AGENDA

MAIDSTONE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING



Date: Wednesday 19 January 2011

Time: 5.00 p.m.

Venue: Town Hall, High Street,

Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors Beerling, Mrs Blackmore, Carter, Chell,

Chittenden, Cooke (Chairman), Daley, English, Hinder, Hotson, Marchant, Parr, Robertson, Ross, Mrs Stockell, Whittle, J E Wilson and J.A. Wilson

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- 1. Apologies for Absence
- 2. Notification of Substitute Members
- 3. Notification of Visiting Members
- 4. Disclosures by Members and Officers

Continued Over/:

Issued on 11 January 2011

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact JANET BARNES on 01622 602242**. To find out more about the work of the Board, please visit www.maidstone.gov.uk

Alisan Brown

Alison Broom, Chief Executive, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ

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Registering for Public Speaking

In order to book a slot to speak at this meeting of the Joint Transportation Board please contact Janet Barnes on 01622 602242 by 3.30pm on the day of the meeting. You will also need to inform us of the topic you wish to speak on. Please note that slots will be allocated on a first come, first served basis up to a maximum of ten speakers.

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MAIDSTONE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2010

PRESENT: Maidstone Borough Council

Councillors Beerling, Mrs Blackmore, English, Hinder, Marchant, Parr, Ross, J E Wilson and

J.A. Wilson

Kent County Council

County Councillors Cooke (Chairman), Carter, Chell, Chittenden, Mrs Stockell and Whittle

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Gooch and Horne

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Daley and Hotson.

19. NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

There were no Substitute Members.

20. NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS

Councillor Horne indicated his wish to speak on Agenda Item 10 – Joint Transportation Update on Signs and Lines Policy and Technical Directive, Revision of the Scheme Prioritisation System and Winter Service.

Councillor Gooch was in attendance.

21. DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Hinder declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 12 and 13 as he is a member of Boxley Parish Council.

22. <u>DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING</u>

The Chairman declared on behalf of all Members that they had been lobbied with regard to Agenda Item 9 – Policy for Obstructions and Temporary Items on the Highway.

23. MINUTES

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

24. PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were no Petitions, however the Chairman read the following statement:-

"At the last meeting, a Petition was presented following which I stated that there was to be no discussion by Members and that it would be included on the next meeting's Agenda and, as you will have seen, it is included in the Petitions Update at Agenda Item 10 for this meeting and any Member wishing to speak will have an opportunity to do so.

Following the last meeting, an enquiry was made to the Monitoring Officer as to whether the correct procedures had been followed.

I can confirm, the Maidstone Borough Council Constitution states:-

"For Committee or Sub-Committee, Cabinet or appropriate Cabinet Member meetings at the conclusion of the speech of the presenter the petition will be:

- referred without further discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the appropriate Committee or Sub-Committee or to the Cabinet or appropriate Cabinet Member when it will be included in the appropriate officer's report; or
- considered at the meeting in conjunction with any report that has been placed on the agenda concerning the matter raised in the petition; or
- considered at the meeting if Members feel that a report is not necessary."

I therefore suggest that, following the presentation of any petitions at future meetings of the JTB, the Chairman recommends one of the above options to the Board for their agreement."

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the Chairman's recommendation above be agreed.

25. QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Neville Butteriss addressed the Board with regard to Item 9 – Policy for Obstructions and Temporary Items on the Highway. Mr Butteriss informed the Board that he was the original instigator of a campaign to abolish advertising boards on the streets. The campaign has progressed very well after meeting with Mr Burr and Councillor Chittenden backed the campaign by walking through the town with a blindfold on to highlight the hazards of these boards. Mr Butteriss stated that his petition currently

has 2,300 signatures and he suggested that shop should be allowed to have small hanging signs outside on walls instead. He urged members of the Board to support his campaign and thanked Councillor Chittenden and Miss Brooks of the RNIB who had come down from London for this meeting. He said Kent could be the first County to deal with this problem and make a name for itself.

Mr Ivan White of the Federation of Small businesses addressed the Board with regard to Item 9 – Policy for Obstructions and Temporary Items on the Highway. Mr White said he was very disappointed that the policy had been introduced without consultation with businesses, especially as they have an accord with KCC for this sort of matter. He said that he realises that some A-Boards have become a problem in the town and that smaller out of town shopping areas rely on the A-Boards to attract business. Mr White also felt that the charging regime was problematic, in that, KCC say the charge is to cover the administration only, but he felt that charging £65 for the re-issue of the licence should be substantially lower. Also, why £150 pa for tables and chair irrespective of the size of area and the number of tables?

Mr Paul Alcock, Chairman of Town Centre Management addressed the Board with regard to Item 9 – Policy for Obstructions and Temporary Items on the Highway. Mr Alcock stated that he was due to address the KCC Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting, but was stood down the day before. The consultation – so what that no-one in Maidstone knew about it? We know regeneration is needed. We are experiencing very difficult trading conditions – is a fee really required for this? The 2nd year should be reduced. Small cafes and businesses that we have encouraged will withdraw because of the cost.

Ms Lynsey Brooks from the Royal National Institute for the Blind addressed the Board with regard to Item 9 – Policy for Obstructions and Temporary Items on the Highway. Ms Brooks stated that most of us take for granted the obstacles that they can step around. It is important that they are regulated and removed from narrow pavements.

Mr Martin Pepper, Chairman of Boxley Parish Council, addressed the Board regarding a reduced speed Limit for Boxley Road & Beechen Road from 60mph to 30mph. A petition will be presented to KCC Highways which is full of facts and he requested that the matter be formally managed by the Board.

Mrs Janetta Sams addressed the Board regarding Item 13 – Update on Petitions. Mrs Sams spoke with regard to the Petition submitted at the previous meeting about a 20mph speed limit outside schools. She said the residents of Harrietsham and Lenham feel let down by KCC, but they are determined to continue. Public safety is paramount and we should be pro-active rather than reactive. In Maidstone we do not have a 20mph speed limit. Mrs Sams is aware there is a cost, but she states it is a small cost compared to a death. What is the cost of an accident – NHS, emergency services etc. She stated that they do not want to be putting flowers first, they want the 20mph speed limit first. She asked the Board

to be pro-active and do something about this now.

26. POLICY FOR OBSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPORARY ITEMS ON THE HIGHWAY

The Board considered the report of the Director of Kent Highway Services – Policy for Obstructions and temporary Items on the Highway.

Members thanked the members of the public who had attended this meeting and spoke about this item. Members shared their concerns regarding the lack of consultation and were pleased to hear that the Cabinet Member has been asked to review this matter. A number of comments were made by members, including there should be a different rate for the number of tables and chairs on the pavement, rather than a flat rate across the board, the A-Boards should have a fixed position and not moved around, the A-Boards should only be used on pavements where there was still adequate access for mobility scooters, wheelchairs, prams etc to get past.

A senior KCC Member stated that he wanted this Policy taken back and reviewed by the collective KCC Cabinet and arising therefrom, at the suggestion of the Chairman, it was

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the Chairman send a letter to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste recommending that this policy is reviewed and a further consultation takes place with all business and relevant bodies/groups.

27. <u>JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD UPDATE ON SIGNS AND LINES POLICY</u> AND TECHNICAL DIRECTIVE, REVISION OF THE SCHEME PRIORITISATION SYSTEM AND WINTER SERVICE

The Board considered the report of the Director of Kent Highway Services which provided an update on the Signs and Lines Policy and Technical Directive, the Revision of the Scheme Prioritisation System and the Winter Service.

Signs and Lines Policy and Technical Directive

Members raised a number of queries, which were dealt with by the Highways Officer. Members were informed that it is highly legislated as to what we can use, size and where they can be placed. Officers are aware of the problem with HGVs and that currently only one sign is approved for use. Trials of another sign have been done throughout the Country, but approval of this sign has not yet been given by the Department of Transport.

Revision of the Scheme Prioritisation System

Members were concerned that the weighting of 45% to growth without gridlock would ensure that many areas will lose out.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

28. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES AND LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

The Board considered the report of the head of Countywide Improvement regarding Highway Improvement Schemes and Local Transport Plan.

Members asked questions regarding some specific schemes which were answered by Officers.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

29. THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ARRIVA 101 SERVICE FROM BUS STOPS AT COBTREE GOLF COURSE AND SALISBURY ROAD, KITS COTY

The Board considered the report of the Head of Transport and Development regarding the withdrawal of the Arriva 101 service from Bus Stops at Cobtree Golf Course and Salisbury Road, Kits Coty.

Members were informed that further quotations are being sought with regard to Option 2 in order to try and reduce the costs further.

<u>RESOLVED</u>: That the report be noted.

30. UPDATE ON PETITIONS SUBMITTED TO KENT HIGHWAY SERVICES

The Board considered the report of the Head of Transport and Development regarding an update on petitions submitted to Kent Highway Services.

Members were informed that the current policy on 20 mph speed limits was adopted in July 2008. At that time it was thought that a blanket policy was not appropriate. The petition with regard to 20 mph speed limits has been forwarded to the Highways Safety Manager.

It was suggested that the Member Highway Fund was an alternative option for funding signs, Traffic Regulation Orders and whatever else may be necessary to help the problem areas and the Member requested that costings are drawn up.

A Member asked if the Sutton Road Service Road issue of repairing had been addressed and Officers agreed to look into this and respond directly to the Member.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

31. UPDATE ON THE FREIGHT STRATEGY FOR KENT

The Board considered the report of the Head of Transport and Development regarding an update on the Freight Strategy for Kent.

Members were informed that Officers have contacted Wales with regard to their scheme and that the Government are giving consideration to another non-verbal sign so these issues are now moving forward. A Member informed the Board that the Minister had still not responded to a letter regarding the work the Government was doing on satellite navigation for freight and Officers were requested to follow this up.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

32. HIGHWAY DRAINAGE

The Board considered the report of the Head of Technical Services regarding highway drainage.

Members asked that the relevant Officers be thanked for their hard work on this issue and that a big improvement has been noticed.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

33. **DURATION OF MEETING**

5.00 pm to 7.25 pm.

Appendix A

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

19 JANUARY 2011

REPORT OF KCC'S HEAD OF COUNTYWIDE IMPROVEMENTS

Report prepared by Gary Peak, KCC Highway Schemes Manager

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

1.1 Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- 1.1.1 **Note** the progress of the highway improvement programme and Member Highway Fund schemes.
- 1.2 <u>Background Documents</u>
- 1.2.1 On 25 March 2010, Kent County Council's (KCC's) Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste announced the programme of works that would comprise the Integrated Transport Strategy 2010-11.
- 1.2.2 On June 29 2010, as a result of the national savings in spending that the Government recently announced, KCC published details of those schemes it expected to be affected by a £4.1 million reduction in this year's integrated transport budget. These savings were confirmed at the meeting of Cabinet on 12 July 2010 and were reported to the following meeting of the Joint Transportation Board.

