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**Meeting:** Delegated Decisions by the Executive Member for Community Services on Traffic Regulation Orders

**Date:** 11 August 2014

**Subject:** Faulkner's Way and St Mary's Way area, Leighton-Linslade – Consider Objections to Residents Permit Parking Scheme Amendments

**Report of:** Paul Mason, Head of Highways

**Summary:** This report seeks the approval of the Executive Member for Community Services for the introduction of amendments to the residents permit parking zones in Faulkner's Way and St Mary's Way area, Leighton-Linslade.

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**Contact Officer:** Nick Chapman  
[nick.chapman@amey.co.uk](mailto:nick.chapman@amey.co.uk)

**Public/Exempt:** Public

**Wards Affected:** Linslade

**Function of:** Council

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Priorities:**

The proposal will improve parking facilities for residents.

### **Financial:**

These works are being funded from the Council's budget for minor traffic and safety schemes and are expected to cost a total of £8,000, including fees and works.

### **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):**

- 1. That the proposal to amend the operational hours of the residents permit parking zone in Faulkner's Way and Stoke Road, Leighton-Linslade be implemented as published.**
- 2. That the proposal to amend the operational hours of the residents permit parking zone in the St Mary's Way area, Leighton-Linslade be implemented as published.**

**Background and Information**

1. In September 2013 new residents permit parking schemes were implemented in a number of areas of Leighton-Linslade, including Faulkner's Way and the St Mary's Way area. These were introduced primarily to address residents' concerns about commuter parking.
2. The residents' permit schemes in both Faulkner's Way and the St Mary's Way area operate on a 24/7 basis, which means that on-street parking is restricted to permit holders only at all times. Residents have requested that consideration be given to reducing the operational hours to those days and times when commuter parking is most likely to occur. A public meeting was held to determine residents' preferences and this was used to guide what changes should be made to the parking schemes.
3. As a result, it is proposed to amend the restrictions in Faulkner's Way, from its junction with Bossington Lane for its remaining length, and in the lay-by on the east side of Stoke Road near Faulkner's Way, so that a vehicle only needs a permit to park from Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. That part of Faulkner's Way between Stoke Road and Bossington Lane would remain permit holder parking at all times. The amendments published in November 2013 to introduce a 2 hour permit-free parking period in Faulkner's Way and the addition of the Stoke Road lay-by near Faulkner's Way to the permit parking scheme have already been approved and will go ahead as published.
4. It is proposed to amend the restrictions in the St Mary's Way area, so that a vehicle only needs a permit to park from Monday to Friday between 10am and 12noon. These times have been chosen to minimise inconvenience for residents and visitors. The previously published amendment to introduce a 2 hour permit-free parking period in the St Mary's Way area will not go ahead if the current proposal is implemented.
5. The proposal was advertised by public notice in June and July 2014. Consultations were carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies, Leighton-Linslade Town Council and relevant Elected Members. Residents were individually informed and notices were displayed on street.

6. Two objections have been received; one from Faulkner's Way and one from the St Mary's way area. Copies of all correspondence are included in Appendix C, but the main points are as follows:-
  - a) The Faulkner's Way objection relates to the fact that most of the road would become permit holders only Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, but the two parking bays at the western end of the road would remain permit holders only at all times. The objector thinks that the operational hours should be consistent across the whole zone as that would be fairer to all.
  - b) The St Mary's Way area objection is that the existing scheme works well and they do not want it to change. The concern is that a reduction the operational hours will increase the likelihood of non-residents, including commuters parking in these roads, thereby reducing the schemes' effectiveness.
7. Bedfordshire Police have been formally consulted as part of the process and have raised no objections to the proposals.

## **Responses and Conclusion**

8. The Highways Team response to the points raised above are as follows:-

Ideally, the residents permit parking scheme in Faulkner's Way would be amended so that the operational hours across the whole zone would be reduced to Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. However, at the aforementioned public meeting several residents who live at the western end of Faulkner's Way asked if the parking bays near their homes could remain 24/7. They have insufficient off-road parking and said that prior to the permit scheme being introduced the parking spaces were used during the evenings and weekends by residents of nearby streets. This meant that they often could not find a convenient parking space at those times.

