

Meeting of:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 07 December 2020
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Environment and Regeneration
Report Title:	Objection Report: Beach Road, Southerndown – Proposed Prohibition of Waiting at Any Time Traffic Regulation Order
Purpose of Report:	To advise Cabinet of an objection received and to propose an appropriate way forward
Report Owner:	Report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport
Responsible Officer:	Miles Punter - Director of Environment and Housing Services
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Accountant Environment and Housing Services
	Legal Services (Committee Reports)
	Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport
	Ward Members: Councillor Stewart Edwards
Policy Framework:	This report is a matter for Executive Decision by Cabinet.

Executive Summary:

- Beach Road, Southerndown is a narrow rural lane which leads to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Cymlau car park and Dunraven Estates car park for visitors to Dunraven Bay beach and the Glamorgan Heritage Coast.
- There are a number of residential properties on the northern part of Beach Road which suffer from obstructive and extraneous parking due to visitors to the area parking on the carriageway instead of in the designated car parks.
- Due to the lane being narrow these vehicles are causing obstructions to the free flow of vehicles which is a road safety risk and furthermore causing damage to the grass verges along the route. Site observations have confirmed these problems.
- Consequently, in order to improve road safety in the area the Council is promoting a scheme to introduce a new Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time Traffic Regulation Order.
- The statutory legal consultation began on 27th August, 2020 and concluded on 18th September, 2020, during that period of time a formal objection to the proposal was received.
- Cabinet is required to consider the objection and decide whether the Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time Traffic Regulation Order should be implemented.

Recommendations

- 1. That Cabinet reject the objection to the proposals for the reasons contained in this report and that the proposed Prohibition of Waiting at Any Time Traffic Regulation Order be implemented.
- 2. That the objector is advised of this decision.

Reasons for Recommendations

- **1.** To allow the Traffic Regulation Order to be made and implemented.
- **2.** To confirm the Council's position.

1. Background

- **1.1** Beach Road, Southerndown is a narrow rural lane which leads to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Cymlau car park and Dunraven Estates car park for visitors to Dunraven Bay beach and the Glamorgan Heritage Coast.
- **1.2** There are a number of residential properties on the northern part of Beach Road which suffer from obstructive and extraneous parking caused by visitors to the area parking on the carriageway instead of in the designated car parks. This situation was exacerbated recently during the COVID-19 lockdown when Dunraven bay car park was closed for an extended period of time.
- **1.3** Due to the lane being narrow these vehicles are causing obstruction to the free flow of vehicles which is a road safety risk and furthermore causing damage to the grass verges along the route. Site observations have confirmed these problems.
- **1.4** Furthermore, there are no footways along the length of Beach Road and pedestrians must walk in the carriageway. The parked vehicles then force pedestrian to walk in the centre of the carriageway again causing a road safety risk.
- **1.5** The Council consequently, in order to improve road safety in the area is promoting a scheme to introduce a new Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time Traffic Regulation Order as shown in Appendix A.
- **1.6** On 10th August, 2020, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport and the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport gave approval to give public notice of a proposal to introduce a Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time Traffic Regulation Order.

1.7 The statutory legal public notice of the proposal was given on 27th August, 2020, inviting objections in writing, by the 18th September, 2020 containing the grounds upon which any objection was being made.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

2.1 During the consultation period one objection was received. A copy of the objection is attached in Appendix B and the concerns summarised with responses below.

Concern 1:

2.2 At this time, we are fortunate to have the small Frolics restaurant within the village. Having very limited parking patrons park outside the premises when the car park is full and have never caused an obstruction issue in Beach Road.

Officer response 1:

2.3 Site investigations were undertaken prior to the preparation of the scheme and vehicles were witnessed parking with two wheels on the small section of footway opposite Frolics restaurant causing an obstruction and road safety risk to pedestrians. The proposals will prevent this road safety risk from occurring and improve safety for pedestrians.

Concern 2:

2.4 When this parking is full however patrons then park in the privately-owned lane 'The Fields' often causing obstruction and increasing damage to its surface that residents have to maintain. This is tolerated by residents who are generally happy to have the restaurant in the village however, should the volume of vehicles displaced to 'The Fields' increase, this tolerance would no doubt be eat thin (sic) and forcing residents to put in measures to prevent vehicular access. This in turn would have a negative impact on Frolics who have no option of alternative parking.

