
Meeting: Traffic Management Meeting
Date: 28 February 2017
Subject: Prince Regent area, Dunstable – Consider Objections to Parking Restriction Proposals
Report of: Paul Mason, Assistant Director Highways
Summary: This report seeks the approval of the Executive Member for Community Services for the implementation of waiting restriction changes in Prince Regent area, Dunstable

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

1. That the proposal to amend the existing Resident Permit Parking scheme in the Prince Regent area, so that most spaces are for resident permit holders only and the existing 2 hour limited waiting for general use will be removed, be implemented as published.
2. That the proposal to amend the existing No Waiting 7am to 7pm to No Waiting Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm in the Prince Regent area be implemented as published.
3. That the proposal to make minor amendments to parking restrictions as set out in this report be implemented as published.

Contact Officer: Gary Baldwin
gary.baldwin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: Dunstable Central
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The proposal will improve road safety, traffic management and the amenity in the affected road.

Financial:

The works are being funded by the Local Transport Plan as part of the Integrated Programme of 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.

Budget and Delivery:	
Estimated cost: £6,000	Budget: LTP Integrated Programme
Expected delivery: May/June 2017	

Background and Information

1. The Council has received a number of complaints about the existing parking restrictions in the Prince Regent area of Dunstable. There are two main issues:-
 - a) The residents permit holder parking spaces are operational at all times, but allow drivers to park for up to 2 hours without a permit. This means that they are used by non-residents with the result that residents are often unable to find a place to park. Given the number of homes that have no off-street parking, this is a significant problem.
 - b) The single yellow lines that are generally in place opposite the resident permit holder places prohibit parking from 7am-7pm on all days. The purpose of the single yellow lines is to ensure that the roads remain reasonably clear of parked vehicles during the working day, but allow double-sided parking overnight. However, the operational days and times are seen as overly restrictive.
2. A preliminary consultation exercise was carried out that there was strong support the limit the parking bays to resident holder spaces only, with no allowance for short-stay general parking. There was also support for reducing the operational days and times of the single yellow lines with the favoured restriction being No Waiting Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

3. Consequently, a proposal was published to amend the restrictions to those preferred by residents. The opportunity was also taken to make some relatively minor changes to changes, such as to convert some double yellow lines to the new single yellow line days/times.
4. The proposals were formally advertised by public notice in November 2016. Consultations were carried out with the emergency services and other statutory bodies, Dunstable Town Council and the Ward Member. Residents located in the areas where restrictions are proposed were individually consulted by letter.

Representations and Officer Responses

5. A total of 8 representations were received in response to the proposals. Two are outright objections and the others raise concerns and/or request various amendments to the proposals.

The main issues raised were as follows:-

- a) The response rate to our earlier consultation, at 28%, does not constitute a majority of residents and it could be considered that 72% want no change.
- b) A business owner in the stretch of Albion Street closest to High Street North objects to the proposal to allow permit holders to park there. This will mean that short-stay parking is not available for potential customers and for deliveries.
- c) There is abuse of the existing 30 minutes short-stay parking due to a lack of enforcement.
- d) A business owner in Victoria Street near to the Polish Church has asked for the 2 hour parking to be retained near to their premises for visitors.
- e) A business owner in Princes Street has asked for more short stay spaces for his customers as some prefer to park on road rather than in their private car park. He points out that he allows residents to use his car park overnight which assists the Council by providing additional parking capacity in the area.
- f) The removal of the 2 hour short stay parking will create problems for visitors, as they will need to purchase visitor tickets which would be expensive.
- g) There is a request for permit holders to be permitted to use the Regent Street car park.
- h) It has been requested that individual parking spaces to be marked out to encourage more considerate parking, which would maximise the spaces available.
- i) Parking on the footway in Albion Street, between Victoria Street and Princes Street obstructs pedestrians and others, particularly on Sundays, so parking should be prohibited on that length.
- j) There was a suggestion that the proposed changes do not apply to that length of Victoria Street, from Albion Street to West Street. The concern is that its exclusion would adversely affect those living on that road.

- k) The revised single yellow line restriction will allow parking by anyone overnight and at the weekend, so may become an attractive option for those visiting the town centre. This may also create problems for larger vehicles and for drivers accessing/egressing driveways. It will also result in footways being obstructed.
- l) Recent changes to the restrictions in Albion Street have created turning problems for larger vehicles.
- m) One resident has asked for a very minor adjustment of the yellow lines outside his home to discourage drivers blocking his driveway and effectively provide an additional parking space.

