

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Proposed parking restrictions
Date: 24 January 2022 14:30:48

Good afternoon,

I would like to voice my concerns at the proposal to put more double yellow lines down on Vale Rise and Woodgate Way. The vehicles that park there are doing so for a reason, mainly that they work nearby and have nowhere else to go. As a local residents I am greatly concerned that any further restrictions on parking will only cause more issues with local worker having to park in residential streets.

I live in one of the very few roads in South Tonbridge that does not have restricted parked via the residents permit scheme and would like it to stay that way.

Maybe rather than trying to penalise working people, you should be looking at how you can support them.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Ph13-26
Date: 20 January 2022 18:07:01

Dear Sirs,

Regarding this parking problem, I have several observations.

1. Current parking helps to slow traffic in a 30mph limit.
2. Where will the Royal Mail workers park?
3. On the whole there is room for cars to move both ways without severe hold ups.
4. The main problem as I see it is the blocking of the cycle lanes, so I am wondering if the verge could be widened to create a parking bay. Of course this would not work over the bridge, but apart from that area could the bank be built out to provide enough width for the required parking?

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way
Date: 14 January 2022 23:06:39

Hi,

I wanted to share my views on the parking issues on Woodgate Way.

While I agree that we need to limit parking along Woodgate Way, my biggest concern is the impact any restrictions on that road will have on Tudeley Lane.

Living on Somerhill estate, we already have issues along the road in to the entrance of the estate. With 250 homes it's a busy entrance, particularly with traffic caused by Bishop Chavesse school. Tudeley Lane is a narrow bending road that needs double yellow lines to keep it clear and safe.

Due to the border of TMBC and TWBC being on the road, a gap in the double yellows has been left meaning cars are being parked along it 6 days a week. Often cars are parked illegally on double yellows which means no gaps are left so cars meet travelling on the same side of the road.

When cars are queuing to enter Bishops Chavesse School the road is completely blocked with cars.

Any change on Woodgate Way should include an update to parking restrictions on Tudeley Lane.

Thanks

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way.
Date: 14 January 2022 22:04:42

Hi.

I use this stretch of road regularly whilst cars are parked and never found a problem, vehicles flow in both directions easily, maybe the centre line could be moved to balance out space. There are far bigger road issues that need fixing such as Shipbourne Rd near Sturdeys which is blocked nearly every morning.

Regards.

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Sky Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Cc: ritmbrown@btinternet.com
Subject: Parking Woodgate Way, Tonbridge
Date: 14 January 2022 20:50:16

I am writing in response to the Facebook posting asking for our concerns about the parking on this stretch of road. My interest is that I live in the road that will be next in line if parking on Woodgate Way is restricted. It is already happening and will only get worse.

Who is parking there?

I walk along Woodgate Way most days at about 07:00 hrs when most of the cars arrive. They are almost all postal worker from the sorting office. There is no on site parking there and their unsocial hours make public transport impractical. Doubtless there are others from other employers who do not provide parking for their employees e. g. Staff working for TMBC at the Urbaser depot.

The town needs to attract employers to Tonbridge to generate wealth but the town has to accept the consequences of that and make sure that their employees have the facilities they need without impacting the residents.

In spite of the claim in the Facebook Post that TMBC and TWBC do not proactively introduce new parking restrictions they have both removed areas of parking suitable for workers that have had a direct influence on Woodgate Way.

1. Swanmead Way - yellow lines extended because of increased traffic volumes of traffic not anticipated by the planners
2. Five Oak Green Road - Woodgate roundabout to Priory Stream Bridge. Perfectly safe parking replaced with double yellow lines.
3. Vale Road - Sovereign Way to Morley Road - restricted pay and display parking
4. Somerhill Road and Gorham Drive residents parking scheme.

Until these last two were introduced there was no parking problem on Woodgate Way.

5. Planning Policy - Some of the planning decisions we see from TMBC suggest that planners occupy a different planet to the rest of us. Their belief that if you don't provide parking places then people will get rid of their cars is naive in the extreme. The next one that will affect the parking in this area is the old Colas site with huge warehouse units that have just 7 parking spaces per unit for employees and customers. You couldn't make it up.

It shouldn't have taken mystic Meg to see the problem you were creating with these measures

What to do

Firstly you need to accept that any additional restrictions will simply move the problem elsewhere. People are not going to jump on their bikes or the bus, they want to use their cars and you will not stop or discourage them. Further parking restrictions are not the answer.

The solution will be found in a number of smaller measures.

TWBC to restore lost parking on Five Oak Green Road.

Remove the parking restrictions on Vale Road.

