Central Bedfordshire Council

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEETING

26 MARCH 2019

Petition – Clifton Road Parking

Report of: Paul Mason, Assistant Director, Highways

(Paul.Mason@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Responsible Officer(s): Paul Salmon, Team Leader, Traffic Management,

Highways

(Paul.Salmon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Purpose of this report

To report on the decision at the Traffic Management Meeting on 12 February 2019 to recommend an interim solution until the results from the Dunstable Parking Strategy are available.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Traffic Management Meeting is asked to:

1. Approve to undertake a road marking review of Clifton Road and install parking bays.

Issues

Background Information

- 1. At the 12 February 2019 Traffic Management Meeting it was decided that along side the Dunstable Parking Strategy a solution in the short term to be recommended to aid the residents of both Stuart Street and Clifton Road.
- 2. Central Bedfordshire Council received this petition in November 2018 which is a petition from the residents of Stuart Street to not include Clifton Road within the recently implemented Stuart St 'resident permits only' parking restriction scheme.
- 3. A petition from the residents of Clifton Road was raised at the October 2018 TMM, requesting that "Resident permits only" parking be implemented on Clifton Road. This

petition was rejected due to the forthcoming Dunstable Parking Survey and Parking Strategy.

Options for consideration

- 4. Undertake a Road Marking review of Clifton Rd and install parking bays without any restrictions at this stage. Monitor the parking over 1 month and according to the results implement waiting restrictions in the form of double yellow lines and single yellow lines.
- 5. Remove the Residents Only Parking Permit scheme on Stuart St.
- 6. Include Clifton Rd within the Stuart St Residents Only Parking Permit scheme.
- 7. Introduce a standalone Clifton Rd Residents Only Parking Permit scheme.
- 8. Await the results from the Dunstable Parking Strategy.

Reason/s for decision

- 9. The recommendation for an interim solution in the form of a Clifton Rd parking review and installation of parking bays without any restrictions is accepted due to the following reasons:
 - a) The installation of parking bays along Clifton Rd will deter parking on sections of the footway.
 - b) The parking bay installation will require parking suspensions which will detect and remove any unused vehicles.
 - c) The installation of new parking bays at this stage will enable the installation of further waiting restrictions to be implemented in the future. For example; signpost locations, double yellow lines, single yellow lines and/ or a residents parking permit scheme.
 - d) Monitoring the use of the parking bays will give further detail into the requirement for Clifton Rd.
 - e) There is a forthcoming Dunstable Parking Strategy which will take a holistic approach to parking throughout Dunstable, including both these areas (Stuart St and Clifton Rd).

Council Priorities

10. Not applicable.

Corporate Implications

8. None.

Legal Implications

9. A Traffic Regulation Order is not required at this stage as the parking bays are without waiting restrictions.

Financial and Risk Implications

10. Financial – road marking contractor day rate. Risks – vehicles parked not allowing road making works to be undertaken.

Equalities Implications

11. None.

Conclusion and next Steps

- 12. The proposal is to undertake a road marking review of Clifton Rd and install parking bays. Then monitor the parking along Clifton Rd for 1 month to determine whether further waiting restrictions and/ or a Residents Only Permit Scheme is required.
- 13. Review the Dunstable Parking Strategy recommendations once the results are available.

Report Author:

Nishil Parmar – Principal Highways Officer Nishil.parmar@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix A: Petition Signatures

Appendix A: Petition Signatures

Dear Sir / Madam,

PETITION - Proposal to include Clifton Street in the Stuart Street Residents Parking Scheme.

It is respectfully requested that the Council consider the impact that the above proposal would have on the residents of Stuart Street, whose names, details and signatures are set out on the enclosed list.

We fully object to this proposal.

A summary of reasons for the objection are also included. This petition contains 48 signatures and is served on behalf of the listed signatories. This accounts for 100% of Stuart Street Residents.

Yours sincerely

For and on behalf of Stuart Street Residents

Stuart Street Resident's Parking Scheme Petition to object to inclusion of adjacent streets

To whom it may concern,

This is a petition to object to allowing Clifton Road residents being included in the Stuart Street Residents Parking Scheme on either a permanent or temporary basis.

We as residents of Stuart Street fought for parking permits, due to constantly being unable to find a parking space when Clifton Road residents opted not to take up this opportunity despite advice to do so at the time. Currently Stuart Street residents are still unable to find space to park at certain times despite the fact that we are paying for permits to do so. This will only be exacerbated should Clifton Road be added to the scheme.

Issues that still occur are the following:-

- Non-Residents parking in the street on a daily basis. Usually, inconsiderately and thus taking up more than one space.
- The road is not patrolled daily resulting in Non-residents taking the risk of parking and from what the residents have seen the majority do NOT get a parking ticket.
- The residents originally disagreed with Non-residents being included in the scheme and a call-in was requested. The results of the call-in despite the fact that the committee of councilors stated that no extra permits should be issued was that extra permits for non-resident was issued.
- 4. An extra 12 permits that we are aware of have already been added to the already saturated capacity of Stuart Street. This would still be the case even without visitor parking which, it was agreed that these would not be issued even though they have.
- The extra permits for non-residents were issued on a temporary basis until a full review of Union Street & Clifton Road has taken place. This has still not been carried out after 18 months or more.
- Not all residents park their cars at their home address. Some residents park at local friends / families on drives.
- 7. Local Non-residents are aware of hours that the wardens work so evenings & weekends is a free for all if you leave the street then you are mostly unable to park so some don't take the car out. Residents that do risk using the car at times cannot get parked upon return. We already at times feel trapped in our homes.
- Non-residents park in the street daily. Residents complain constantly to the council due to lack
 of warden patrol's, but no apparent or obvious changes have been made.
- 9. Residents rarely have family or friends to visit now as they can't park anywhere to visit.
- Certain Stuart Street residents have disabilities so need to be able to park or be dropped outside their own properties. Often this is unable to happen.
- Residents that do have driveways are unable to access their driveways as they are blocked by other parked cars.
- 12. Due to having shops at the end of the road at certain times of the day the street has car's parked, usually for no more than 10 minutes, however, that is 10 minutes that a permit holder has to spend looking for a space.
- There was a 30 minute parking bay added in Union Street, this is NOT properly monitored and has vehicles parked there most of the day.
- 14. Prior to the permit scheme being implemented, residents constantly could NOT park and this has caused constant headache and stress. After finding out that TM meetings have taken place

Stuart Street Resident's Parking Scheme Petition to object to inclusion of adjacent streets

and residents not informed all this past stress has been brought back to residents with full force. This is completely unfair and unacceptable.

- Prior objections by Stuart Street residents have been ignored constantly and regardless of rejections from call-in's which the Council have completely disregarded.
- 16. The council, already aware of the lack of parking have given planning permission, which takes away even more parking from residents. These properties if they have any parking only have one which isn't enough for a two bedroomed property. This has occurred in Victoria Street & Clifton Road / Stuart Street. This has also occurred at Ashton School.

We request that you leave Stuart Street Residents Parking scheme as it currently stands and provide Clifton Road with their own parking scheme as this would be the only viable solution which would not create further problems. It is completely unacceptable to charge residents for a parking permit scheme when knowingly the majority would not have the ability to park due to the demand for spaces being much higher than the supply.

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