6. Officer response:-

- a) The response rate to the preliminary consultation was relatively low, but it is difficult to take account of those who do not respond to exercises of this type and it cannot be assumed that they support no change. Our consultations do give people the opportunity to state that they want no change. In addition, we wrote to all households in the area a second time to set out what changes are proposed, which provided an opportunity for residents to object to the proposed changes. Very few did that.
- b) One of the main objectives of the published proposals is an attempt to increase parking availability for residents. This stretch of Albion Street is mainly commercial, so will probably not be an attractive place for residents to park, particularly during the working day when spaces are more likely to be available elsewhere. Hence, by retaining the 30 minutes parking from 9am to 5pm, it is expected that there will be spaces for customers during those times.
- c) It is hoped that the Council will be able to increase patrols in the future due to the recruitment of additional enforcement officers.
- d) It is acknowledged that there are several businesses that will be disadvantaged by the proposed amendments. However, public car parks are available in nearby streets to cater for business customers and other visitors.
- e) 3-4 shared spaces have been retained in Princes Street for this business, but it is acknowledged that this may not meet his requirements. However, we are attempting to balance the needs of residents and businesses and the proposal is felt to be a reasonable compromise.
- f) Visitors will need to use visitor tickets or make use of Council-run car parks which are located reasonably close by. The majority of residents who responded to our initial consultation supported the change to permit holder only parking spaces.
- g) The off-street car parks are intended to be used by visitors, primarily those using adjacent businesses. If the spaces were taken up by residential permit holders this would affect the availability of spaces for shoppers and other visitors.
- h) Marking out individual spaces can be inflexible due to the varying lengths of cars. The markings are visually intrusive and represent a significant maintenance burden.

- i) It is acknowledged that some footways parking takes place and this has a negative impact on pedestrians and those in wheelchairs and with pushchairs. However, the proposal seeks to find a balance between access and mobility needs and the need for residents to park on-street. The alternative would be to have double yellow lines on all non-parking lengths of road, but this would be strongly opposed by residents.
 - j) There was an error on the notice, but other documents, such as the drawing provided, clearly indicated that this length of Victoria Street was included.
 - k) There is the potential for non-residents to park on single yellow lines, particularly at the weekend, to avoid car parking charges. However, many of the available spaces are likely to have already been taken up by residents. This will need to be monitored if the proposed changes are implemented.
 - l) Some relatively minor changes have been made to the restrictions in Albion Street relating to a planning application. These do have the potential to affect turning by larger vehicles, but there has only been one report of this creating problems. This will be kept under review.
 - m) The suggested change makes sense as it will effectively increase parking capacity. The change is so small that it can be enacted if the proposals go ahead.
7. Given the results of the previous consultation and the fact that very few of the approximately 500 households and businesses responded to the statutory notice, it can be assumed that there is a high level of local support for the proposed changes.
8. If approved and implemented, the restrictions will be implemented in May/June 2017. The restrictions will be reviewed after 5 years to determine whether they should be retained, modified or removed.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Public notice of proposals

Appendix B – Drawing of proposals

Appendix C – Representations

PUBLIC NOTICE



CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO AMEND THE WAITING RESTRICTIONS IN THE PRINCE REGENT AREA OF DUNSTABLE

Reason for proposal: The proposed Order is considered necessary for improving the amenity of the area through which the road runs. This area of Dunstable has a residents' permit parking zone and also includes lengths of single yellow lines, which prohibit parking between 7am and 7pm. These times are considered to be overly restrictive, so it is proposed to change them to prohibit parking Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. This would enable residents to park on the single yellow lines all weekend and for additional periods in the early morning and early evening. In addition the unused taxi parking area in Albion Street near to its junction with High Street North is proposed to be replaced with short stay general parking. Several other minor changes to the existing restrictions are proposed to improve parking provision for residents.

Effect of the Order:

To REMOVE the existing No Waiting 7am to 7pm and REPLACE it with No Waiting Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Albion Street on four lengths of road between High Street North and Princes Street.
2. Edward Street on four lengths of road between Union Street and Albion Street.
3. Matthew Street on two lengths of road between Albion Street and West Street.
4. Princes Street on four lengths of road between Union Street and Albion Street.
5. Regent Street on two lengths of road between High Street North and Edward Street.
6. Victoria Street on three lengths of road between Union Street and Albion Street.
7. Winfield Street on three lengths of road between High Street North and Edward Street.

To REMOVE the existing Limited 2 hours No return within 2 hours except Permit Holders and REPLACE it with Permit Holders Parking only on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Albion Street on three lengths of road between High Street North and Princes Street.
2. Edward Street on six lengths of road between Union Street and Albion Street.
3. Matthew Street on two lengths of road between Albion Street and West Street.
4. Princes Street on seven lengths of road between Union Street and Albion Street.
5. Regent Street on one lengths of road between High Street North and Edward Street.
6. Victoria Street on six lengths of road between Union Street and Albion Street.
7. Winfield Street on three lengths of road between High Street North and Edward Street.

