
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 26 January 2011
Subject: Petition – For the Introduction of Parking Restrictions in Faynes Court, Sandy
Report of: Basil Jackson Assistant Director Highways & Transportation
Summary: The purpose of this report is to present a petition received from residents of the Faynes Court and Sunderland Road area of Sandy.

Contact Officer: Gary Baldwin
gary.baldwin@amey.co.uk

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: Sandy

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Financial:

Approximately £3500 would be required to implement the waiting restrictions requested.

Legal:

None as a result of this report.

Risk Management:

None as a result of this report.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None as a result of this report.

Equalities/Human Rights:

None as a result of this report.

Community Safety:

None as a result of this report

Sustainability:

None as a result of this report

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities and Healthier Lifestyles is requested to note the contents of the report.

Background and Information

1. A petition of 25 signatures has been received from residents requesting parking restrictions in Faynes Court, Sandy.
2. The petitioners point out that there are too many cars parking in Faynes Court. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that it has a footpath link to the Market Square, which means that the road is used for parking by drivers visiting the town centre.
3. They report that parked cars obstruct access to private parking spaces and on occasions have created difficulties for emergency vehicles, refuse collections and street cleaning. In addition, parked cars near to the Sunderland Road junction impede the free movement of pedestrians and cause difficulties for vehicles turning into and out of Faynes Court.
4. Petitioners have put forward suggestions for parking restrictions to address these concerns.

Conclusion and the Way Forward

5. Faynes Court is a short residential cul-de-sac, with some off-highway parking areas. There are currently no parking restrictions in place.
6. At present there is a prohibition of waiting 'at any time' on both sides of Sunderland Road near to Faynes Court.
7. It is highly likely that Faynes Court does attract some overspill parking from the town centre, but the number of vehicles involved appears to be relatively small. Given the fact that traffic volumes in Faynes Court are very low, on-street parking rarely creates any significant road safety issues and does not impede through traffic.
8. There would appear to be some justification for extending the double yellow lines a short distance from Sunderland Road into the Faynes Court junction. This would ensure that the footway running alongside Sunderland Road was not obstructed by parked cars around the junction. The additional length of yellow lines would also help to address any vehicular conflict between vehicles turning into and out of Faynes Court.
9. There may also be justification for additional restrictions within Faynes Court to encourage more disciplined parking practises. However, it is less easy to justify these because any indiscriminate parking that takes place does not create any serious problems.

10. The present level of on-street parking rarely creates any significant issues, so it is difficult to make a case for any immediate action. It is suggested that the next time waiting restriction proposals are being processed in Sandy, the case for parking controls in Faynes Court be given further consideration.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Location plan

Appendix B – Petition

APPENDIX A – Location plan



APPENDIX B

Petition for the Introduction of Parking Restriction in Faynes Court, Sandy, Bedfordshire

Background (Preamble)

Congestion from too many cars parking in Faynes Court is a result not only of planning failures and a lack of parking enforcement, but is aggravated by the fact that Faynes Court is connected to the town centre by a public footpath at one end.

This path offers an attractive shortcut for drivers from other areas to park and gain access to the town centre through Faynes Court.

During working hours, numbers can then be increased by an additional eight to ten cars from the workers at the old chapel, which stands at the end of Faynes Court and is connected by the footpath. This firm is now considering taking on more staff.

Parked cars overflow into private parking spaces or block access to parking spaces. This leads to frequent altercations with the residents of both Magnolia Court and Aldwyck Housing.

Public services such as emergency service and waste collection have had difficulty accessing areas of Faynes Court, and police have had to be called for assistance. Cars have been damaged twice in the last eighteen months.

And of course street cleaning is difficult.

At the moment there are no visual parking restrictions, and cars park on both sides of the road and overflow into Sunderland Road. This impedes free movement on the footpath in Sunderland Road, which can cause problems for disabled persons.

Road parking restrictions could take the form of a double yellow line on the east side of Faynes Court, to include the corners of the entrance to the private part of the road containing the parking places for Aldwyck Housing tenants.

Single yellow lines on the west side, but with double yellow lines on the pavement corners at the entrance to Magnolia Court.

The two parking spaces at the end of Faynes Court should remain available for parking.

The double yellow lines in Sunderland Road could be extended slightly to fully cover the corners at the entrance to Faynes Court, so that the footpath in Sunderland Road is not obstructed by parked cars.

Petition:

We, the undersigned, request Central Bedfordshire introduce parking restrictions in Faynes Court.