2 Discussion

2.1 Some schemes affected by the Government reductions may yet receive partial funding from Kent County Council Members through the dedicated fund that each Member has to spend on roads in their area. Other schemes that have already received funding approval from this budget and are in the process of being designed or constructed are:

Location and request	County Member
Buckland Lane, Maidstone - request for bollards	Dan Daley
Tonbridge Road, Maidstone - Problems with HGVs, request for width restriction and physical measures.	Dan Daley
Penenden Heath Road, Maidstone - concerns over traffic speeds	Ian Chittenden
Hampton Road, Maidstone - request to improve pedestrian access to Vinters Park Community Centre	Ian Chittenden

St Lukes Road, Maidstone - request to replace trees	Ian Chittenden
Romney Pleace, Maidstone - to improve pedestrian	Malcolm Robertson
access at junction	Malcollii Robertsoli
Adisham Drive, Maidstone - request to replace diseased	Malcolm Robertson
highway trees	and Dan Daley
Dunn Street Road, Bredhurst - request to contribute to	Paul Carter
cost of buildout	Paul Cartei
Belmont Close, Barming - request for markings at	Paulina Stockell
entrance to Barming Primary School	Paulilla Stockell
Heath Road, Coxheath - request to contribute to bus	Paulina Stockell
shelter	Paulilla Stockell
Maidstone Riverside Path - contribution to upgrade	Paulina Stockell
footpath	Paulilla Stockell

2.3 Schemes that have been funded from the Kent County Council Members Highway Fund and have been completed are:

Location and request	County Member
Bower Street, Maidstone - request for saltbin	Dan Daley
The Quarries, Boughton Monchelsea - Request for signs to warn of children playing	Eric Hotson
Station Approach, Staplehurst - Request for dropped kerbs	Eric Hotson
Offens Drive, Staplehurst - Request for signs to Health Centre	Eric Hotson
Stoneacre Lane, Otham - Request for salt bins	Gary Cooke
Murrain Drive, Downswood - Request for salt bins	Gary Cooke
Brogden Crescent, Leeds - request for salt bins	Gary Cooke
Curzon Road, Maidstone - request for trees	Ian Chittenden
Commodore Road, Maidstone - request to remove tree stump	Ian Chittenden
Pennenden Heath Road, Maidstone - request to remove dead trees and replace	Ian Chittenden
Boxley Road, Maidstone - remove damaged verge posts and replace	Ian Chittenden
Hockers Lane, Detling - request to commission a traffic survey	Jenny Whittle
Lenham Road, Lenham - contribution towards buying speedwatch equipment	Jenny Whittle
Windmill Lane, Hollingbourne - Request to contribute to the resurfacing of PROW	Jenny Whittle
Croft Gardens, Lenham - request for dropped kerbs	Jenny Whittle
Loder Close, Lenham - request for dropped kerbs	Jenny Whittle
Ham Lane, Lenham - request for dropped kerbs	Jenny Whittle
Lenham Road, Lenham - request for dropped kerbs	Jenny Whittle
Smarden Road, Headcorn - request for a duck warning sign to be erected	Jenny Whittle
Dickley Lane, Harrietsham - request for dropped kerbs	Jenny Whittle
Malthouse Close, Lenham - request for bollards to protect verge	Jenny Whittle
Grafty Green - request for Speedwatch contribution	Jenny Whittle

London Road, Maidstone - request to fund CCTV camera for UTMC	Malcolm Robertson
Beaver Road, Maidstone - request for salt bins	Malcolm Robertson
High Street, Maidstone - request for lockable bollard	Malcolm Robertson and Dan Daley
High Street, Yalding - request to contribute to repair of Public Right of Way	Paulina Stockell
Livesey Street, Teston - request for salt bins	Paulina Stockell
Gibbs Hill, Nettlestead - request for sign to historic church	Paulina Stockell
Bishops Close, Maidstone - request for salt bin	Paulina Stockell
Tonbridge Road, Teston - contribution to removing condemned trees at edge of carriageway.	Paulina Stockell
Maidstone District - request for O&D HGV surveys	Paulina Stockell
Teston Lane, west Farleigh - request to contribute towards new footpath	Paulina Stockell
St Helen's Lane, West Farleigh - request for saltbin	Paulina Stockell

Agenda Item 10

Update on Petitions submitted to Kent Highway Services

A report by the Head of Transport & Development to the Joint Transportation Board

Summary

1. A report to update the Board on the current status of petitions received by Kent Highway Services (KHS) and notification of any new petitions received since the last meeting.

Traffic Calming Measures, Heath Road, Coxheath

- 2. A petition was submitted in April 2008 by 59 residents, lead by Mr A R Monk of Westerhill Road, Coxheath. It sought action to improve the traffic calming measures installed along Heath Road, Coxheath as the petitioners felt these were dangerous.
- 3. A number of changes have been carried out to the traffic calming since the submission of this petition and as previously reported KHS had agreed to carry out a review of the safety record in Coxheath, further speed checks and complete the safety audit of the current scheme. This work has been completed and sent to the both the County Councillor and Parish Council. A meeting is now to be arranged with the Cabinet for Highways, the local Member and the Parish Council to discuss what, if any, further action should be taken.

Request for the Implementation of a Weight Restriction through Yalding

- 4. A petition was submitted in September 2008 by Yalding Parish Council with over 570 signatures supporting a previous request for a weight restriction through Yalding and that surveys of lorry movements through Yalding and East Farleigh be undertaken.
- 5. It was reported at the last meeting of this Board that surveys, to be paid for by the local County Councillor and Parish Council, had been delayed due to roadwork's in the area. These surveys were subsequently carried out in November 2010 and KHS are expecting the results from Jacobs our traffic survey consultants this month. The results of these surveys will be reported to the next meeting of this board.

Closure of Pheasant Lane, Maidstone South

- 6. A petition was submitted in August 2008 by some 120 residents, lead by Mr David Frais of Osborne House, Loose Road of the Pheasant Lane Action Group which sought the closure of Pheasant Lane to vehicles other than for residential access. The petitioners felt the lane was being used as a rat run, was too narrow for the volume of traffic has too many blind bends with drivers driving too fast and pedestrians are at great risk.
- 7. At the October 2009 meeting of this Board it was approved to close Pheasant Lane to all through traffic on an experimental basis and the closure came into operation on Monday 26th July 2010. The legal process requires that a minimum of six months passes before a decision can be made to make the closure permanent therefore, a report will be brought to the next meeting of this board for a decision.

Road Safety Measures along Walderslade Woods Road

8. Kent Highway Services received a petition from Mrs Gillian Tatnell from Walderslade Woods with 212 signatures requesting a reduction in speed limit with traffic islands and

- hatching. The petition received the support of Boxley Parish Council although Walderslade Woods Road falls within both Maidstone and Tonbridge and Malling and his been reported to both Joint Transportation Boards.
- 9. At a previous meeting of this Board it was reported that KHS had submitted a bid for funding through the Local Transport Plans Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12 for a scheme consisting of gateway signage improvements, improvements to the side road junction warning signs and also to provide traffic islands to protect right turning traffic. An update on the Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12 can not be given until the implications of the Governments Comprehensive Spending Review and the budget for 2011/12 are fully known.

Residents of Tovil Green Court

- 10. At a previous meeting of meeting of this Board it was reported that a petition, containing 31 signatures, had been received from the residents of Tovil Green Court, Maidstone requesting the provision of pedestrian facilities along Burial Ground Lane and Farleigh Hill to enable better pedestrian access to Tesco's and Lidl's.
- 11. A scheme consisting of a new footway together with an enhancement of the crossing facilities along Tovil Hill has been submitted for funding through the through the Local Transport Plans Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12. An update on the Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12 can not be given until the implications of the Governments Comprehensive Spending Review and the budget for 2011/12 are fully known.

Penenden Heath Pre-School, Maidstone

- 12. It was reported to a previous meeting of this Board that a petition, containing 99 signatures, had been received from the local residents and parents of children at Penenden Heath Pre-School, Maidstone requesting safety improvements along the road approaching Penenden Heath Roundabout from Boxley Village.
- 13. A scheme consisting of a crossing on the Boxley Road (between The Bull and the miniroundabout) has been submitted for funding through the through the Local Transport Plans Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12. An update on the Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12 can not be given until the implications of the Governments Comprehensive Spending Review and the budget for 2011/12 are fully known.
- 14. Cllr Chittenden is however funding, via the Member Highway Fund, a scheme to install 30 mph repeater roundels on Boxley Road in the 30mph section without street lighting from the mini roundabout heading west together with a junction warning sign, SLOW road markings and red surfacing at the Boxley Road / Neville Close junction. These improvements should help to reduce traffic speeds in the area. An update on this scheme is contained within the Highway Improvement Schemes update report.

Pedestrian Crossing on Loose Road between Armstrong Road & The Wheatsheaf

15. This request was initiated following the submission of a petition which was first reported to this board in April 2010. KHS commissioned Jacobs to undertake a full pedestrian movement survey. This was funded from Cllr Chell's Member Highway Fund budget and the survey was undertaken on Monday 19th June 2010 and covered the section of Loose Road between Armstrong Road and The Wheatsheaf junction. Kent Highway Services

- subsequently commissioned Jacob's to undertake a review of both existing pedestrian crossing facilities and the potential to install new pedestrian facilities on the same section of Loose Road. This was to include the potential for upgrading the exiting traffic signal junction at Armstrong Road and to identify the cost of any proposed measures.
- 16. The results of the pedestrian survey established there is a strong desire for a crossing point south of Armstrong Road. Indeed during the entire survey period a total of 263 people chose to cross at an uncontrolled location, just south of Armstrong Road without any pedestrian facilities, whilst 24 people chose to cross at the existing push button controlled pelican crossing to the north of Armstrong Road.
- 17. At the site of the original pedestrian crossing adjacent to Plains Avenue there were 12 crossing movements during the survey period. It is likely the desire to cross here remains but many people choose to walk either to the Wheatsheaf or Armstrong Road controlled crossings. The full survey data is available on request.
- 18. The review of both the existing and potential pedestrian facilities has been undertaken. The current junction arrangement dates from 2000 when the Plains Avenue crossing was removed and a traffic island was introduced in Parkway. The Plains Avenue pelican was considered to have a poor personal injury record at that time. Other options to retain the crossing were considered but proved technically difficult to achieve and would have adversely affected local properties accesses.
- 19. The review has established that it is not possible to improve the island south of Armstrong Road as there was insufficient width to allow for the necessary staggered arrangement of any pedestrian crossing. Improvements to the side junctions of Park Way and Armstrong Road may be possible but would reduce capacity and increase congestion. These works would create an all red phase as it would not be possible to have a walk with traffic arrangement on these arms, but this would have extremely significant impact in terms of congestion at one of the major bottle necks approaching the town.
- 20. The cost of providing improved facilities on the two side roads which would effectively create an all red phase has been estimated by Jacobs to be in the region of £50,000 to £75,000.
- 21. The reinstatement of the Plains Avenue crossing is considered technically difficult to achieve. The road is very wide and as a result crossing time would be significant. A centre island would reduce capacity and would adversely affect local properties accesses. Cantilevered signal poles would also be required and previous investigation has revealed these would be difficult to install due to the proximity of underground services. At peak hours, traffic frequently queues at this location and a crossing with a red time of up to 38 seconds would increase congestion which may prove hazardous to pedestrians trying to cross in these conditions being obscured by queuing vehicles. This is particularly pertinent as the only recorded personal injury crash involving a pedestrian in the last three years in this area was at the Wheatsheaf junction were a pedestrian was hit crossing between stationary vehicles.
- 22. The estimated cost of providing a Puffin type crossing at Plains Avenue location has been estimated by Jacobs to be as much as £150,000 due to the difficult constraints of this site.
- 23. In conclusion whilst it would be desirable to establish an improvement to the junction at Armstrong Road with a formal crossing on the south of the junction, this is not possible

without causing additional congestion and reducing capacity. The re-establishment of the crossing at Plains Avenue is technically difficult, would increase congestion and the previously crossing had a poor safety record and may continue to prove hazardous to pedestrians under certain conditions. Therefore, in view that there is no recorded personal injury crash problem, the installation of any additional measures would increase congestion at an already heavily congested area and at a time of economic pressures expensive it is recommended not to carry out any further action but to continue to monitor the pedestrian safety record in the area as part of the annual casualty reduction programme.

