

To: Maidstone Joint Transportation Board
By: Tim Read, Head of Transportation
Date: 18th July 2012
Subject: Emsworth Grove, Maidstone – Parking Restrictions
Classification: For Decision

Summary: The purpose of this report is to provide members with updated results of the Emsworth Grove parking proposal consultation and ask Members to decide whether to implement the proposals.

1. Background

Residents of Emsworth Grove have been campaigning for the installation of parking restrictions to eradicate commuter parking. The local feeling is that parking restrictions imposed on neighbouring roads have resulted in commuters parking in Emsworth Grove. A meeting was held between Mr Chittenden, Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) Parking Services and Kent County Council to try to resolve parking issues.

Mr Chittenden has been approached by residents to seek whether he supports their request for parking restrictions, after much research and discussions between Mr Chittenden and residents; he supports their concerns and is willing to fund the proposals from his Member Highway Fund budget.

Emsworth Grove is a cul-de-sac on a housing estate located on the urban edge of Maidstone Town Centre. The route is solely residential on both sides of the road consisting of private driveways over the 200m length.

2. Proposals

A public notice of intention to implement parking restrictions on Emsworth Grove was published in March 2012. The notice requested comments and objections be made to the Highway Authority by 23rd April 2012 for consideration.

The proposals consist of Double Yellow Lines (DYL) on Emsworth Grove from its junction with Hampton Road for a distance of 102m

Details of these proposals can be seen in the drawings attached to Appendix 1 of this report.

The reasons stated for the restrictions were as follows:-

- 1) Drivers park inconsiderately and obstructively in the roads, this has led to frequent access issues for residents and emergency service vehicles. By stopping the parking on both sides of the roads it will provide better access into the roads for residents and visitors.

3. Results of the Consultation

Notices were erected on-site identifying the proposals asking for comments during the consultation period.

Summary of Results

	Support	Object
Proposed Parking Restrictions	4	3
Total	4	3

The results provided show the overall results of the consultation showing that 4 supported the proposal and 3 objected to the proposal. The main reasons given for supporting the proposals were the improvement of highway safety on Emsworth Grove together with maintaining access to private driveways. The main reasons given for objecting was due to the loss of on-street parking for visitors to properties on Emsworth Grove.

4. Discussion

As there have not been any recorded personal injury crashes at this location in the last three years the Highway Authority can not state that the proposals will statistically improve road safety in the area.

The environmental impact of installing parking restrictions will result in yellow lines on its entire length or the restrictions

Installation of parking restrictions can increase the vehicular speed of vehicles using the road, given the nature of the route; speeding will not be a factor. Mr Chittenden is very aware of the carriageway layout and wants to eradicate commuter parking on the road together with allowing an ease of access onto Emsworth Grove for residents.

Subject to the consultation responses, Mr Chittenden values the responses of residents and is therefore proposing to alter the proposals after discussion with Kent County Council Officers.

5. Conclusion

The purpose of this report is to provide members with results of the Emsworth Grove consultation.

Members are therefore asked to:

A - Decide whether to implement the proposed parking restrictions on Emsworth Grove based on the consultation responses.

B – Remove the Double Yellow Line proposals and replace with Single Yellow Line restrictions to eradicate commuter parking. The proposed time-plate is to read Mon-Sat 10:00am to 11:00am and then again between the hours of 15:00 to 16:00.

C - Remove the Double Yellow Line proposals and replace with Single Yellow Line restrictions to eradicate commuter parking. The proposed time-plate is to read Mon-Fri 10:00am to 11:00am and then again between the hours of 15:00 to 16:00.

Appendices: Drawings of Proposals

Contact officer: Andy Corcoran
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Appendix 1 – Drawings of Proposals