It is possible that the significant reduction in the operational hours of the St Mary's Way permit parking zone could lead to non-residents parking there. However, the majority of commuters work a traditional Monday to Friday week and therefore any parking controls in the middle of the day are likely to prevent most commuter parking. Residents wanted to substantially reduce the times during which they need to display a permit and amend it to create the least disruption to visitors. Residents suggested that Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon was the quietest time for visitors and would be less likely to affect healthcare workers many of whom visit earlier in the morning and/or at lunchtime.
9. In summary, it is felt that the proposed amendments would ease conditions for residents and their visitors, but would still achieve the aim of tackling commuter parking. The changes were suggested by residents and they were all consulted individually. There are 51 households in the Faulkner's Way area and 108 in the St Mary's Way area. The fact that only two representations were received strongly suggests that the vast majority support the proposed changes.
10. If the scheme is approved the works are expected to take place during the next two to three months.

**Appendices:**

Appendix A – Public Notices

Appendix B – Drawing of Proposals

Appendix C – Representations



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO AMEND THE EXISTING RESIDENTS' PERMIT PARKING ZONE IN FAULKNERS'S WAY, LEIGHTON-LINSLADE**

**Reason for proposal:** The proposed Order is considered necessary to improve parking facilities for residents. It is proposed to amend the residents' permit parking scheme in Faulkner's Way to shorten the operational hours during which vehicles need a permit to park. At present vehicles need to have a valid residents permit to park at all times, but it is proposed to reduce this to Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. At other times parking would be unrestricted. Please note that the amendments published in November 2013 to introduce a 2 hour permit-free parking period in Faulkner's Way and the addition of the Stoke Road lay-by near Faulkner's Way to the permit parking scheme will still go ahead as published.

**Effect of the Order:**

**To reduce the operational hours of the current Residents' Permit Holders only parking to Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm on the following lengths of road in Leighton-Linslade:-**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Faulkner's Way | From its junction with Bossington Lane for its remaining length, with the exception of those lengths covered by No Waiting at any time. (That length of Faulkner's Way between Stoke Road and Bossington Lane to remain Residents' Permit Holders parking at any time) |
| Stoke Road     | East side, from a point in line with the boundary of nos.5 and 7 Faulkner's Way extending in a southerly direction to a point in line with the boundary of nos.3 and 5 Stoke Road.   |

**Further Details** may be examined during normal office at the address shown below, viewed online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices) or tel. 0845 3656116.

**Comments** should be sent in writing to the Transportation Manager, Central Bedfordshire Highways, Woodlands Annexe, Manton Lane, Bedford MK41 7NU or e-mail [centralbedsconsultation@amey.co.uk](mailto:centralbedsconsultation@amey.co.uk) by 11 July 2014. Any objections must state the grounds on which they are made.

**Order Title:** If made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (Bedfordshire County Council (District of South Bedfordshire) (Civil Enforcement Area and Special Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2008) (Variation No.\*) Order 201\*\*"

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Priory House  
Chicksands  
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Marcel Coiffait  
Director of Community Services

17 June 2014

# PUBLIC NOTICE



Central  
Bedfordshire

## **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO AMEND THE EXISTING RESIDENTS' PERMIT PARKING IN THE ST. MARY'S WAY AREA, LEIGHTON-LINSLADE**

**Reason for proposal:** The proposed Order is considered necessary to improve parking facilities for residents. It is proposed to amend the residents' permit parking schemes in the St Mary's Way area to shorten the times during which vehicles need a permit to park. At present vehicles need to have a valid residents permit to park at all times, but it is proposed to reduce this to Monday to Friday from 10am to 12noon. At other times parking would be unrestricted. Please note that the amendments published in November 2013 to introduce a 2 hour permit-free parking period in the St Mary's Way area will not go ahead if the current proposal is implemented.