Make the parking on Woodgate Way safer, re align the central white lines and put a 40mph limit from the TWBC boundary. The danger of parking in Woodgate Way arises from it being a national speed limit. The parking in Shipbourne Road is far more dangerous but seems to be acceptable to TMBC.

Write to the Volvo dealership and ask them to help the parking problem by not parking their cars on Vale Rise when they have plenty of their own land. They can have as many as 7 of their cars on the road. Clearly you can't force them to do this but you might appeal to their community spirit. They may need to establish an area on their property where cars can be dropped off and picked up.

This will be a difficult problem to resolve but kneejerk restrictions are not the answer, any restrictions must be fully offset by the removal of restrictions elsewhere.



Sent from my Galaxy

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way parking response
Date: 19 January 2022 08:24:08

Hi

I am writing to confirm my view that no changes are necessary on Woodgate Way. My reasons: I can see no accident data for this stretch of road so parked cars here aren't causing a problem; the parked cars help to slow other traffic to the correct speed; lorries and cars can both pass even with parked cars.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way Parking
Date: 14 January 2022 17:35:35

Good morning Parking Team,

In regards to Matt Boughton's post regarding the parked cars all along Woodgate Way, I would like to comment on the extension of double yellow lines on both sides of the road as proposed. This would stop the dangerous parking that has been happening for approx 2 years.

The road cannot take parked cars down one side of the road. I have safety features on my car, that when I cross the white lines in the middle of the road (to pass the parked cars), my car steers me back over to the left-hand side, virtually touching the parked cars. When a lorry is oncoming its an accident waiting to happen.

If double yellow lines are extended, would they stop the cars parking there, will it be enforced by wardens?

I am told that it is Royal Mail workers vehicles that park there, whilst I have every sympathy with them not being able to park near the delivery office, Royal Mail should not have sold off their parking land to the development that is being built at the front of the Royal Mail premises.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Cc: [Matt Boughton](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way parking
Date: 15 January 2022 12:43:47

Dear TMBC Parking,

I have been complaining about the dangerous parking on Woodgate Way for some years, so I am delighted to hear of a possible resolution.

The greatest danger is that for traffic travelling south, visibility is much reduced by the brow of the hill and the right hand bend upon it, as anyone knows who uses the road.

We locals know in advance that as we breast the hill, traffic may be coming at us in the middle of the road, but strangers do not.

So it was a great improvement when you extended the yellow lines beyond the worst of the bend, which I thought was an excellent first step.

I appreciate that you do not have control of the full length of the road, as the borough boundary intersects it, so a complete solution is not possible at present.

But I strongly urge you to do what IS within your power, which is to extend the yellow lines as far as possible - ie as far as the borough boundary.

This would move the parking as far away as possible from the dangerous hill and bend, and mitigate at least a little the danger to cyclists and pedestrians.

I understand the argument that this may move the problem elsewhere, but at least the 'elsewhere' would be a less dangerous place, further from the hill.

Please DO NOT consider parking bays. These would merely normalise parking on a dangerous stretch of road and exacerbate the problem.

I understand, of course, that this is only a partial solution, but a partial solution is better than none.

Who knows? In the future, it may be possible to persuade TWBC and/or KCC to co-operate to solve the problem in full.

But for now yellow lines as far as we can have them are absolutely the best option.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: RE: Woodgate Way
Date: 20 January 2022 23:40:42

Good evening,

Regarding the image attached posted by Mr Tugendhat on Facebook about extending the double yellow lines: I object to the proposal to extend the double yellow lines. All this is doing is pushing the problem to elsewhere and not addressing the issue.

The issue is, as far as I understand it, planning permission was granted to allow developers to build horrendously ugly, huge buildings on the corner by Royal Mail. This has eliminated all the parking for Royal Mail staff.

I think TMBC could work with Royal Mail to identify parking for the staff, then the problem is eliminated. Rather than making the staff's jobs even harder, when they have worked so hard during the pandemic, as ever.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: [Suspect Spam] Response to proposed changes to road markings on Woodgate Way, Tonbridge
Date: 20 January 2022 20:38:30

The existing parking is caused by workers at the Royal Mail sorting office needing somewhere to park.

The road is plenty wide enough to accommodate this.

Instead of the existing plan, I believe marking parking bays down that side of the road and then moving the centre white line so the remainder of the road is equally divided would provide a better solution. It would continue to allow parking and would allow traffic in both directions a full width lane to drive in.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way Parking
Date: 15 January 2022 20:01:20

Hi,

I have just read the information on Facebook regarding the parking problem on Woodgate Way. While I agree that it is an issue, I believe that adding a further section of yellow lines (without providing any additional parking) will just move the problem onto another section of road. I wonder if any surveys have been completed to ascertain where the people are going who are parking there? I'm assuming many work at the Royal Mail but I may be wrong. Have any discussions been had with any of the local businesses to see if any additional parking can be made? I always find it frustrating when employees are hindered when trying to gain access to their place of work.