Parking Issues Tudor Avenue

- 24. It was reported to a previous meeting of this Board that KHS had been passed a petition with 54 signatures from the residents of Tudor Avenue, Maidstone requesting parking restrictions be implemented to deal with commuter parking that the residents feel is causing potential road safety problems.
- 25. KHS will be advertising a Traffic Regulation Order giving notice of the intention to install double yellow lines at certain points along Tudor Avenue to improve road safety on the 26th January 2011. It is proposed that the existing single yellow lines at the Tudor Avenue / Park Avenue junction be made into double yellow lines and be extended 15m north and double yellow line corner protection be installed at the Tudor Avenue / Norman Close and Tudor Avenue / Sittingbourne Road junctions. If the County Council receive any objections to these proposals they will be reported back to the next meeting of this Board.

Sutton Road Service Road

- 26. KHS received a petition supported by 55 out of the 66 residents in Sutton Road service road raising concerns over the volume and speed of traffic using the service road to avoid the traffic signals on the A274. At the last meeting of this board it was reported that KHS had commissioned a survey to establish the volume of traffic which was using the service road section of Sutton Road, bypassing the junction with Nottingham Avenue.
- 27. The survey was undertaken on Thursday 22nd July and took the format of an 11hour manual number plate origin and destination survey. The weather was fine and dry. For the purposes of the survey a time of less that three minutes between a vehicle entering and exiting the Sutton Road Service Road was considered to be a rat-running vehicle.
- 28. In general the numbers of vehicles recorded thought out the survey period was extremely low and these have been summarised using the schematic diagrams in the appendix. These are vehicles which entered and exited in under three minutes. It is possible that some drivers were put off their normal routine by the presence of the enumerators in hi-viz jackets and as a result these figures may be lower than normal.
- 29. A study of the recent crash history of the service road has revealed there has been one personal injury crash in the last three years. This involved a cyclist and one other vehicle which failed to stop. The circumstances of this incident do not appear to be related to rat-running vehicles. To prevent rat-running, physical measures such as stopping up one end of the service road would be required as a Traffic Regulation Order alone is unlikely to be effective as enforcement would be limited.
- 30. From the data obtained from the manual count and the previous good safety record of this location, there would appear to be little justification for significant expenditure to

prevent rat-running by a comparatively low number of vehicles in the service road compared to the main A274 which carries over 20,000 vehicles a day. However, the local County Councillor has requested that, if supported by local residents, they would look to use their Member Highway Fund to investigate the service road being turned into a cul-de-sac by the use of removable bollards at one end of the road.

Speed Limit Review on the A20 through Harrietsham

- 31. As previously reported to this Board KHS had received a petition from residents of Harrietsham and Lenham in response to the review of speed limit on A20. 48 Pages of signatures were received highlighting residents' extreme disappointment of the review carried out by the County Council on the speed limit on the A20 through Harrietsham and Lenham. The petition requested that a new review is carried out which looks at implementing speed reduction measures along the route. The petition was passed to the speed limit review team to respond to the issues raised in the petition.
- 32. As reported to this Board the Speed Limit Review has been suspended due to Government reductions in grant funding. In August 2010 Nick Chard the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste wrote to all Members and Parish Councils updating them on the County Councils position with regards to the review of speed limits and a copy of that letter is attached to this report. In the letter it outlines that in cases where a speed limit demonstrates a quantifiable injury crash saving a funding bid will be made accordingly. Kent Highways Services are currently reviewing the personal injury crash record on the A20 through Harrietsham to ascertain whether a bid can be submitted for funding through the through the Local Transport Plans Integrated Transport Programme for 2011/12.

20mph Speed Limits Around Schools

- 33. At the last meeting of this board it was reported that a petition was received calling upon Kent County Council to review its policy on speed limits starting with those around schools. The petitioners would ideally like a 20mph speed limit in all residential areas, but to start with they called for the Council to pro-actively work with schools, and where there is a request from parents and support from local residents to implement 20mph speed limits in the area around that school. This to be done in full consultation with the community.
- 34. It was reported that the request for a change in the County's speed limit policy was passed to the Road Safety Policy team to be considered and that Kent Highway Services will continue to investigate and promote safety measures for Schools on an individually targeted basis.
- 35. The following update has been received from Head of Network Management & Performance. A discussion paper to identify options to highlight the dangers of speeding outside schools is being considered by the Cabinet for Highways. The direction KCC is likely to take will be based upon meeting the community concerns balanced realistically with appropriate budget availability. This paper will be reported and debated at the Environment, Highways and Waste Policy, Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to a decision being made which will be reported to a future meeting of this Board. However, as previously explained Kent Highway Services will continue to investigate and promote safety measures for Schools on an individually targeted basis as part of the annual casualty reduction programme as road safety remains a key priority for the Highway Authority.

36. The local County Councillor has indicated they are willing to submit a Member Highway Fund request for a 20mph speed limit in Lenham outside the schools on Ham Lane.

The withdrawal of the Arriva 101 Service from Bus Stops at Cobtree Golf Course and Salisbury Road, Kits Coty

- 37. At the last meeting of this Board it was reported that a petition had been submitted calling for the reinstatement of the 101 Service to the Cobtree Golf Course Bus Stop. A report was submitted to this Board concerning this issue proposing a number of options and seeking Members views.
- 38. It was agreed that further quotes be obtained for Option 2 in an attempt to reduce the costs of this preferred option. To obtain further quotes a detailed design and safety audit of the option was required and this has now been completed and KHS are mow in a position to obtain the further quotes.

Postley Road, Maidstone

39. A petition has been received from the residents of Postley Road, Maidstone which raises concern over the dangerous and increasingly unacceptable use of the road by buses including speeding. Kent Highway Services have meet with the lead petitioner and are investigating the issues raised by the petitioners. The results of these investigations will be reported back to the next meeting of this Board.

Boxley Road and Beechen Bank Road

40. At the last meeting of this Board a petition was received requesting a reduction in the speed limit along Boxley Road and Beechen Bank Road. KHS have commissioned speed surveys and are currently reviewing the personal injury crash records along Boxley & Beechen Bank Road. The results of these investigations will be reported back to the next meeting of this Board.

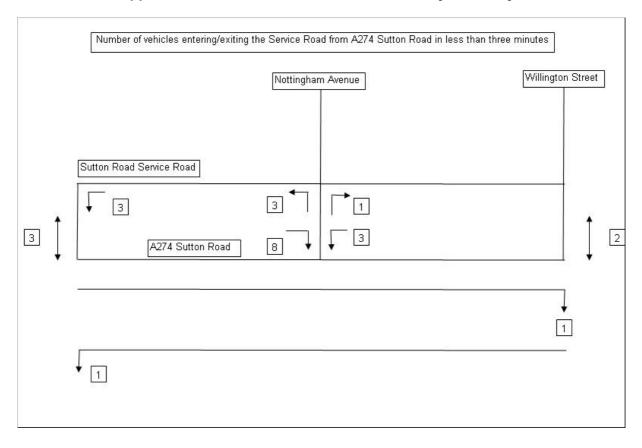
New Petitions Received

Footpath along Lenham Road to Sports Field, Kingswood

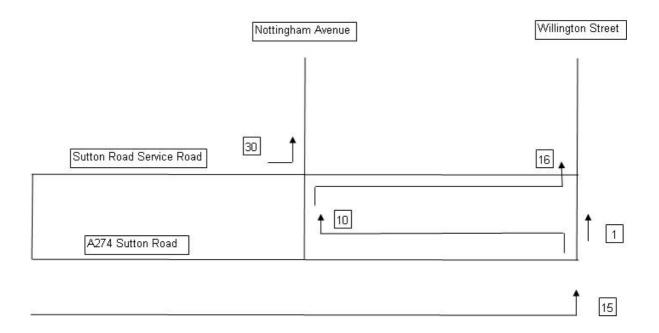
- 41. Since the last meeting of this board a petition has been submitted by Broomfield & Kingswood Parish Council signed by 101 residents requesting a footpath be constructed along the Lenham Road, Kingswood to ensure the safety and well being of pedestrians accessing the Sports Field and its facilities.
- 42. Early investigations reveal that third party land not in the control of the Highway Authority will be required to construct the footway and excluding land costs the footway could cost in the region of £40,000 to £50,000. KHS will write to the land owners in control of the land to ascertain whether if funding was available whether they would be willing to agree in principle to transfer the land to KHS. A further report will be brought back to the next meeting of this board.

Accountable Officer: Andy Corcoran 01622 798378

Appendix - Sutton Road Service Road Summary of Surveys



Number of vehicles entering the Service Road from A274 Sutton Road and travelling North West to residential area in less than three minutes



MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES

MAIDSTONE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

19th January 2011

REPORT PREPARED BY: Parking Services Manager

1. **OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC ORDERS**

- 1.1 Issue for decision
- 1.1.1 To consider the objections received as part of the formal consultation following the advertising of;
 - The Kent County Council (Borough of Maidstone) Waiting Restrictions Order (variation No 5) Order 2010.
 - The Kent County Council (Borough of Maidstone) Designated Parking Places Order (variation No 5) Order 2010.
- 1.2 <u>Recommendation of the Assistant Director of Environment and Regulatory Services</u>
- 1.2.1 That the Joint Transportation Board recommends to the Cabinet Member for Environment each of the recommendations identified in the appendices to the report be agreed and the objectors informed of the outcome.
- 1.2.2 That the Board recommends to Kent County Council as the Highway Authority that the orders be implemented as outlined in Appendix A and B.
- 1.3 Reasons for recommendation
- 1.3.1 Various requests have been received by Parking Services for the introduction of parking restrictions at several locations across the Borough. These have been surveyed and evaluated to assess the impact on parking provision within each local area were significant parking difficulties were identified. Proposed orders were advertised and all comments received during the formal consultation were reviewed and considered.

- 1.3.2 A Public Notice formally advertising the orders was published in Local Press during the week ending Friday October 22nd 2010.
- 1.3.3 Full details were contained in the draft orders which, together with a copy of the Public Notices, site plans and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the orders were placed on deposit at the Main Reception, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, and at the Gateway reception desk, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ.