**Effect of the Order:**

**To reduce the operational hours of the current Residents' Permit Holders only parking to Monday to Friday between 10am and 12noon on the following lengths of road in Leighton-Linslade:-**

St Mary's Way	From a point approximately 10 metres south of the property boundary of no.62 Soulbury Road and no.1a St Mary's Way extending in a northerly direction to a point approximately 13 metres north of the property boundary of nos.41 and 43 St Mary's Way.
Beech Grove	For its full length.
Hawthorn Close	For its full length.

**Further Details** may be examined during normal office at the address shown below, viewed online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices) or tel. 0845 3656116.

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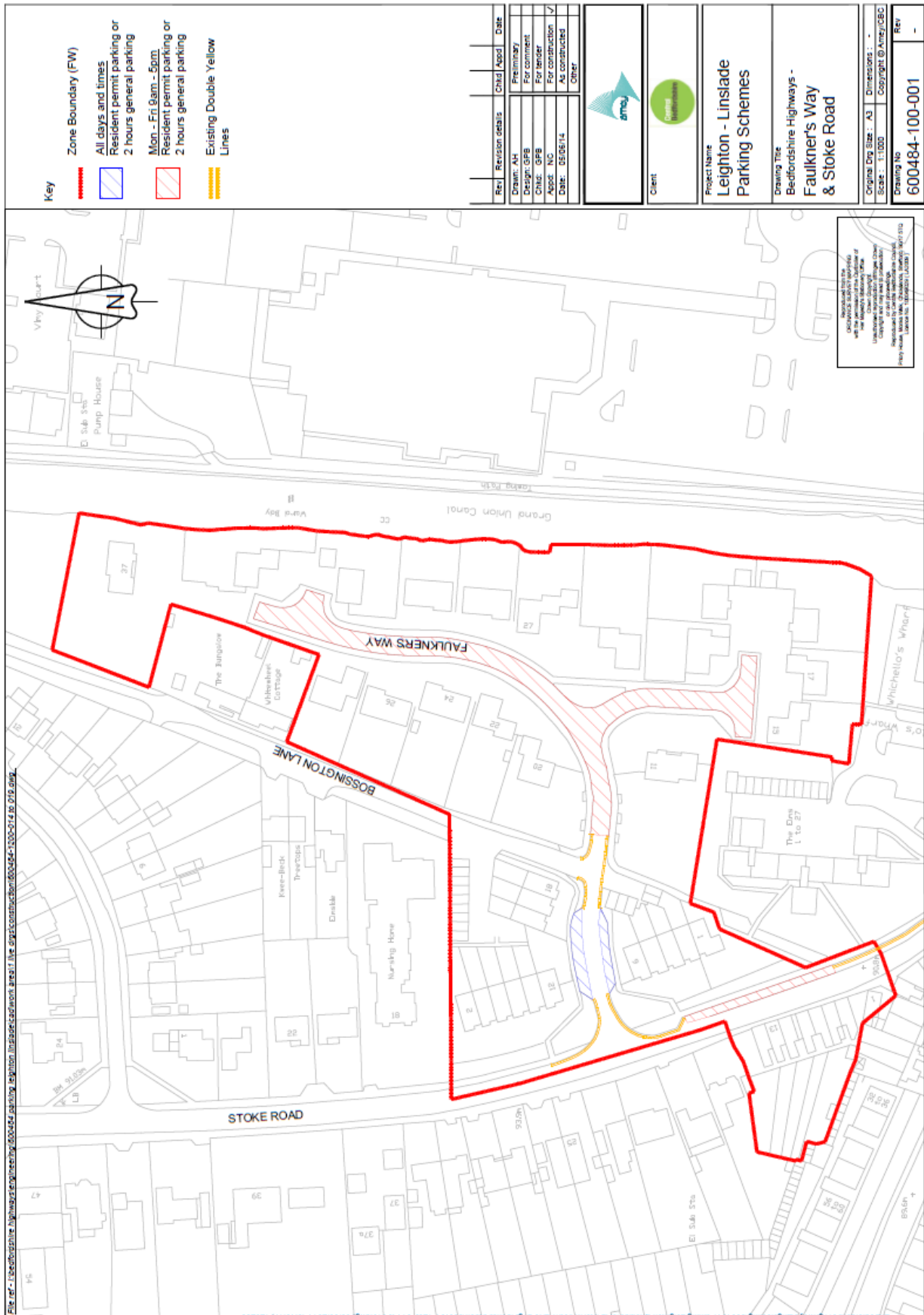
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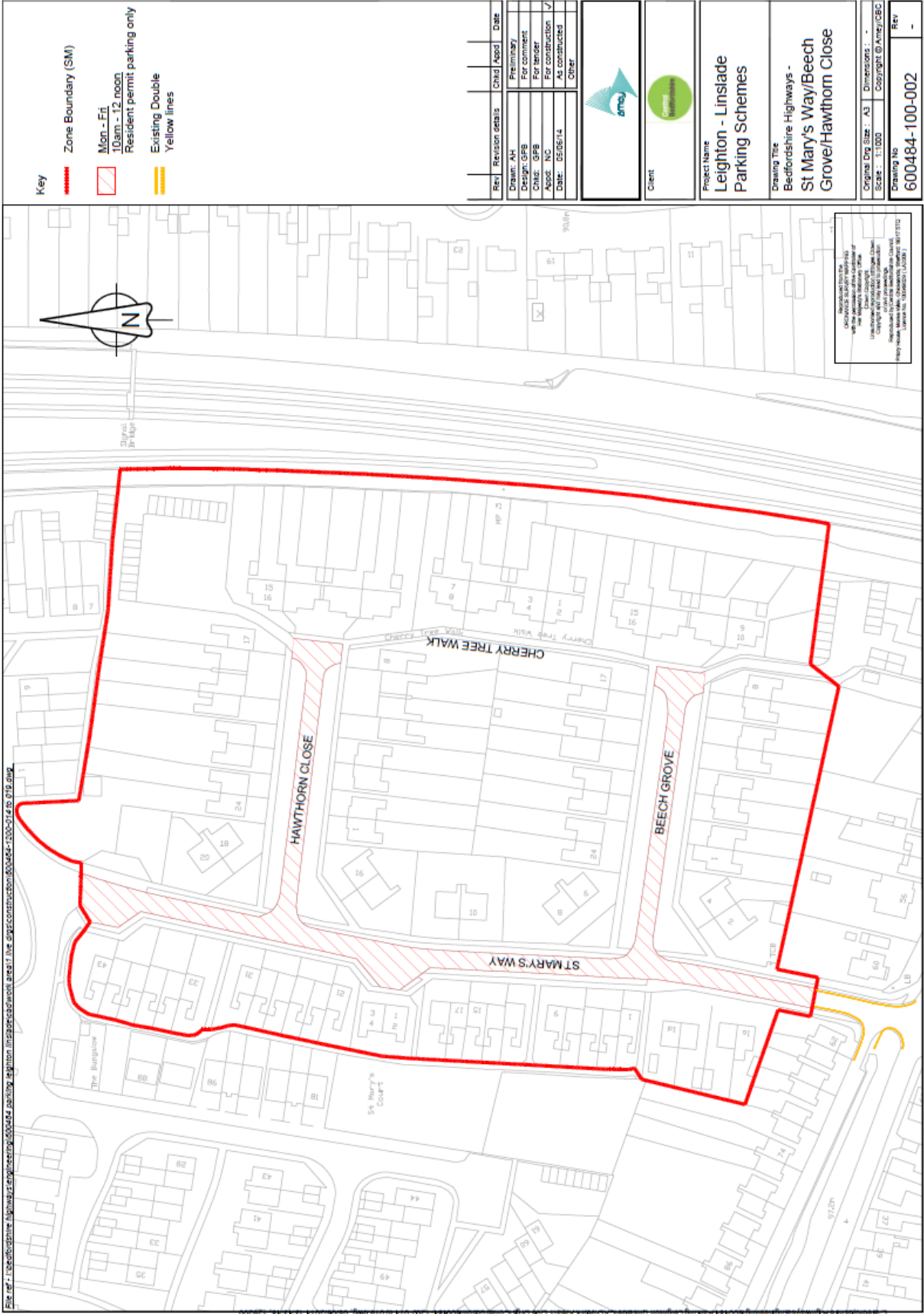
Marcel Coiffait  
Director of Community Services

