
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 29 January 2014
Subject: Petition Highlighting Parking Issues in Filland Court Sandy
Report of: Jane Moakes, Assistant Director Community Safety and Public Protection
Summary: This report presents a petition received from residents of Filland Court, Sandy seeking a resolution of parking difficulties.

Contact Officer: Nick Chapman
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Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Sandy
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Financial:

There is currently no funding identified to undertake any measures in Filland Court

Legal:

None from this report

Risk Management:

None from this report

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None from this report

Equalities/Human Rights:

None from this report

Community Safety:

None from this report

Sustainability:

None from this report.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services notes the content of the report.

Background and Information

1. A petition has been received signed by 14 residents of Filland Court and Swansholme Gdns, Sandy raising issues in respect of parking in Filland Court.
2. Filland Court is a small residential cul-de-sac off Swansholme Gardens in Sandy. The properties have some off road parking and some have extended this to provide several off-road spaces in addition to their garages.
3. The petitioner highlights parking on a grassed area of land in Filland Court by residents and some non-residents as the main issue. There is evidence that cars are parked on this area of land.
4. The land is surrounded by a raised road kerb on three sides and by driveways on the fourth side. Vehicular access is therefore available to it either over a full height kerb or via the private driveways but in any event access is reasonably easy.
5. Given the residential nature of the area the parking on the grass is likely to be by residents or their visitors.
6. Given the nature of the area there are limited options for the Council to address this local issue.
 - Do nothing
 - Reconstruct part of the area for parking and prevent access to the remainder
 - Prevent access to all of the land using bollards, additional trees or similar.
7. Indications are that the land forms part of the highway.

Conclusion and Way Forward

8. Whilst this is a matter that has aroused some local interest and concern it is not a matter that would appear to be a high priority for the allocation of highway funds.
9. The only vehicle through which to access significant capital expenditure for highway works is currently through the Local Area Transport Plan process and to date this area has not been highlighted as a priority for expenditure via that medium.
10. It is further suggested that the solution to this situation may be for the local residents to speak with those that they feel are causing this situation and see whether a local compromise can be found. It is clear from the petition letter that the petitioner acknowledges that this is the root cause of the problem.

11. It is therefore recommended that no further action be taken in respect of any physical works at this location at the present time.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Petition letter
Appendix B – Location plans

Appendix A

Firstly may I thank you for your continued support, assistance and ongoing efforts in trying to alleviate what is becoming an increasingly regular problem of continued parking of vehicles on the amenity area in Filland Court, Sandy.

We the undersigned residents are becoming increasingly concerned at the practice of a few residents and sometimes non-residents who continually insist on parking vehicles on the amenity land in Filland Court. Not only is this practice annoying to most of the residents it is also causing damage to the grassed area and of course sometimes restricts the cutting of the grass by the contractors when vehicles remain parked during the day.

Whilst we are not pleased with vehicles parked in the amenity area we also recognise that when this estate was built many years ago the provision of car parking was probably thought to be adequate and covered the needs at that time. However we see now that many households have at least two cars and with sons and daughters also having cars and remaining at home the driveways of most properties are not able to accommodate more than two vehicles.

Therefore we do not wish to cause a rift amongst neighbours but would seek to arrive at some solution as to what can be done to stop parking on the amenity land which we are sure is only continuing because of the lack of car parking available. We would welcome your suggestions and would like this letter copied to the Mayor and all other members of Sandy Town Council and request that this matter become an agenda item at some future Council meeting or Committee meeting.

Appendix A

