 Current Procedure**

1.3.1 The current procedure for requesting and progressing changes to parking restrictions is as follows:-

- Request received and added to waiting list.
- Sites collated into manageable phases
- Approval for the next phase reported to Joint Transportation Board with recommendation to move to informal consultation.
- Report to Joint Transportation Board on the outcome of informal consultation with recommendation to alter/adjust proposals if appropriate and to move to formal consultation.
- Report to Joint Transportation Board following formal consultation with recommendations to approve/abandon proposals.
- Install approved schemes.
- Review of impact of proposals after 12 months if required.

#### **1.4 Phase 11 Consultation**

- 1.4.1 Subject to Member approval it is proposed that locations and proposals recommended for consideration in **Annex 1** should now be taken forward for investigation and then to informal consultation.
- 1.4.2 The response to the informal consultation will be reported back to the September 2019 meeting of this Board.

## **2 ACCESS DRIVEN AMENDMENTS**

- 2.1.1 Access Driven Amendments cover minor alterations to parking restrictions to accommodate changes to the Highway, new dropped kerbs and the introduction of disabled persons parking bays.
- 2.1.2 The Council has taken forward 6 locations in response to requests for minor changes to parking restrictions to accommodate new (or recently installed) vehicle crossovers that have already been approved by Kent County Council in its role as the Highway Authority.
- 2.1.3 As part of the formal consultation on the proposed access driven amendments no objections were received at 4 of the locations. Accordingly, in line with the Council's procedure, these proposals will now be implemented.
- 2.1.4 At two locations – Offham Road, West Malling and Weald View Road, Tonbridge objections were received for Offham Road and for Weald View Road.
- 2.1.5 In line with the Council's procedure, and as there were less than 5 objections at each of these locations, the objections were shared with the local County and Borough Members along with the Chair of this Board to seek their agreement to either set aside the objections or to refer the objections to this Board for consideration.
- 2.1.6 In both these cases, after consideration the Chairman agreed that the objections could be set aside and the proposals in Offham Road and Weald View Road are

to be implemented, and the associated Traffic Order Amendment be sealed by the County Council

- 2.1.7 Dependent on weather, implementation is likely to take place towards the end of March 2019, along with the approved changes in Phase 10 of the Parking Action Plan.

### **3 PARKING REVIEWS**

- 3.1.1 In addition to the Phased Parking Action Plans, the Borough Council has agreed a programme of Parking Reviews, where more complex issues or packages of measures can be addressed.
- 3.1.2 There are currently three Parking Reviews under way, Kings Hill, Hadlow and Hildenborough, with a future review programmed for Snodland.
- 3.1.3 The parking issues in Kings Hill cover a number of locations across the village, with a variety of issues relating to the style of the development and the number of adopted and private roads. In liaison with the local Members the Parish Council and Liberty Property, Officers have reviewed the programme and approach to be taken for Kings Hill. Given the potential on-going phases of this review, the decision was taken to address the main distributor roads first. The proposals for this first phase of work will be informally consulted upon with the outcome being reported to the September meeting of this Board.
- 3.1.4 The Council has been developing proposals for parking restrictions across Hadlow (and Golden Green) ready for informal consultation later this summer. Once again it is the intention to report the outcome of this consultation to the September meeting of this Board.
- 3.1.5 Initial proposals are still in development for Hildenborough. The issues are complex due to competing demands for residential, business, commuter and school parking. Officers will continue to develop the proposals, ready for informal consultation later this year.

### **3.2 Equality Impact Assessment**

- 3.2.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users. Access Driven Amendments often relate to the introduction of disabled persons bays.

### **3.3 Legal Implications**

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

### **3.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

3.4.1 Funding of £15,000 to implement works associated with the Parking Action Plans and the Parking Reviews is provided within the Borough Council's revenue budgets.

### **3.5 Risk Assessment**

3.5.1 The detailed assessment and consultation process applied to parking management provides the assurance that the Borough Council is willing to listen to local views on the Parking Plans, and ensure it achieves a best balance of local parking needs. A regular review of the schemes is crucial to ensure that the Council 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.

3.5.2 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 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 or the Council's commitment to deal appropriately with identified safety concerns.

### **3.6 Policy Considerations**

3.6.1 Asset Management

3.6.2 Communications

3.6.3 Community

3.6.4 Customer Contact

### **3.7 Recommendations**

3.7.1 It is RECOMMENDED to Borough Cabinet that:

- i) the list of locations identified in **Annex 1** to the report be taken forward for investigation and informal consultation as Phase 11 of the Parking Action Plan.
- ii) the list of locations identified in **Annex 2** to the report be held for the next cycle of the Phased Parking Plan.

The Director of Street Scene, Leisure & Technical Services confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

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