17 June 2014

# Appendix B







**Key**

- Zone Boundary (SM)
- Mon - Fri  
10am - 12 noon  
Resident permit parking only
- Existing Double  
Yellow lines

Rev	Revision details	Chkd	Appd	Date

Drawn: AH	Prepared by:
Design: GSB	For comment
Check: GSB	For review
Appd: NC	For construction
Date: 05/06/14	As constructed
	Other



Client

**Project Name**  
Leighton - Linslade  
Parking Schemes

**Drawing Title**  
Bedfordshire Highways -  
St Mary's Way/Beech  
Grove/Hawthorn Close

Original Dwg Size: A3	Dimensions: -
Scale: 1:1000	Copyright © AME/CBC
Drawing No: <b>600484-100-002</b>	REV: -

Notwithstanding to what may appear on this drawing, the contractor shall be responsible for checking all dimensions and levels on site. The contractor shall also be responsible for checking all dimensions and levels on site. The contractor shall also be responsible for checking all dimensions and levels on site.



## Appendix C

I refer to your recent letter about possible changes to the residents permit parking scheme in Faulkner's Way.

On the on set, the whole exercise of changing the street to permit parking was to prevent, and deny, the train and other commuters using the street for all day parking thereby inconvenience the residents. Bearing this in mind it would therefore be unfair to have difference in the days and times of parking within the area, which in turn inconvenience the very residents which the exercise is meant to bring relief. The fairest option will be to have all areas which are designated for parking in Faulkners Way and Stoke Road to Monday to Friday and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

I appreciate that some residents have more than one car, but surely this should not inconvenience others, and because they have more than one, they are wanting the parking on the top end of Faulkners way to be 24/7 and permit at all times, to enable them to park their other vehicles here at all times, thereby denying the residents who live on the top end of Faulkners Way (where the parking area is) to park outside their houses.

I appreciate that it is hard to find a compromise to satisfy everyone, the fairest solution will be to have same restrictions on all areas of parking, and those with more than one car to resolve the problem on their own.

I object to the Faulkners Way upper end being "All days and time" resident permit parking but agree to the proposal about "2 hours general parking"

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I write concerning the proposed change to the Residents Parking in St Marys Way, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard.

I notice from the letter you sent to my address that it is proposed to restrict parking permit requirement to just two hours in the middle of the day. I would state from the start the present arrangements suit me and my needs extremely well.

I have a service van registered on the scheme which, due to parts deliveries by an overnight courier, I need to park in an accessible and safe place, and where I can see it for security reasons. It also is clear that a two hour restriction will not prevent the road being used as a free car park for commuters doing shift work in London and Birmingham, we previously had cars parked in the street from 2 pm until 11am the next day, and occasions before the permits for days on end. It will also allow people using the dentist to park as well as cars being used to collect children from the school opposite due to the restrictions in Leapold Road, where the school is situated, which I believe to be unfair to the residents in St Marys Way. As I live at the beginning of the road we are always the part of the road that gets the problems with parking.

I would therefore wish to strongly object to the proposed change to the times given. I would find it preferable if either a longer period of restricted time (i.e. 7am to 6pm) or the present arrangements kept. I do realise some

residents have issues with carers and doctors visits, but I don't understand why there cant be some form of identification that can be put on such vehicles to show why they are parked in the road, after all disabled drivers are required to do this.