The parking problems are likely to be worse once the new units are completed, unless further parking spaces are made available in the area. If more off-street parking was made available for those that need it, then I would fully support an extension of the double yellow lines.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate way / Vale Rise Parking Changes
Date: 20 January 2022 18:31:01

Hi

I notice there are considerations to add double yellow lines to the boundary of the T&M council area. I agree the cars parked are far from ideal but there needs to be careful thought about why they are parking there. I think adding double yellows will be very detrimental to other areas of the town and local businesses. I believe most of the cars are from people who need to commute into the town to run the businesses that support the town. I have asked people who park there and this is what everyone have said. Many used to park on residential roads but moved when permit parking was introduced. Maybe a consideration should be given to free parking in the towns car parks for those who work in any of the local businesses? With the new retail park being built I can only see the situation getting worse as more staff will be required to work in the area and less space will be available.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Tonbridge Vale Rise & Woodgate Way - yellow lines
Date: 20 January 2022 18:53:26

Dear To Whom this may concern,

I use this road nearly every day to get to work. I pass just after school rush hour so can't comment on this particular time frame. However in my opinion three cars can quite easily pass on this road safely very rarely is there traffic unless there is an accident or broken down vehicle within the area.

Has anyone researched or enquired as to who is parking there? Surely this information will hopefully provide a solution. Is the solution to provide more affordable parking in town? Or is this is local business employees parking there to get to work?.

The addition of yellow lines will move the traffic to residential roads in the surrounding areas which is more likely to have a far greater negative impact not only on residents but for the safety of children getting to school.

From my understanding (not confirmed) the parking has increased as it's Royal Mail staff parking for work. Maybe Royal Mail should be contacted to offer a solution as they have restricted employees from parking on site.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Vale Rise & Woodgate Way Parking
Date: 30 January 2022 10:22:41

To who it may concern.

I feel that the idea of putting double yellow lines up here is ridiculous. It is the only free parking in the town for people working for Royal Mail and the bin men to park there would not be enough parking around Vale Road or Morley Road to accommodate all the cars especially with the new units on Vale Road which will not have enough parking around their units to stop overflow onto the roads around. The idea that it is to stop accidents is only because people don't know how to drive. How about reducing the speed limit to 30mph from the roundabout all the way along and moving the centre line 2 feet further away from the parked cars to allow more room on that side the road is wide enough for lorries to pass each other.

Many Thanks

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Parking Consultation - Woodgate Way, Tonbridge
Date: 20 January 2022 19:12:00

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am strongly opposed to the proposal to place double yellow lines on Woodgate Way. To do so would force drivers into crowded adjacent residential areas to locate an alternative location to park. The obstruction they allegedly cause on Woodgate Way is extremely minor, and no significant challenge for even the most borderline competent motorist to deal with.

If you wish to prevent parking on Woodgate Way please make suitable provision elsewhere in the town's commercial and shopping areas for extensive free parking and do not force these drivers to unnecessarily clog the local streets.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way Parking
Date: 14 January 2022 18:52:26

Hello,

The proposed yellow lines are a shortsighted idea and just pushes the problem elsewhere without offering solutions (though this seems to be how the Conservative councillors operate).

There is clearly a need to park in the immediate vicinity and the carriage way is wide enough for cars to park on one side. There are plenty of roads throughout Tonbridge with cars parking blocking the carriage way, Shipbourne Road being just one example, so your proposed "solution" for Woodgate Way is even more bizarre.

Allowing cars to park on one side (perhaps with parking bays) and changing the centre line of the road, which is more than wide enough to allow it, would be a better option.

I would also like to see the Conservative councillors stop passing blame on others for their actions or lack thereof (e.g. TWBC, Green councillors) and taking credit for actions initiated by those parties. I understand change is this is incredibly unlikely.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate way parking issues.
Date: 15 January 2022 21:29:12

Following the introduction of permit parking in Somerhill Road and surrounding areas pushing the dangerous parking to Woodgate way, would it not make more sense to provide A free or reduced rate car park on any of the grounds by the snap fitness and business units..

On a separate note;

As a resident of the permit parking, we still suffer with "clarion", uk power network, scrap works vehicles just to name a few, abandoned over the weekend resulting in an inability to park near our homes. And there are still people parking without paying the permit fee.