The details were also available on- line at www.kentonline.co.uk and at www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk.

- 1.3.4 Letters were sent to statutory and non statutory consultees and residents. Street notices were also posted in the affected roads.
- 1.3.5 Appendix A provides the proposed orders not receiving objections and the relevant recommendations.
- 1.3.6 Appendix B provides the proposed orders receiving objection, together with a summary of the objections and the relevant recommendations.
- 1.3.7 Appendix C provides maps of the proposed orders.
- 1.4 Alternative actions and why not recommended
- 1.4.1 To not proceed with the recommendations would result in some much needed orders not being implemented, which are intended to regulate parking to reduce identified difficulties.
- 1.4.2 To make the orders as advertised would not take account of comments received during formal consultation.
- 1.5 <u>Impact on corporate objectives</u>
- 1.5.1 The proposals are intended to resolve parking problems and improve traffic flow by reducing localised congestion; this is in accordance with the Council's priority to improve access across the Borough through better roads.
- 1.6 <u>Risk Management</u>
- 1.6.1 Consideration must be given to objections and formal letters of support with regard to each proposal. However this must be balanced against the risks involved in relation to road safety, free flow of traffic, environmental impact and vehicle migration.

Impact on Corporate Implications

1. Financial	Х	
2.Staffing		
3.Legal	Х	
4.Equality Impact Needs Assessment		
5. Environmental/Sustainable Development		
6. Community Safety		
7. Human Rights Act		
8. Procurement		
9. Asset Management		
nancial ne costs of the order variation and implementation will be met om within the existing Parking Services budget.		

1.6.2 <u>Fir</u> Th

1.6.3 <u>Legal</u>

Formal orders will need to be made and signed by Kent County Council as the Highway Authority.

1.7 **Background Documents**

None

Proposed orders receiving no objection.

HEADCORN: Forge Lane;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN: High Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN; Kings Road;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN: Knaves Acre;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN: Lenham Road;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN: Rushford Close;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN: Station Road;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN: Ulcombe Road;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

RESIDENTS PARKING -

MAIDSTONE; Albany Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

DESIGNATED FREE PARKING PLACES

HEADCORN; High Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

DESIGNATED FREE PARKING PLACES

HEADCORN; Forge Lane;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

DESIGNATED PARKING PLACES AT PAY AND DISPLAY MACHINES

MAIDSTONE; Union Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

DESIGNATED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES.

MAIDSTONE; St Faiths Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

MAIDSTONE; Whitmore Street;

Recommendation:_To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

DESIGNATED PERMIT PARKING PLACES

MAIDSTONE; St Faiths Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

MAIDSTONE; Grove Road / Sutton Road;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

MAIDSTONE; Wheeler Street;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

BOXLEY; Impton Lane;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

COXHEATH; Heath Road;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

COXHEATH; Park Way;

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

Proposed orders receiving objections.

DYL – means waiting to be prohibited at all times by double yellow lines.

SYL - means no waiting at the times prescribed.

HEADCORN; Oak Lane;

1 objection was received on the grounds that although some restrictions were needed to prevent commuters parking close to the junction and corner for extended periods, some allowance should be made for residents and they have suggested a SYL 30 minute restriction, a shortening of the current proposal or residents parking spaces, concern was also expressed that commuters would disperse further into the Oak Lane where it narrows considerably.

The Parish Council is in full support of the proposals and we also have received 37 letters of support for the scheme overall.

Although we understand the concerns raised by the resident, dispersion is inevitable however we consider that the overall benefits of the scheme outway the disadvantages, we have been working closely with the Parish in an effort to alleviate the present parking situation and we believe that this proposal is necessary to assist with the parking difficulties within the Headcorn Village as a whole and will improve the general environment by reducing inconsiderate parking and improve parking availability for residents and visitors who wish to use the amenities afforded to them within the village.

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

HEADCORN; Kings Road;

1 objection was received on the grounds the objector has to park his vehicle on the road as there is nowhere else to park and the four hour limit will cause them problems, they have raised the possibility of obtaining a residents parking permit.

Although we sympathise with the residents situation there will be areas that are unrestricted were the residents could park freely without time limit, we have been working closely with the Parish in an effort to alleviate the present parking situation and we believe that this proposal is necessary to assist with the parking difficulties within the Headcorn Village as a whole and will greatly improve the general environment by reducing inconsiderate parking and improve parking availability for residents and visitors who wish to use the amenities afforded to them within the village.

The Parish Council is in full support of the proposals and we also have received 37 letters of support for the scheme overall.

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to proceed with the proposal and make the Order.

MAIDSTONE; Bargrove Road;

6 objections were received one with a 7 signature petition on the grounds the imposition of restrictions within the area would greatly inconvenience the residents who have no other parking provision, the current parking situation also serves as a traffic calming, the possibility of obtaining a residents parking was also raised.

11 letters were received with comments on the proposal which expressed their concerns on vehicle dispersion into side roads that currently are unrestricted, we also received 10 letters of support. The parking restrictions on the junction of Hampton Road also received substantial support.

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to amend the proposal to reflect the views expressed and amend the order to; Place a 24 hour restriction from its junction with Hampton Road for a distance of 45 metres, and SYL Monday to Friday 10.30am to 11.00am, North-east side from its junction with Northfleet Close to the north-west boundary of 28 Bargrove Road, South-west side from its junction with Northfleet Close to the southern junction of The Medlars.

-

MAIDSTONE; Fant Lane;

5 objections were received one with a 97 signature petition on the grounds the parking restrictions would cause unnecessary hardship due to the severe lack of parking available in the local area, and further restrictions only compound the problem and have an adverse effect on the residents, also having parked vehicles reduces the speed of vehicles.

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to not to proceed with the proposal.

MAIDSTONE; Hartnup Street;

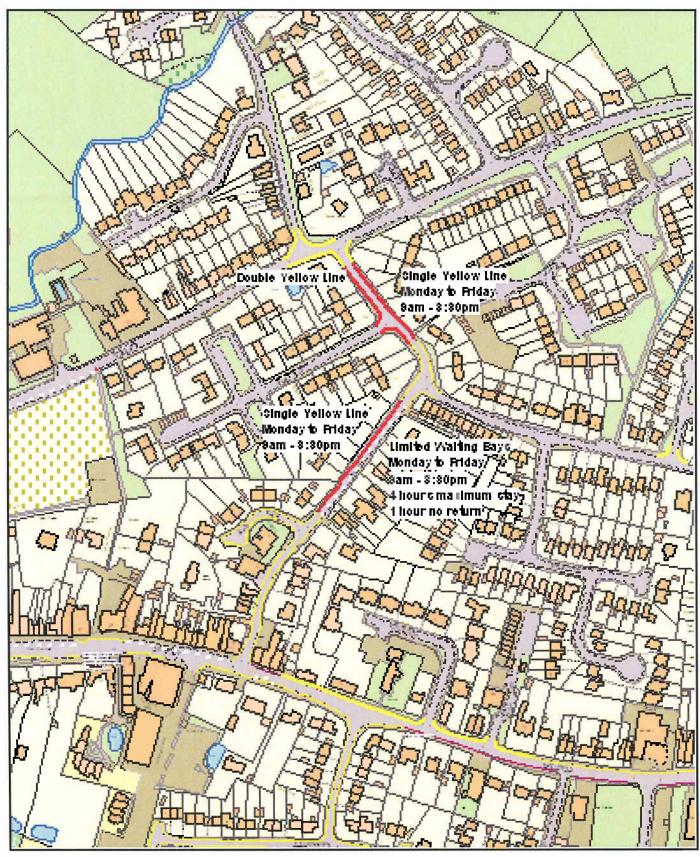
5 objections were received one with a 97 signature petition on the grounds the parking restrictions would cause unnecessary hardship due to the severe lack of parking available in the local area, and further restrictions only compound the problem and have an adverse effect on the residents, also having parked vehicles reduces the speed of vehicles.

Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to not to proceed with the proposal.

THURNHAM; Aerodrome Approach;

One objection was received from the Police who although have no objection to restrictions being installed where there are currently no restrictions, Aerodrome Approach is effectively a lay-by consisting of slip roads from/to the A249 with some parking areas. The Parking areas are regularly used throughout the day by all types of vehicles, and in their view an overnight parking restriction in the marked parking areas would be more appropriate to allow parking during the day.

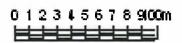
Recommendation: To recommend to the Cabinet Member to amend the proposal to reflect the views expressed and amend the order to; DYL, South/South-east side from its south-western junction with the A249 for its entire length, North-west side from its south-western junction with the A249 for a distance of 128 metres in a north-easterly direction, from a point 148 metres from its south-western junction with the A249 for a distance of 12 metres in a north-easterly direction, North side, from its western junction with Bimbury Lane for a distance of13 metres in a westerly direction, from its eastern junction with Bimbury Lane to its north-east junction with the A249.