Officer response 2:

- **2.5** The restriction is proposed for the full length of eastern side of Beach Road however, on the western side within the vicinity of Frolics restaurant and the residential properties only a small section of restriction is proposed to protect the junction with the B4524. This maintains the general use of on street parking in front of both the restaurant and residential properties.
- **2.6** Furthermore, it was noted during the site investigations that there was significant availability of on-street parking along the B4524 on the straight section of the road opposite the entrance to Southerndown Farm, where

motorist could park to utilise the restaurant without causing any obstructions and road safety risks.

Concern 3:

2.7 In light of this I feel that a small section of Beach Road roughly opposite the entry to 'The Fields' not be (sic) subject to parking restrictions. This has been shown over the years not to impact on access to Beach Road and may even go some way to mitigate speeding in the street.

Officer response 3:

2.8 The section of Beach Road that the objector is referring to is directly opposite the junction with 'The Fields' and it states within Rule 243 of the Highway Code that you must not stop or park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, so by removing this section of the proposed restriction it would inappropriately encourage motorists to park at this location contrary to the rules and guidance provided in the Highway Code.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- **3.1** Long term The proposed Order will safeguard the Council's long-term strategy regarding parking and ensure it has robust measures in place to provide a safe and secure environment for the Vale of Glamorgan's residents and visitors.
- **3.2** Integration The introduction of the proposed Order demonstrates an integrated approach to manage the local highway network. It also balances the need to maintain good highway infrastructure whilst contributing to the longer-term policy of reducing future impact on local communities by ensuring efficient use of the local highway network by reducing road noise and pollution.
- **3.3** Involvement The process of developing this scheme has involved communication with the local community and other stakeholders via public notice and press advert thereby contributing and delivering on the involvement agenda. Furthermore, it ensures that all of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's residents and visitors are involved regarding the management and safety of our local highway network.
- **3.4** Collaboration The proposal has involved working in collaboration with the Community Council, South Wales Police and local residents ensuring that there is a unified and majority interest in delivering the scheme benefits described within the report.
- **3.5** Prevention The proposal will contribute to preventing any incidents of antisocial behaviour in respect of illegal and obstructive parking and play a

fundamental role in our well-being objectives by protecting and enhancing the natural and build environment.

4. Resources and Legal Considerations

<u>Financial</u>

- **4.1** The cost of the Order and implementing the scheme is estimated to be in the region of £12,000, which will be funded from the Traffic Management Operational Budget 2020/21.
- **4.2** The Council's own administrative resources will be used to progress the legal Order, should approval be given to overrule the objection.

Employment

- **4.3** Progression of the Traffic Regulation Order will be carried out by the Traffic Management team within Neighbourhood Services and Transport and the Legal Department.
- **4.4** The implementation of road markings on site will be managed and undertaken by the Council's own in-house resource.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- **4.5** There are no Human Rights implications with regard to this report.
- **4.6** The Council, as Highway Authority has a responsibility to ensure the safety of the highway user and may be found negligent if it does not meet its statutory obligations under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Road Traffic Act 1988.

5. Background Papers

Traffic Management Information File 924.

Appendix A



Good afternoon and our apologies for the delayed reply.

Firstly thank you for your kind consideration in regards to residents concerns and the amendment to the plans as a result.

Unfortunately however I feel it would be wrong of me to agree to the amended plans and I foresee issues that it will cause to the day to day enjoyment of the area.

At this time we are fortunate to have the small independent Frolics restaurant within the village. Having very limited parking patrons park outside the premises When the car park is full and have never caused an obstruction issue in Beach Road.

When this parking is full however patrons then park in the privately-owned lane "The fields" often causing obstruction and increasing damage to its surface that residents have to maintain.

This is tolerated by residents who are generally happy to have the restaurant in the village however should the volume of vehicles displaced to The fields increase this tolerance would no doubt we eat thin and forcing residents to put in measures to prevent vehicular access. This in turn would have a negative impact on Frolics who have no option of alternative parking.

In light of this I feel that a small section of Beach Road roughly opposite the entry to The fields not be subject to parking restrictions. This has been shown over the years not to impact on access to Beach Road and may even go some way to mitigate speeding in the street.

To assist I have attached a diagram highlighting The fields lane (green) the area that I believe should not be subject to restrictions (blue) and the location of the restaurant (yellow). Further a photograph taken in the past 24 hours shows the area of parking (2-3 vehicles total) facing down Beach Road with the entry to The fields off to the right of the image.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter,