Is there not a facility for the refuse collectors to park on that site where they store the dustcarts?

I'm seriously concerned everytime i have to drive along Woodgate way, in case i am involved in a collision.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Phase 13-26 woodland Way
Date: 20 January 2022 19:53:59

Dear sirs

I think that double yellow lines on both sides of the road is unnecessary. On the side of the traffic heading away from Tonbridge I agree.

The road is very wide and can be divided into 3, with one Lane for free parking. We have many businesses nearby that don't have parking and you are about to increase this with the large business units next to the Post Office. These new units will not have enough parking for customers and staff.

Please leave some free parking in our town.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: DD/591/24 Woodgate Way
Date: 18 January 2022 10:25:08

Dear Sirs

I refer to your letter of 7th January in respect of the proposed extension of double yellow lines along Woodgate Way.

We have a number of staff who, by necessity, use Woodgate Way on their commute to & from our place of business, all of whom have commented on how dangerous it can be with so many parked vehicles along that stretch of road. As a business, we are therefore in total favour of the proposals.

That said, I am disappointed to see that the double yellows only extend as far as the borough boundary and fear that this will only push the problem further along the road towards the Somerhill Roundabout. I wonder if you are aware of any plans by Tunbridge Wells BC to impose similar measures along the rest of Woodgate Way?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Parking in Woodgate Way Tonbridge
Date: 21 January 2022 07:35:40

Good morning

I have concerns about the parking on Woodgate Way Tonbridge between Somerhill roundabout and Vale Rise.

Most of the cars are owned by workers of The Royal Mail and the industrial units on Vale Rise, where parking for there employees is not made available .

This road should be made a Urban Causeway due the fact that's there's a blind spot over the top of the Railway Bridge .

There is a unbroken white line on the top of this Bridge to stop overtaking and to keep the traffic in it lane because of the Blind Spot .

In effect all the cars parked in this area is causing a road traffic offense forcing cars into the opposite lane in front of oncoming traffic on a blind spot

The local Police have no interest in forcing this gross breach of the law as they have constantly been there on other occasions dealing with youths on the Railway Tracks and just driving past all day every day nothing said or done.

The drivers of these cars are also parking in Lodge Oak lane , Gorham Drive and Somerhill Road area where there is no parking Restrictions affecting local residents parking there cars

This problem is getting worse from week to week as more cars join them and is now all the way down to the roundabout from the top of the bridge where the Double Yellow Lines Stop

I hope this helps in anyway

And it good at last that someone has taken note of the serious situations

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Woodgate Way parking suggestion
Date: 14 January 2022 18:29:26

I write in response to Matt Boughton's post on Facebook today requesting comments by the end of the month. The suggestion in his post seems to be to apply double yellow lines up to the TBMC boundary but all I think that is going to do is force the workers who park here to park closer to the roundabout with Tudeley Road, where there are no double yellow lines, and maybe create more of a danger near the roundabout. In addition, the workers may seek other side streets and spots to park causing greater nuisance elsewhere.

Workers need somewhere to park whilst at work. Ideally that would be on employers' premises but if TBMC cannot force that, then on-street parking needs to be made available them as they earn their living (useful public services from many of these specific workers I suspect) and paying council tax. Woodgate Way is still wide enough for two lanes of traffic with cars parked: why can't the road markings be changed to make it two single lines of traffic with no overtaking and one set of parking bays where workers currently park? A 30mph speed limit, on what everyone has always treated as a fairly fast piece of road, should accompany this.

Just as importantly, this parking wasn't such a large problem until parking on Vale Road (the section near the new industrial estate) was restricted to just two hours. Why was that? If parking is allowed in Vale Road at all the safety risk must be reasonable, so why limit it to two hours leading to almost no one parking there now? Why not change that back to all day parking with my other suggestion for a two lane plus parking bays format on Woodgate Way? That should, in my view, provide a reasonable compromise to allow workers to earn a living without being hounded from the area into residential side streets.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Parking Office](#)
Subject: Phase 13 consultation
Date: 20 January 2022 22:25:07

I would like to lodge my support for the proposal to extend double yellow lines to prohibit parking on **Woodgate Way, Tonbridge**.

The amount of parking has grown exponentially in the past couple of years and if you are in/on anything other than a bicycle or motorcycle, you are forced over the single white line into the other lane facing oncoming traffic.

As traffic is queuing regularly on this stretch of road, motorcycles cannot filter because the queue is already over the white line, and any that do put their lives at risk.

Another hazard presented by the constantly parked cars are drivers opening their doors in front of oncoming traffic - and if there is no queue that is approaching at high speed.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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