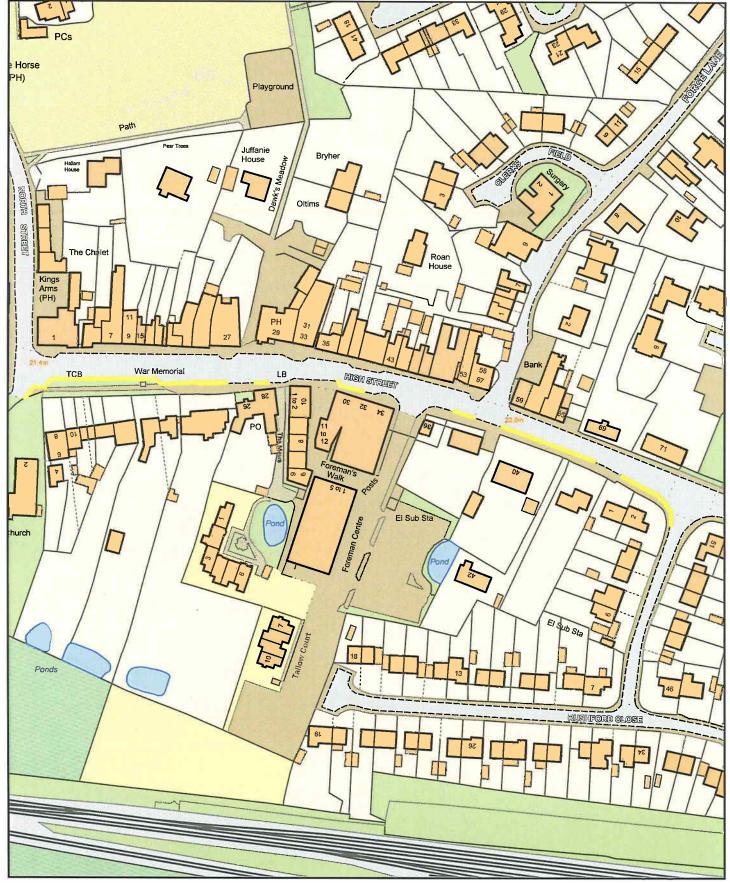




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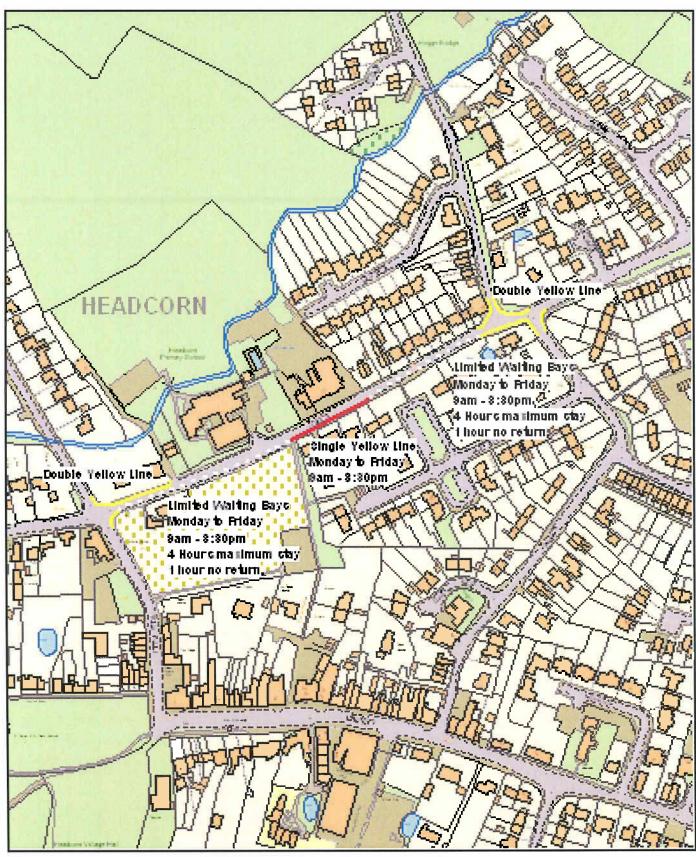
High Street, Headcorn

Parking Services

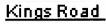


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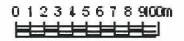






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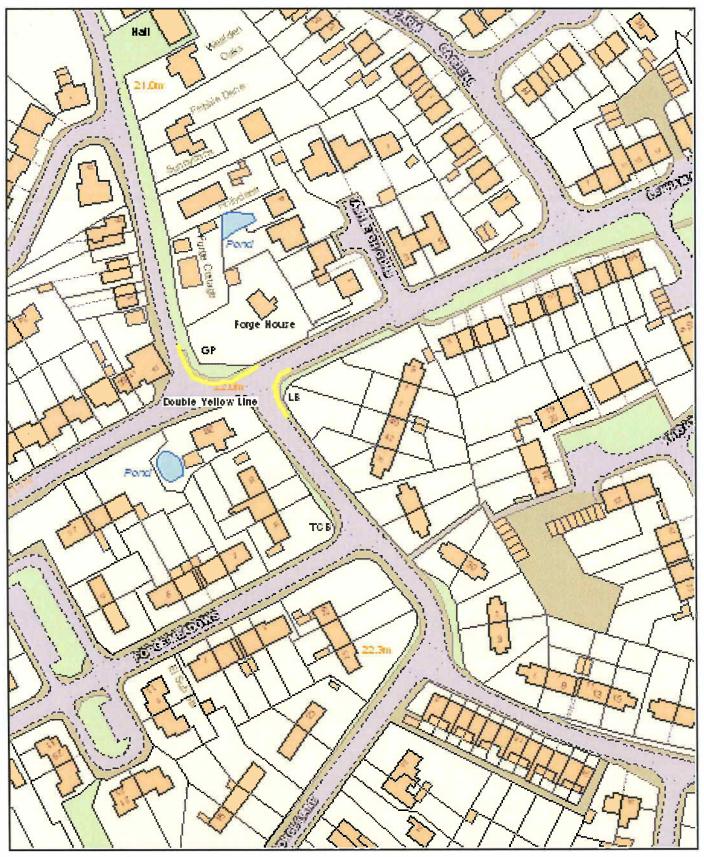




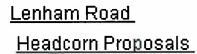
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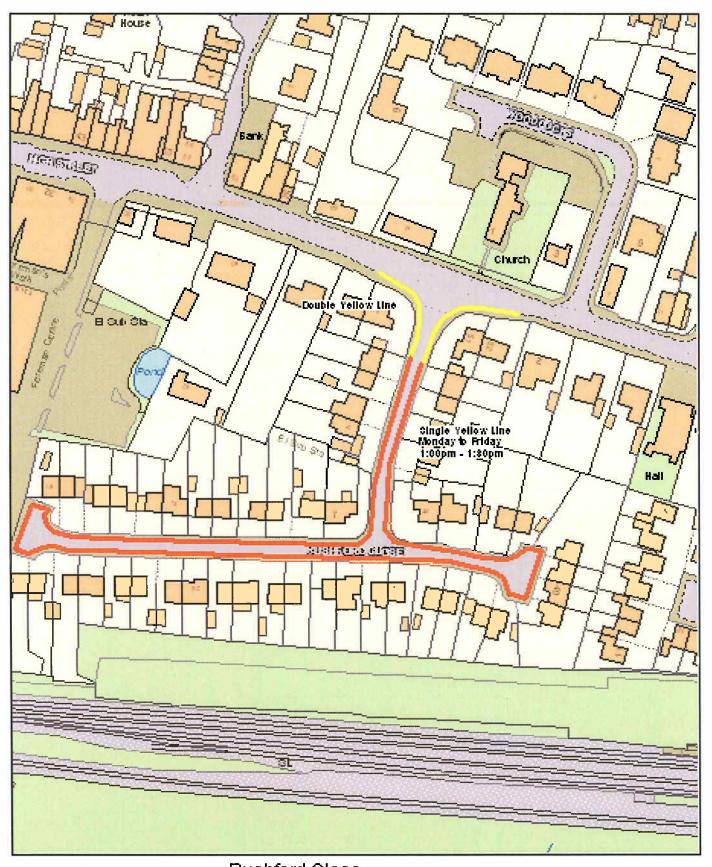








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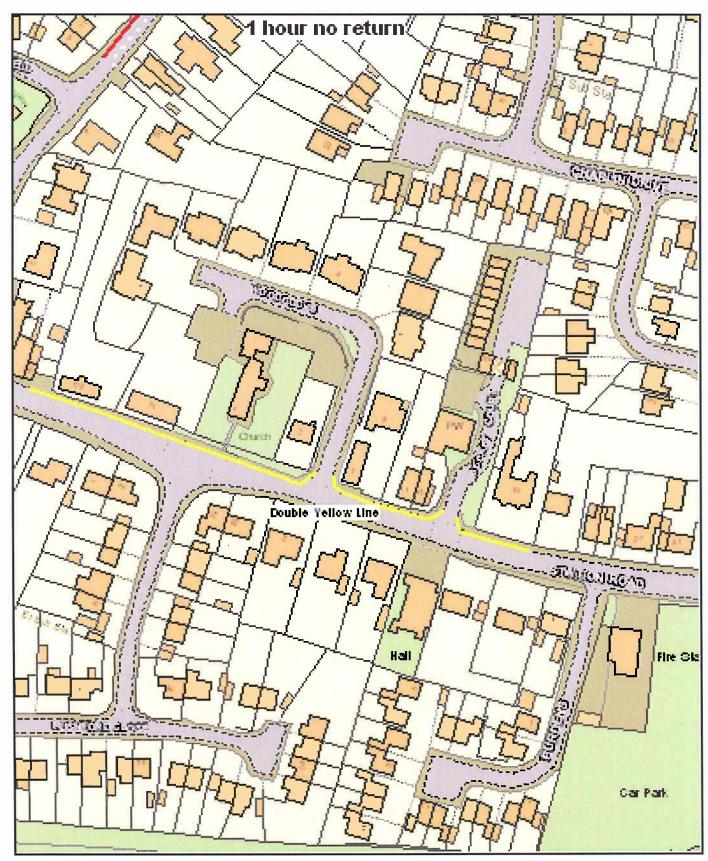




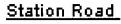
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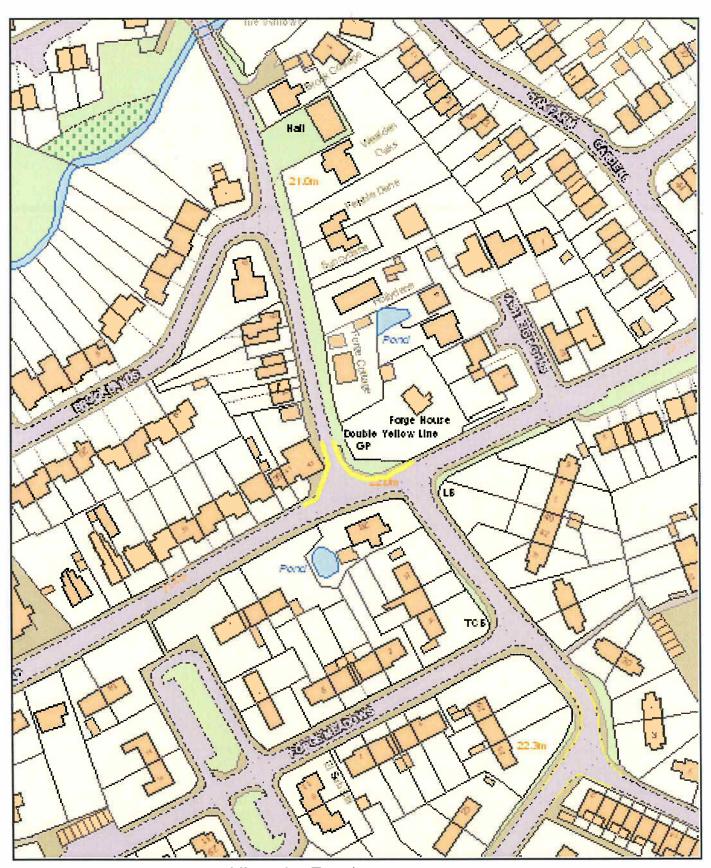




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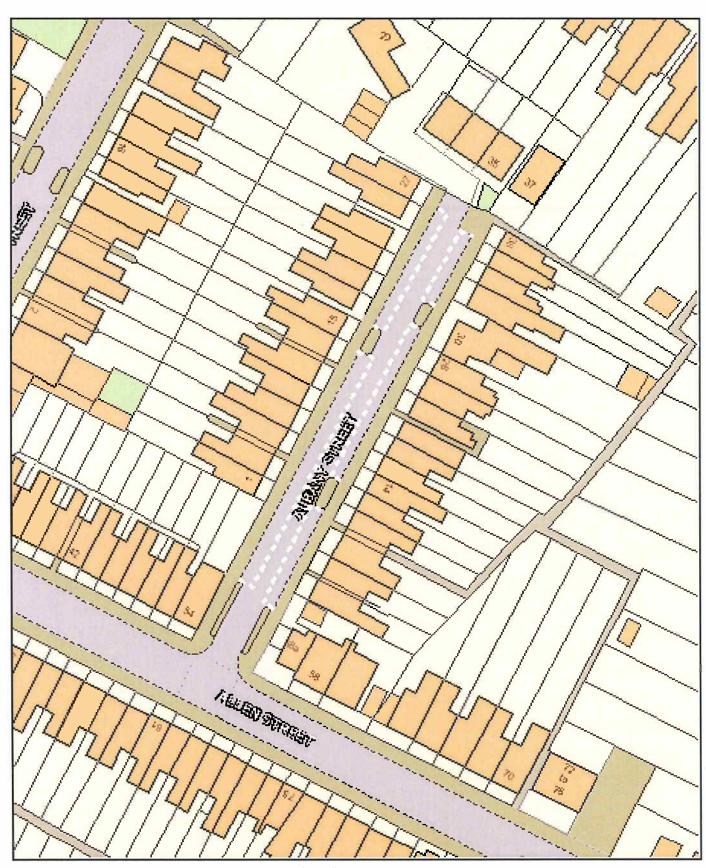








