

Individual Decision

Title of Report:	Proposed Waiting Restrictions, The Green, Theale		
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Sally Hannon	on:	31 January 2005
Forward Plan Ref:	ID0897		

Purpose of Report:

To inform the Portfolio Member for Highways and Transportation of the comments received during the statutory consultation and advertisement of a proposed waiting restriction on The Green, Theale.

Recommended Action:

That the Portfolio Member resolves to approve the recommendations as set out in section 4 of this report.

Reason for decision to be taken:

To improve road safety and prevent parking on The Green at its junction with Deadmans Lane and the adjacent un-named road and to allow the safe movement of buses and coaches when using the bus parking area for Theale Green School.

List of other options considered:

N/A

Key background documentation:

- Responses received during statutory consultation & advertisement.
- Plan ref 82127/302

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Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 It is proposed to construct a school bus parking area on the un-named road (known locally as Bradfield Road) that links The Green and the A340 Pangbourne Road for the number of buses that deliver and collect pupils attending Theale Green School. It is proposed that buses will approach the bus parking area from the A340 Pangbourne Road and exit via The Green.
- 1.2 Given the swept path of a bus it is necessary to prevent vehicles parking on The Green at its junction with the un-named road and Deadmans Lane so that buses can safely negotiate the junction. Statutory consultation on the proposal to introduce 'No waiting at any time' restrictions at the junction was undertaken on 11 November 2004.

2. Responses Received

- 2.1 At the end of the statutory consultation period responses had been received from Councillor Alan Macro and Theale Parish Council.
- 2.2 Theale Parish Council requested that the proposed restriction should only operate during school term times and during the school opening hours. Councillor Macro suggested that the restriction should be extended on the un-named road to prevent parked vehicles obstructing school buses when they exit the bus parking area.

3. Officer Comments

- 3.1 Whilst the bus parking area will mainly be used at the beginning and end of the school day, it may also be used in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays. Revising the restriction may lead to buses being obstructed by parked vehicles. It is also considered that restrictions which prevent parking at all times at this unusual junction, which features two roads in very close proximity, is desirable from a road safety perspective.
- 3.2 The extent of the proposed restrictions will enable buses to manoeuvre through the junction safely and keep sightlines clear for traffic exiting Deadmans Lane and the un-named road. The design and location of the bus parking area is such that buses should not encounter difficulties when leaving it. Consequently it is not considered necessary to extend the restrictions on the un-named road, which would require the re-advertisement of the traffic order and hence delay implementation. However, if buses were to experience difficulties it would be possible for additional restrictions to be implemented at a later date. This solution enables the scheme to go ahead without delay.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that the proposed restrictions be introduced as advertised and that the respondents be informed accordingly.

Appendices

N/A

Implications

Policy:	None arising from this report.
Financial:	The recommendations will be funded as part of the introduction of the bus parking area.
Personnel:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	The traffic order will require sealing by Legal and Electoral Services.
Environmental:	The proposed waiting restrictions will assist the movement of school buses, improve road safety and therefore provide environmental benefits to local residents.
Equalities:	None arising from this report.
Partnering:	None arising from this report.

Consultation Responses

Members:	
Leader of Council:	Councillor Royce Longton supports the recommendation.
Select Committee Chairmen:	Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation.
P&L Committee Chairman (where appropriate):	N/A
Ward Members:	Councillor Alan Marco has declared an interest in the proposal and therefore not made any comments.
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation.
Advisory Members:	N/A
Local Stakeholders:	Have been consulted as part of the statutory consultation process.
Officers Consulted:	Andrew Garratt, Mark Cole and Mark Edwards
Trade Union:	N/A