

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive Member for Public Protection for Decision

Portfolio:	Public Protection
Subject:	Traffic Regulation Order - Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Wickham Road, Fareham
Report of:	Director of Environmental Services
Strategy/Policy:	
Corporate Objective:	A safe and healthy place to live and work

Purpose:

To inform the Executive Member of the outcome of the statutory advertisement of a proposal to introduce waiting restrictions and to obtain authorisation to implement a Traffic Regulation Order.

Executive summary:

This report addresses concerns from residents in respect of parking on the A32 Wickham Road.

Following consultations with residents, local members and the police it is proposed to introduce waiting restrictions to overcome the concerns expressed.

Recommendation:

That the waiting restrictions as shown at Appendix A are introduced as advertised.

Reason:

To improve road safety and to reduce the risk of obstructions.

Cost of Proposals:

The cost of the proposal will be met from the Traffic Management budget.

Risk Assessment:

There are no identified risks associated with this proposal.

Appendices Appendix A : Scheme drawing

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Executive Briefing Paper

Date: 1 April 2014

Subject:: Traffic Regulation Order - Proposed Waiting Restrictions – Wickham Road, Fareham

Briefing by: Director of Environmental Services

Portfolio: Public Protection

Supporting Information

Background

1. Wickham Road forms part of the A32 principal road which runs from Gosport, through Fareham and on to Alton in the north of Hampshire. As would be expected by virtue of this being an A class road it is heavily used, and from a local perspective Wickham Road is well used to serve the north eastern part of the town of Fareham.
2. Waiting restrictions were introduced into Wickham Road at and to the south of its junction with St Christopher Avenue early in 2013, to address concerns in respect of parking in this road. These measures have been successful but a level of parking now takes place to the north of these restrictions.
3. North of St Christopher Avenue the road narrows as it approaches Giles Close, and on the western side of Wickham Road between its junctions with these two roads, a number of vehicular entrances exist which serve local business premises.
4. Complaints have been received about parking which impedes visibility when leaving these entrances, and a number of minor accidents have occurred in which have been attributed to this parking.
5. It is therefore proposed to prohibit parking along both sides of Wickham Road between St Christopher Avenue and a point north of Giles Close, except for a short length where parking could take place without unduly impeding visibility from any of the vehicular entrances. The permitted parking length is proposed to include a short length of revocation of the existing restrictions.
6. There are two significant factors in wishing to retain some parking along Wickham Road. Firstly, speeding is a common cause for complaint along this road and a length of parking will help to keep speeds from becoming too

excessive. Secondly, there is a risk that removing all of the parking will lead to parking in other locations which lead to complaints, St Christopher Avenue and Giles Close being two roads where complaints have already been received.

7. The proposed length of restrictions coupled with a short length of parking is presented as the most appropriate compromise taking all of these situations into account. As a supplementary measure, it is considered that the white centre carriageway markings in Wickham Road along the length under consideration could also be reviewed and possibly improved. This is not part of the traffic regulation order, and does not require to be implemented at the same time, but it is highlighted here as a possible further improvement and has been discussed with Hampshire Highways.

Consultations

8. The Ward Councillors, County Councillor and Police were consulted on this proposal and all expressed their support.
9. The Statutory Consultees were consulted and no objections were received.

Representations

10. The proposal was formally advertised in March 2014 and no written objections were received. A verbal objection was made which was that no parking should remain along Wickham Road, however this was not confirmed in writing (despite an invitation to do so), and the reasoning given in the foregoing paragraphs would favour retaining a length of parking as proposed.
11. A point has also been raised in respect of parking by visitors to the cemetery, who may lose a useful facility by virtue of these proposed restrictions. This has been investigated and discussed with Fareham Borough Council's Cemeteries Officer, and it has been agreed that parking within the cemetery grounds is sufficient for most of its visitors. If a particularly large funeral was to generate an exceptional demand for parking, then Wickham Road in this locality would not provide an appropriate facility for this parking, especially given the associated disadvantages (such as the existing concerns) that would be necessary to accommodate it.

Conclusion

12. It is recommended that the proposed waiting restrictions are implemented as advertised and detailed at Appendix A.