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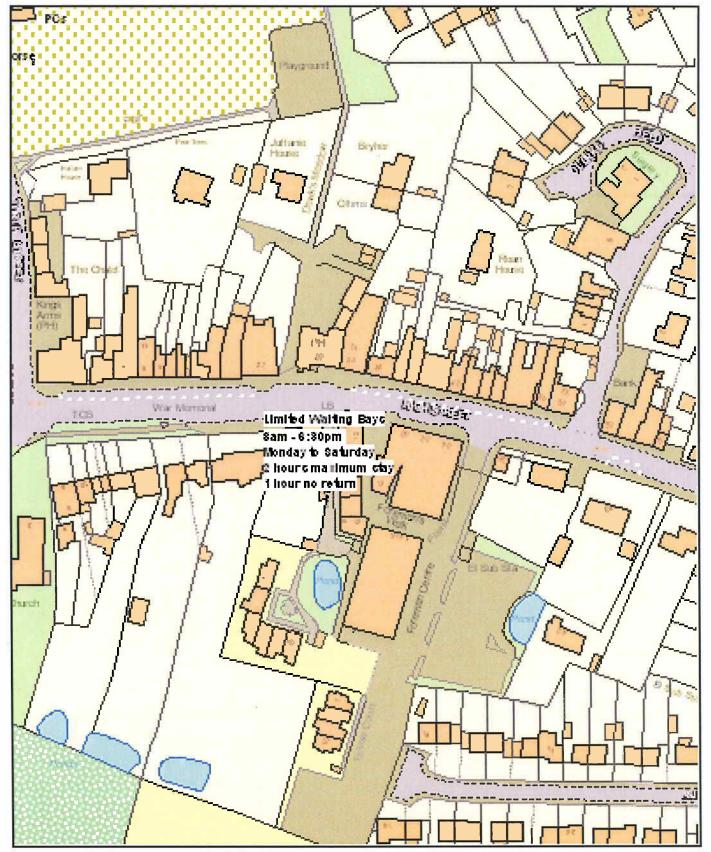


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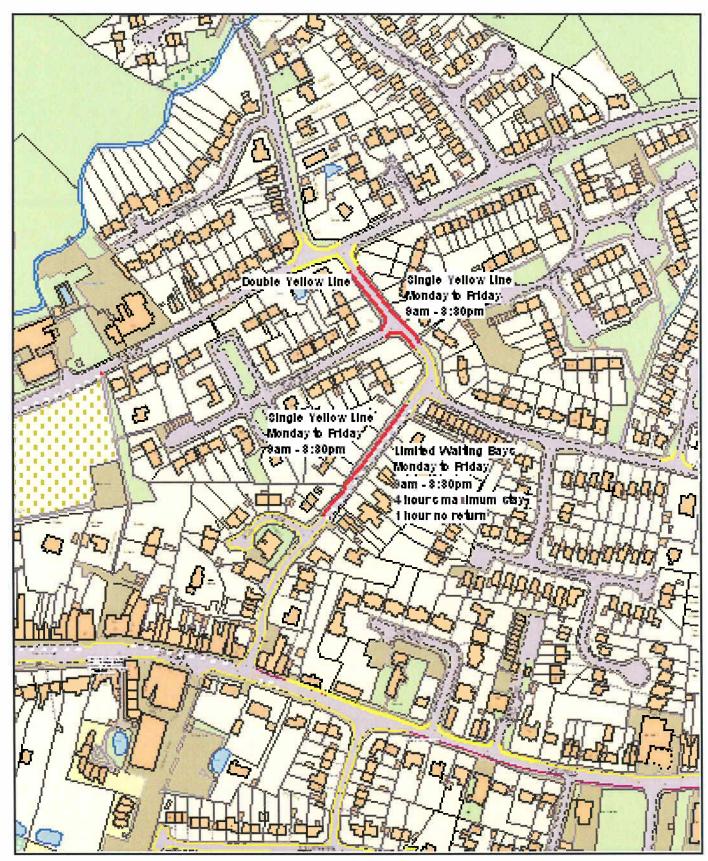






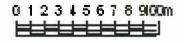


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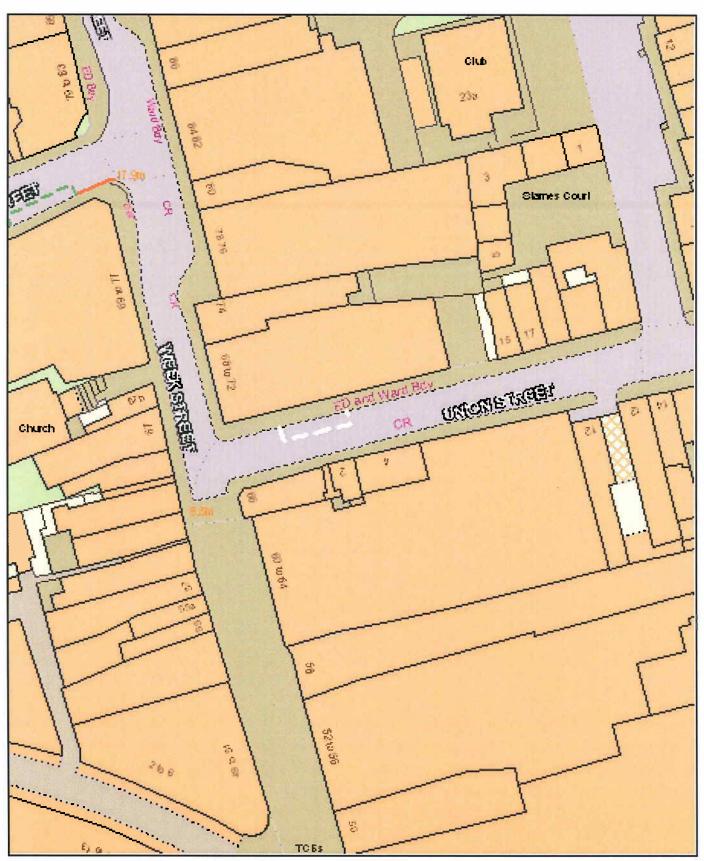




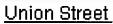




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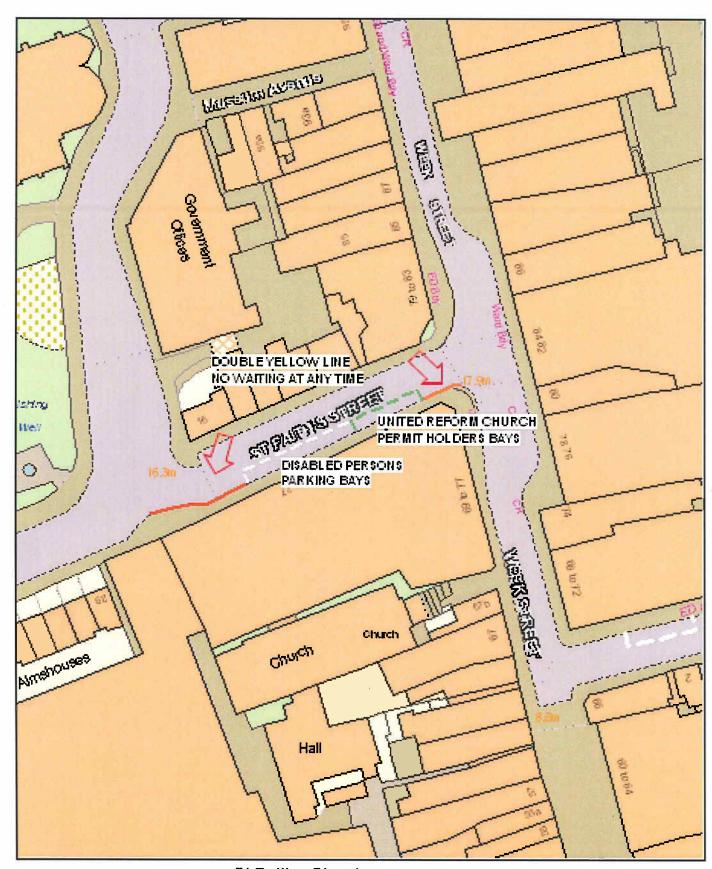




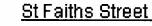


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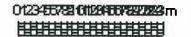




