

Individual Decision

Title of Report:	Proposed Waiting Restrictions, Holmwood Avenue, Calcot		
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Keith Chopping	On:	31st January 2006
Forward Plan Ref:	ID1123		

Purpose of Report:

To inform the Executive Member for Planning and Highways of the responses received during the statutory and public consultation on the proposed waiting restrictions on Holmwood Avenue, Calcot.

Recommended Action:

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

Reason for decision to be taken:

Statutory Public Consultation has resulted in significant objection to the proposal.

List of other options considered:

To introduce the waiting restrictions as advertised.

Key background documentation:

- Consultation letter sent to residents.
- Consultation Plan No. TM53.2/05-06/01.
- Responses to consultation letter.
- Final scheme plan No. TM/05/001.
- Responses received during statutory consultation and advertisement.
- Notes from site visits.
- Appendix A – Summary of Comments to Statutory Consultation.

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Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 As part of the planning consent for the Aldi store on the A4 Bath Road, Calcot, it was agreed that provision for parking restrictions be introduced on Holmwood Avenue. This was intended to prevent parking on Holmwood Avenue by shoppers to the store and staff from the adjacent Reg Vardy garage.
- 1.2 Holmwood Avenue is a cul-de-sac which includes access to Greencroft Gardens. There are a total of forty five properties in Holmwood Avenue and Greencroft Gardens. All the properties in Holmwood Avenue have off-street parking that could accommodate at least two vehicles. The properties in Greencroft Gardens have a garage or hard-standing facility that could accommodate one vehicle. There is a lay-by in Holmwood Avenue which is often used for parking and can accommodate approximately twelve vehicles.
- 1.3 To assess the parking situation, site visits were undertaken at various times, including one with a Ward Member. It was observed during these visits that very little on-street parking was taking place.
- 1.4 To assess the views of the residents of Holmwood Avenue and Greencroft Gardens a letter, incorporating Plan No TM53.2/05-06/01 was sent on 10th June 2005 seeking their comments. Twenty six responses were received resulting in thirteen supporting the restrictions and thirteen against. Analysis of the comments showed that some of the Holmwood Avenue residents were in favour as they experienced difficulties reversing out of their driveway due to parked vehicles, whilst residents of Greencroft Gardens opposed the proposal due to the reduction in available parking. Other comments indicated that the staff from Reg Vardy are using the layby to park.
- 1.5 A revised scheme was designed, as shown on Plan No TM/05/001, to address the comments to the initial consultation. Statutory consultation and advertisement of the revised scheme was undertaken from 13 October to 3 November 2005.

2. Responses to statutory consultation

- 2.1 At the end of the statutory consultation and advertisement period a total of nine objections had been received, which included a thirty one signature petition signed by residents objecting to the provision of double yellow lines in Holmwood Avenue/Greencroft Gardens. No response was received from Thames Valley Police and it is assumed that they do not object to the advertised order.
- 2.2 A summary of all the comments received to the statutory consultation, together with officer comments, is detailed in Appendix A to this report.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The responses received during the informal and Statutory Consultation indicated significant opposition to the proposals, as the introduction of waiting restrictions would have a detrimental effect on residents. During site visits it was observed that parking behaviour in Holmwood Avenue is no different to any other residential road where there is on-street parking.
- 3.2 Whilst it was indicated during the consultation that employees of Reg Vardy use the lay-by in Holmwood Avenue, this does not cause any road safety problems.

3.3 Although it was anticipated that the Aldi store development would lead to many parking problems in Holmwood Avenue this has not proven to be the case.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Given the responses received during the Statutory Consultation it is recommended that the proposed waiting restrictions are not introduced and that no further action is taken.

4.2 That the respondents be informed accordingly.

Appendices

Appendix A – Summary of comments to Statutory Consultation.

Implications

Financial: The cost of advertising the Traffic Regulation Order is funded from the Section 106 contribution for the Aldi development.

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council: Councillor Graham Jones was unavailable however comments will be verbally made during the Individual Decision process.

Select Committee Chairmen: Councillor Quentin Webb agrees with the recommendation of this report.

P&L Committee Chairman N/A
(where appropriate):

Ward Member: Councillors Manohar Gopal, Brian Bedwell and Peter Argyle support the recommendations within the report.

Opposition Spokesperson: Councillor Owen Jeffery supports the recommendation on the basis that the Ward Members agree with it.

Advisory Members: N/A

Local Stakeholders: Have been consulted as part of the statutory consultation process.

Officers Consulted: Andrew Garratt, Mark Cole.

Trade Union: No Trade Union implications.