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**Meeting:** Traffic Management Meeting  
**Date:** 3 November 2016  
**Subject:** Totternhoe Road, Marina Drive and Harvey Road, Dunstable – Petition requesting action to address on-street parking

**Report of:** Paul Mason, Assistant Director Highways

**Summary:** This report is to note the receipt of a petition submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council and suggest a way forward.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that a parking restriction proposal be published in the 2017/18 financial year and that the lead petitioner be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

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**Public/Exempt:** Public

**Wards Affected:** Dunstable Watling

**Function of:** Council

#### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

**Council Priorities:**

The petition is in relation to the safe and efficient use of the highway network.

**Financial:**

Work will be funded from minor traffic management and parking budgets.

**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

<b>Budget and Delivery:</b>	
Estimated cost: £2,500	Budget: Minor Traffic Management
Expected delivery: During 2017/18 financial year	

**Background and Information**

1. A petition has been received, signed by 17 people, requesting the Council to address inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous parking in Totternhoe Road, Marina Drive and Harvey Road, Dunstable.
2. Supporting documents state that parked vehicles close to the junction of Totternhoe Road and Marina Drive force traffic on to the wrong side of the road, thereby creating conflict with vehicles turning into and out of the junction. This can also cause traffic on Totternhoe Road to stop suddenly, which has resulted in collisions. Parking at the junction of Marina Drive and Harvey Road obscures visibility for drivers and makes it difficult for larger vehicles to pass. There was an incident when an ambulance was unable to reach an address in Harvey Road and paramedics had to proceed to the house on foot.
3. The petition asks for parking restrictions to be introduced at the junctions of Totternhoe Road, Marina Drive, Harvey Road and Gardeners Close. It also asks the Council to write to residents requesting them to use their own drivers or garages and to park more considerately. The situation should be monitored by the Council.
4. In common with many residential streets there is a high level of on-street parking, particularly at certain times and it is likely that on some occasions this will obstruct the free movement of traffic. These issues are very common, so it is difficult for the Council to justify the cost of introducing formal waiting restrictions in all such situations. However, in this case the request is for restrictions targeted at specific junctions aimed at addressing road safety concerns. Hence, there would appear to be justification for considering restrictions.
6. The Executive Member will recall that, whenever possible, the Council seeks to process requests for small scale parking controls in area-based batches in the interests of cost effectiveness. It is suggested that this approach be adopted in this situation. The current budget and staff resource for this work is fully committed, but it will be possible to pursue this in the 2017/18 financial year.

7. If approved and implemented, the restrictions will be reviewed after 5 years to determine whether they should be retained, modified or removed.

**Appendices:**

Appendix A – Petition and accompanying correspondence

Appendix B – Location plan

## Appendix A

### Petition concerning

Parking problems on the junctions of :-  
Marina Drive & Totternhoe Road and Marina Drive & Harvey Road LU6 2AH.

- This petition is brought about to highlight the inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous parking in the above areas.
- Most of the vehicles parked at times are not residents of Marina Drive or Harvey Road, but are residents of :-
  1. Totternhoe Road (who have parking/garaging either to the front of or behind their houses accessed via a lane from Harvey road).
  2. Gardeners close (a limited amount of parking is available in the close).

### The problems :-

- Vehicles parking in Marina Dr. very close to the junction of Totternhoe Rd. & Marina drive. (See Map \*1)

These vehicles effectively make the junction a single track road at that point. This then causes vehicles leaving Marina Dr. to be on the wrong side of the road at the junction. Any vehicles, if at the same time trying to enter Marina Dr. have to stop in Totternhoe Rd. This has on many occasions nearly resulted in an RTC with vehicles coming down Totternhoe Rd. (usually over 30mph.) not expecting another vehicle to suddenly stop on the main road.

- Vehicles parking all round the junction of Harvey Rd. & Marina Dr. (See Map \*2)

Thus obscuring the clear view for drivers coming out of Harvey Rd. onto Marina Drive. This also reducing the width of the already narrow Harvey Rd. This in itself makes delivery by large lorries very difficult of not impossible.

\*\* This was highlighted at 15:30 on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>, May 2016 when an ambulance on a blue light emergency call to a resident in Harvey RD. could not get past the large commercial van parked on the corner of Harvey Rd. The Paramedics had to leave the vehicle and carry their equipment to the house concerned.

A fire appliance being much bigger, would definitely not have got down the road on this occasion.

### Proposals - What we suggest should be implemented:-

1. Parking restrictions be enforced around all the junctions of Totternhoe Rd. Marina Drive, Harvey Rd. & Gardeners Close in the form of Double Yellow lines.
2. All residents in the roads concerned be encouraged by letter from the Council/Highways Dept. to park in their own drives/garages where they have them, or if not, be more aware/considerate of the way they park in the future.
3. Future monitoring of the situation by council/highways officials.

PTO

We the under signed agree that this proposal should be considered and implemented as a matter of urgency. For the safety and wellbeing of all residents concerned.

Appendix B