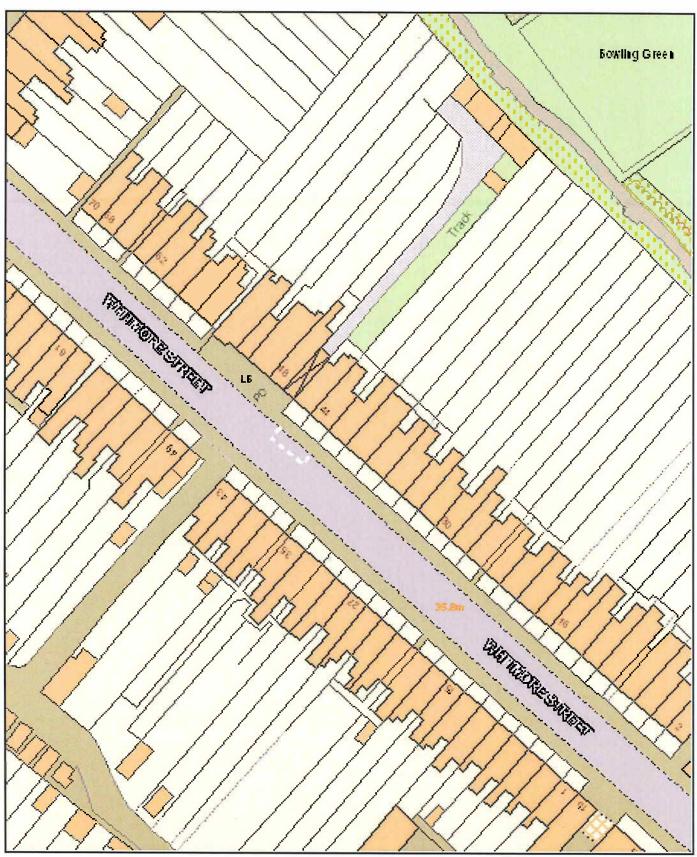




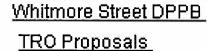
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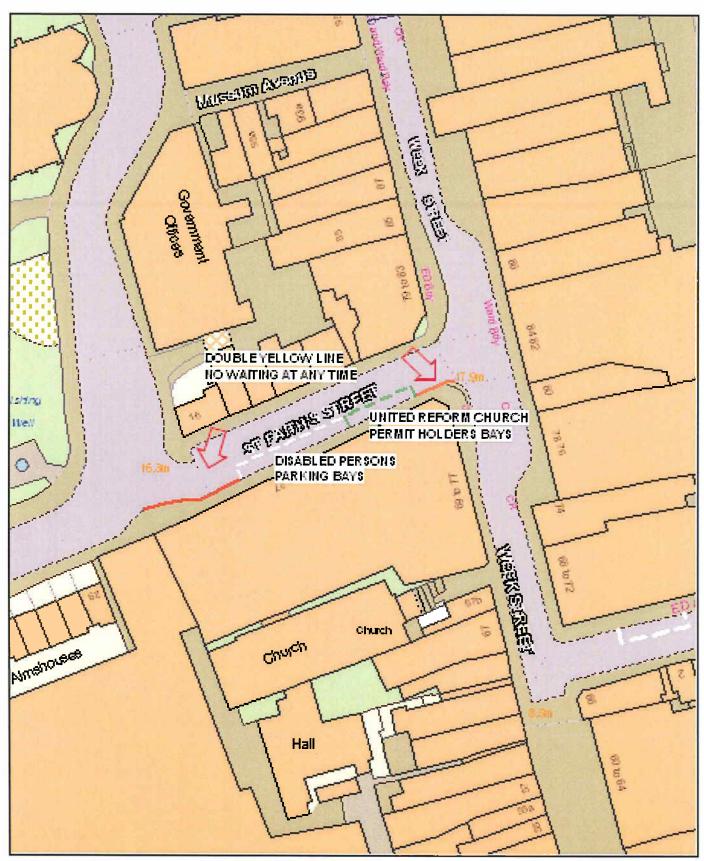




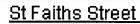




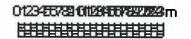
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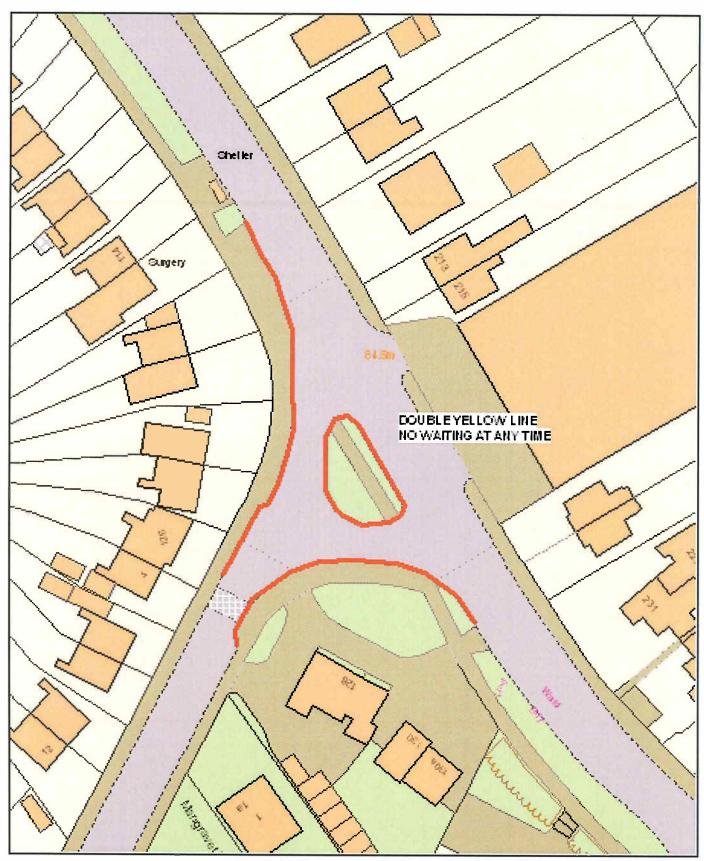




Designated Disabled Persons Parking Places



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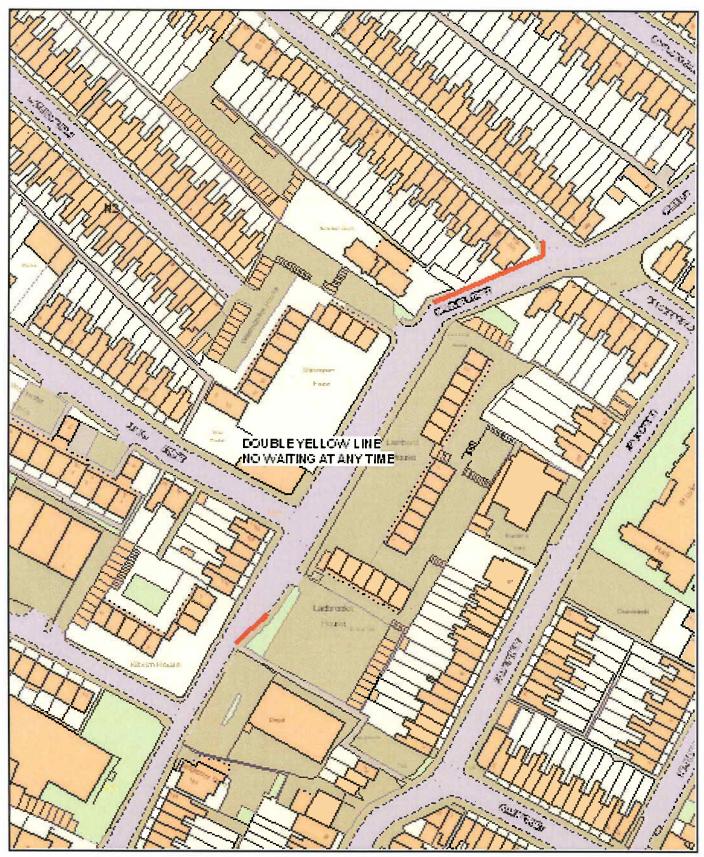




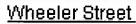


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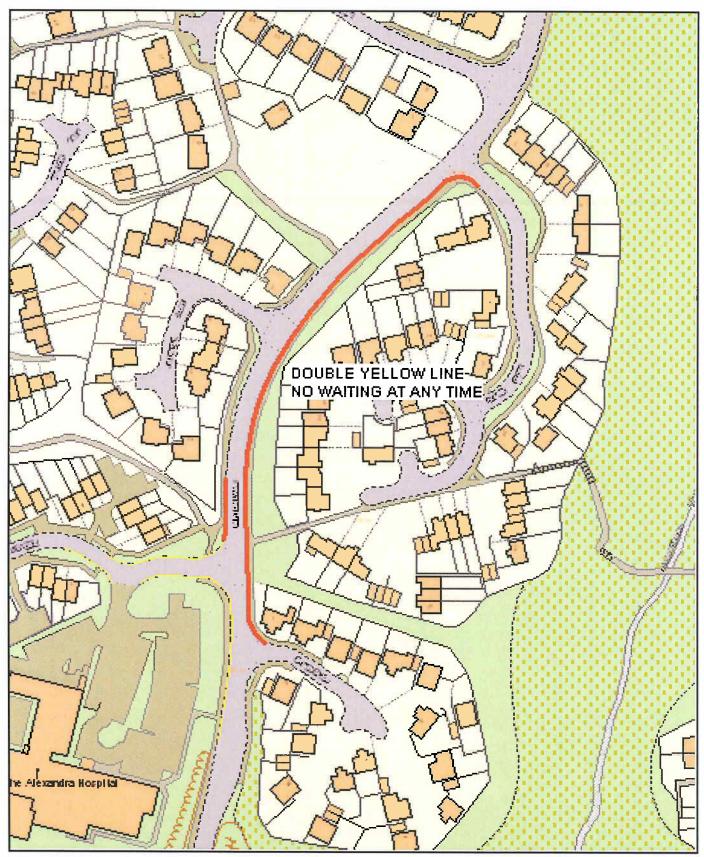








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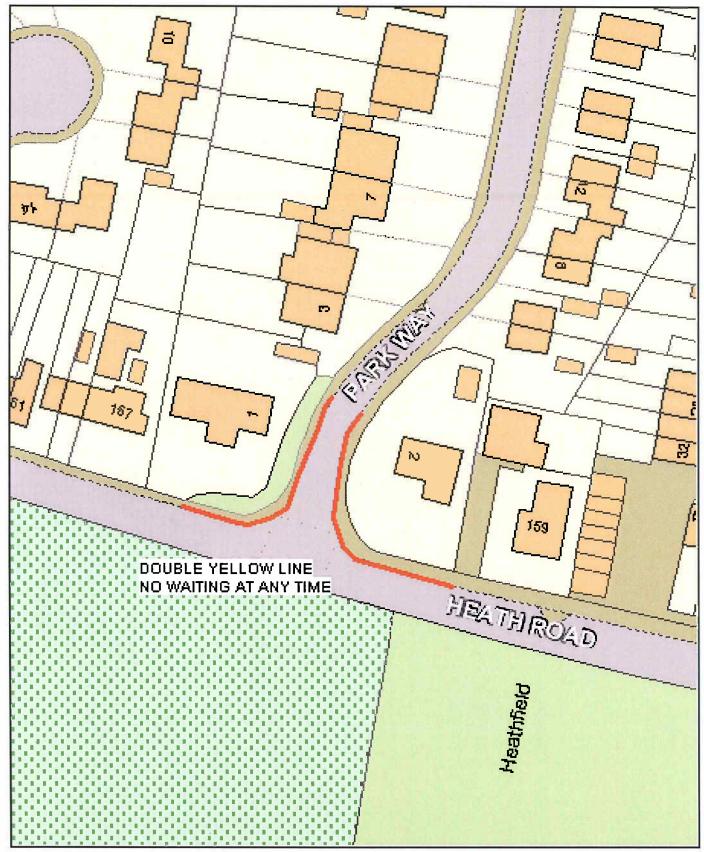








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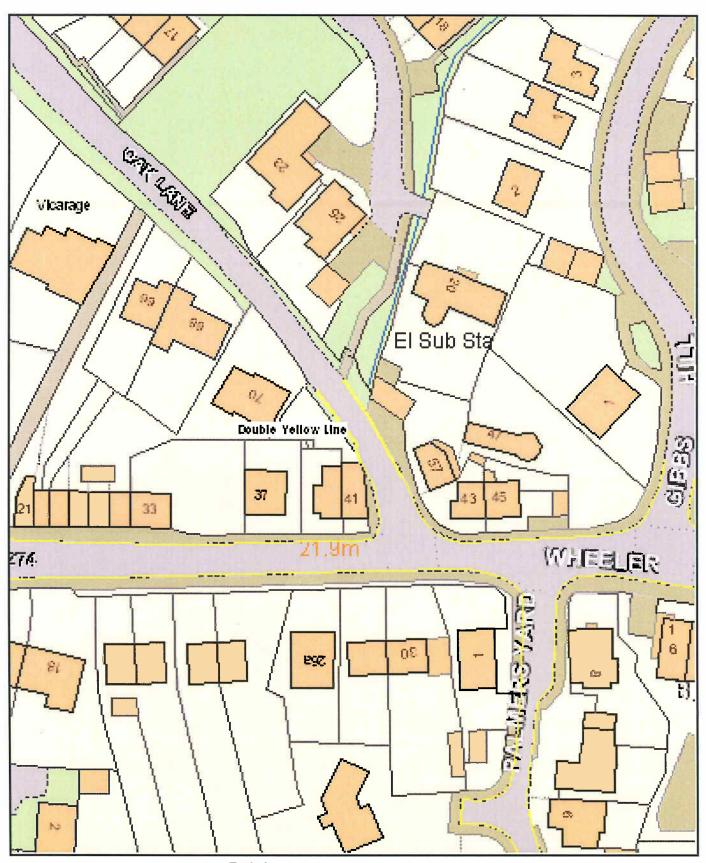








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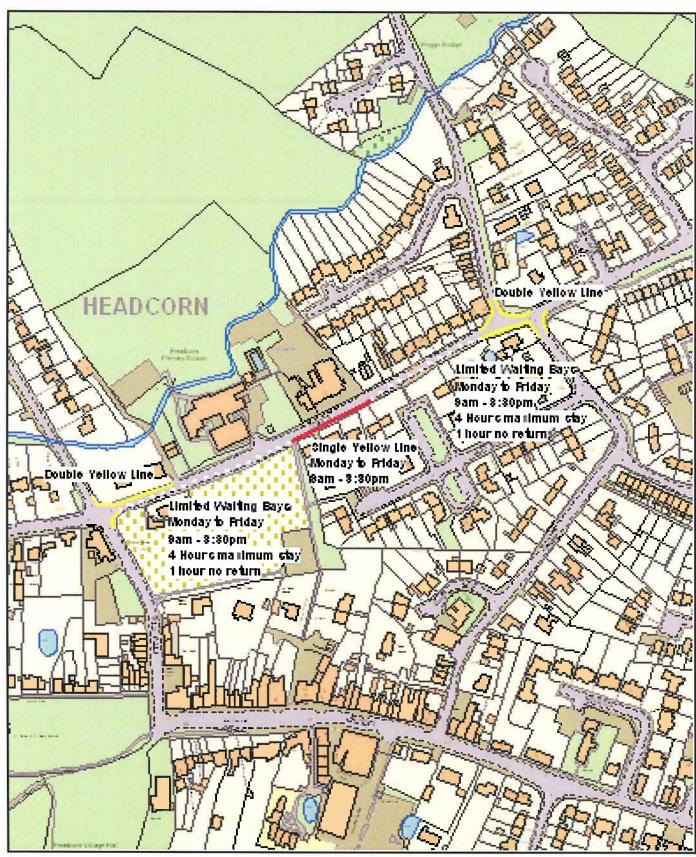








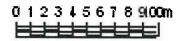
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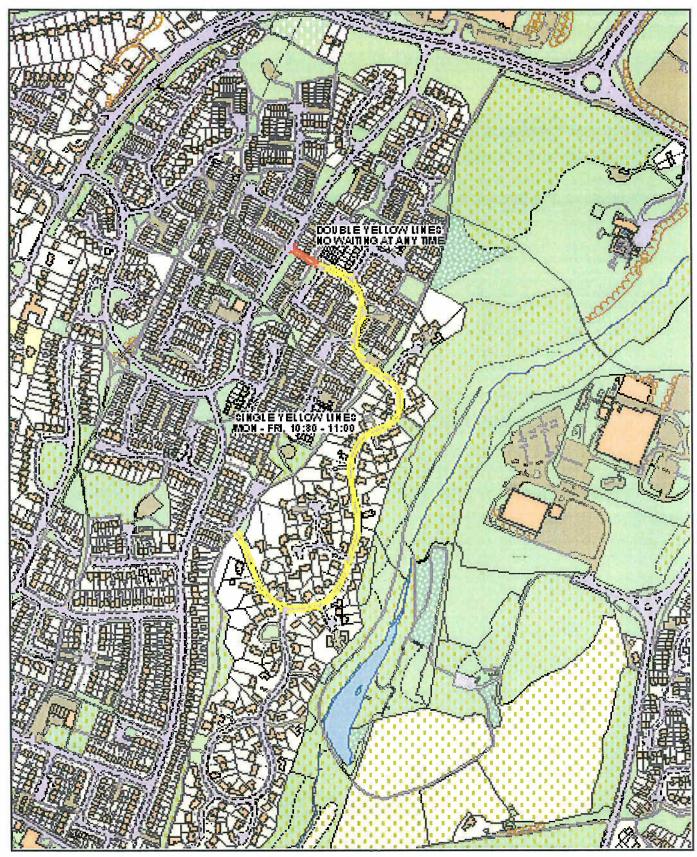




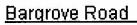


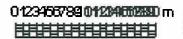


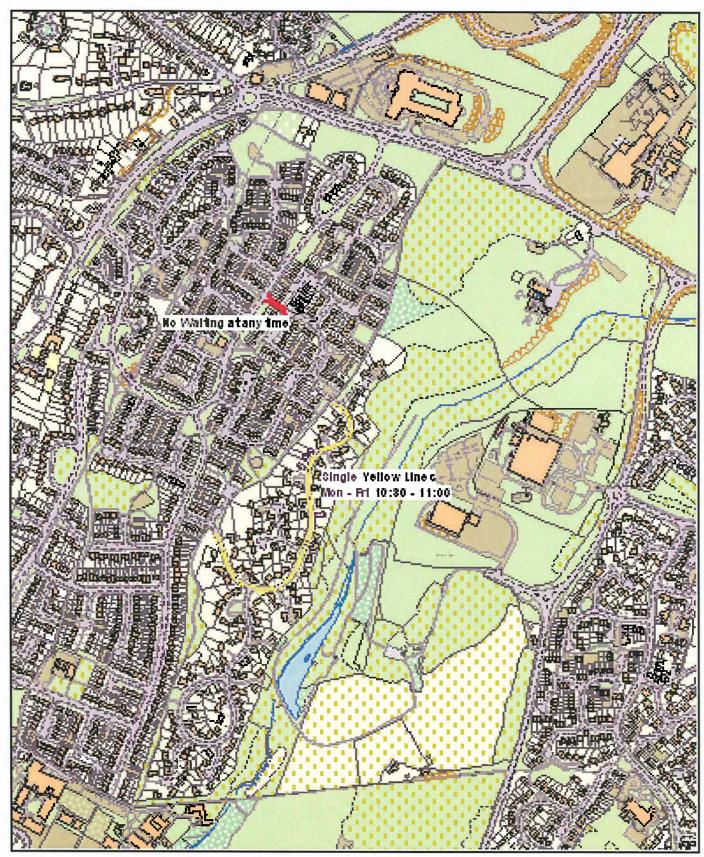
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Parking Services



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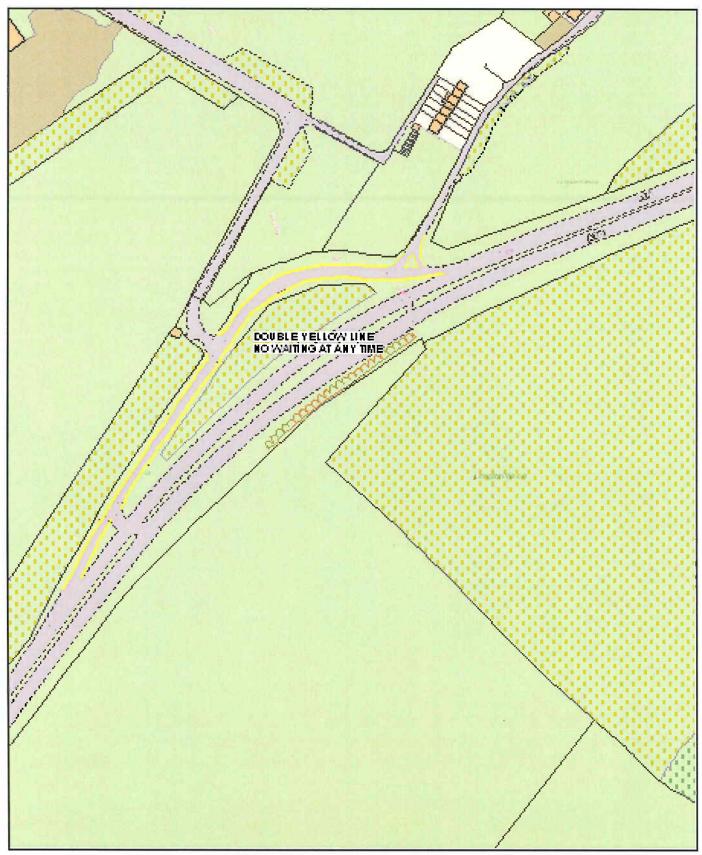


Fant Lane

Waiting Restrictions Variation No 5 Order



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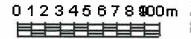


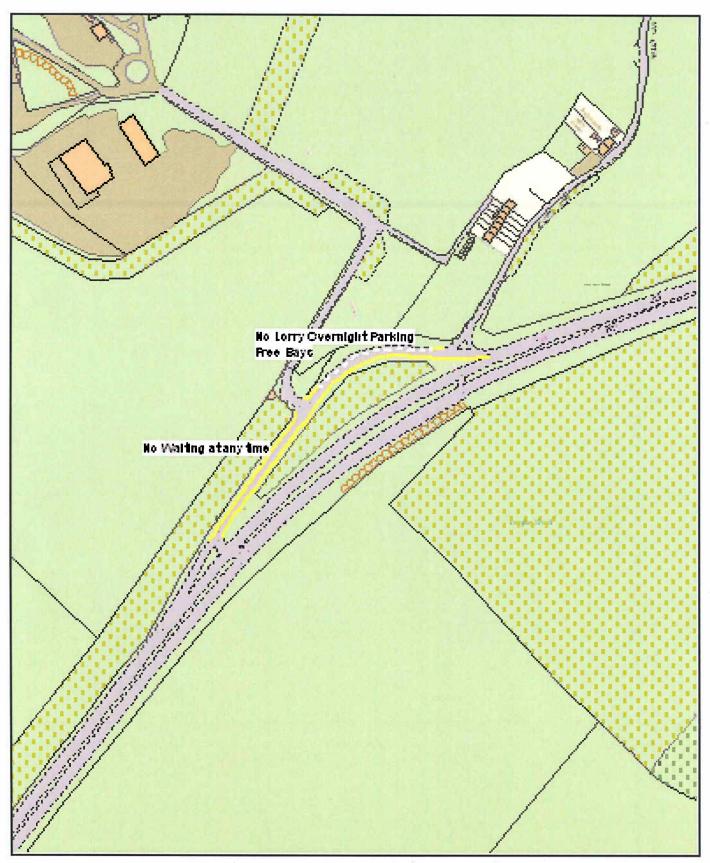




Aerodrome Approach

Waiting Restrictions Variation No 5 Order









Aerodrome Approach (amended)

Parking Services