To REMOVE the existing No Waiting 7am to 7pm and REPLACE it with No Waiting at any time on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Edward Street, south-west side, from a point approximately 1 metre north-west of the north-west flank wall of no.27 Edward Street extending in a south-easterly direction for approximately 2 metres.

To REMOVE the existing No Waiting at any time and REPLACE it with No Waiting Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Edward Street, south-west side, from a point approximately 3 metres south-east of the north-west flank wall of no.87 Edward Street extending in a south-easterly direction for approximately 14 metres.
2. Edward Street, south-west side, from a point in line with the north-west flank wall of no.85 Edward Street extending in a south-easterly direction for approximately 9 metres.
3. Victoria Street, east side, from a point approximately 1 metre south-east of the north-west flank wall of no.4 Victoria Street extending in a southerly direction for approximately 18 metres.

4. Winfield Street, north-west side, from a point in line with the north-east flank wall of no.5 Winfield Street extending in a south-westerly direction for approximately 12 metres.

To REMOVE the existing No Waiting at any time and REPLACE it with Permit Holders Parking only on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Winfield Street, south-east side, from a point in line with the south-west flank wall of no.36 Winfield Street extending in a south-westerly direction for approximately 1 metre.

To REMOVE the existing Limited Waiting 30 minutes No return within 2 hours 7am to 7pm and REPLACE it with 30 minutes Limited Waiting with No Return within 2 hours except Permit Holders on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Albion Street, north-west side, from a point approximately 32 metres south-west of the front wall of no.39 High Street North extending in a south-westerly direction for approximately 59 metres.

To REMOVE the existing No Stopping except Taxis and REPLACE it with 30 minutes Limited Waiting with No Return within 2 hours 9am to 5pm on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Albion Street, north-west side, from a point approximately 13 metres south-west of the front wall of no.39 High Street North extending in a south-westerly direction for approximately 19 metres.

To REMOVE the existing Disabled badge Holders only Parking and REPLACE it with Permit Holders Parking only on the following roads in Dunstable:-

1. Victoria Street, Dunstable, south-west side, from a point in line with the boundary of nos.92 and 94 Victoria Street extending in a south-easterly direction for approximately 7 metres.

Further Details may be examined during normal office hours at the address shown below, viewed online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices or tel. 0300 300 5003.

Comments should be sent in writing to the Traffic Management team at the address below or e-mail traffic.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk by 16 December 2016. Any objections must state the grounds on which they are made.

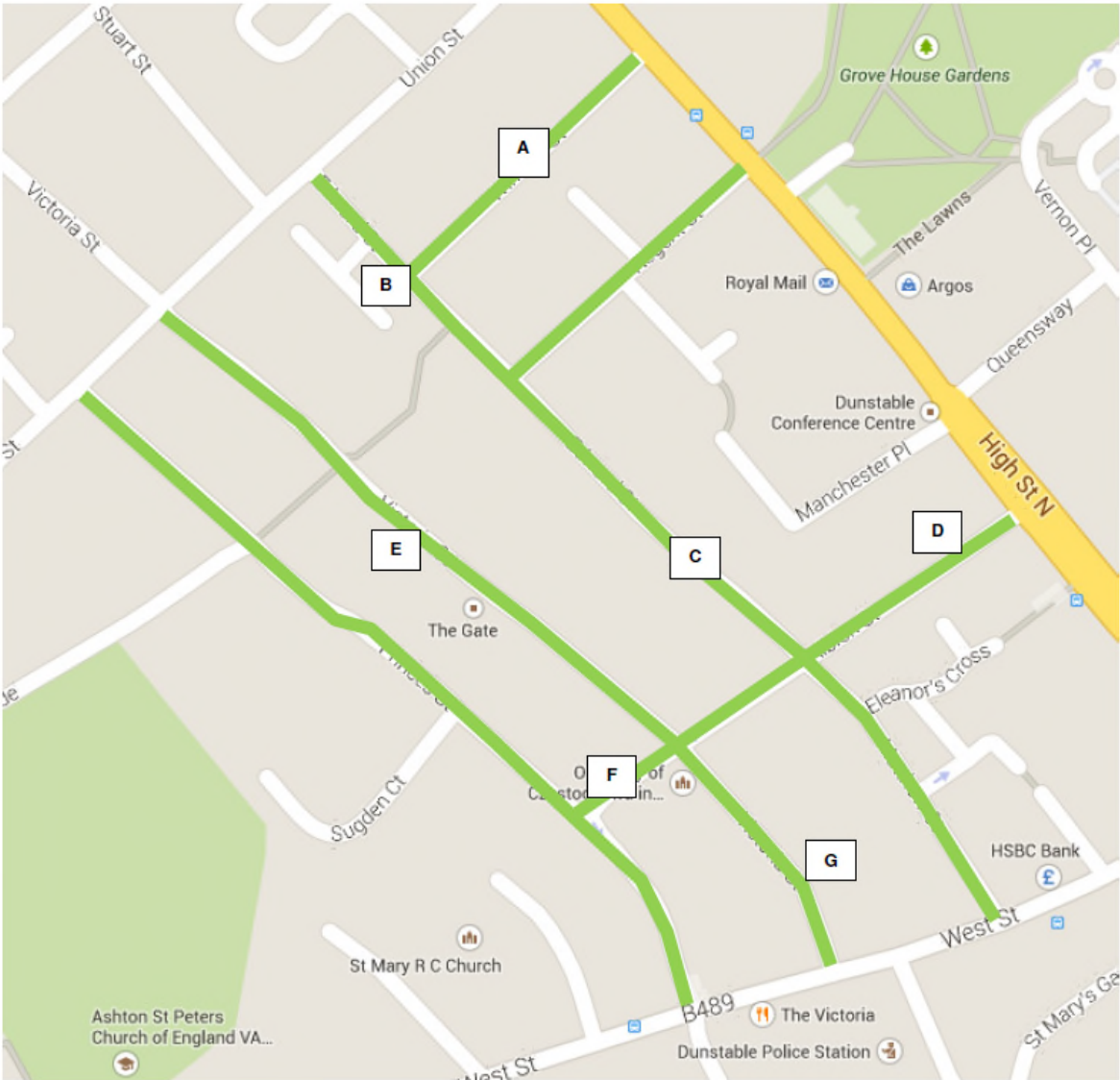
Order Title: If made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (Bedfordshire County Council (District of South Bedfordshire) (Civil Enforcement Area and Special Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2008) (Variation No.*) Order 201**"


Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Chicksands
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Marcel Coiffait
Director of Community Services

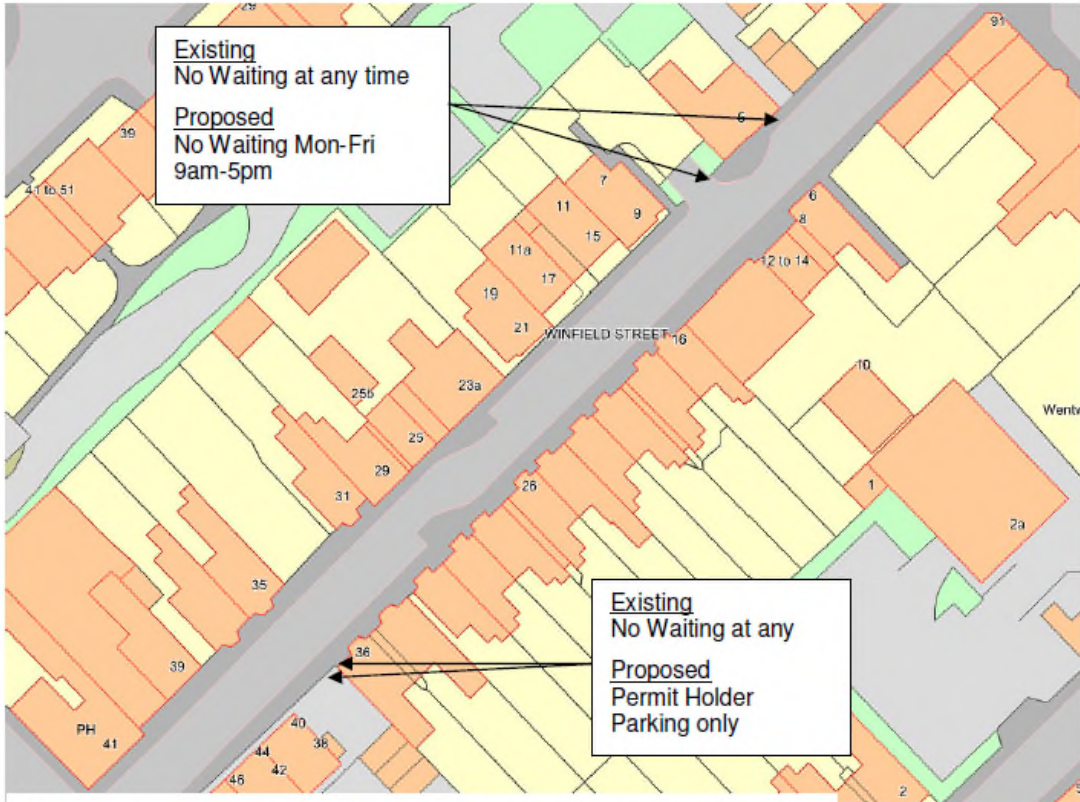
17 November 2016

Appendix B



 Existing No Waiting 7am-7pm to be replaced with No Waiting Mon-Fri 9am-5pm AND existing shared permit holder and 2 hour parking bays to be replaced with permit holder only parking

Inset A – Winfield Street



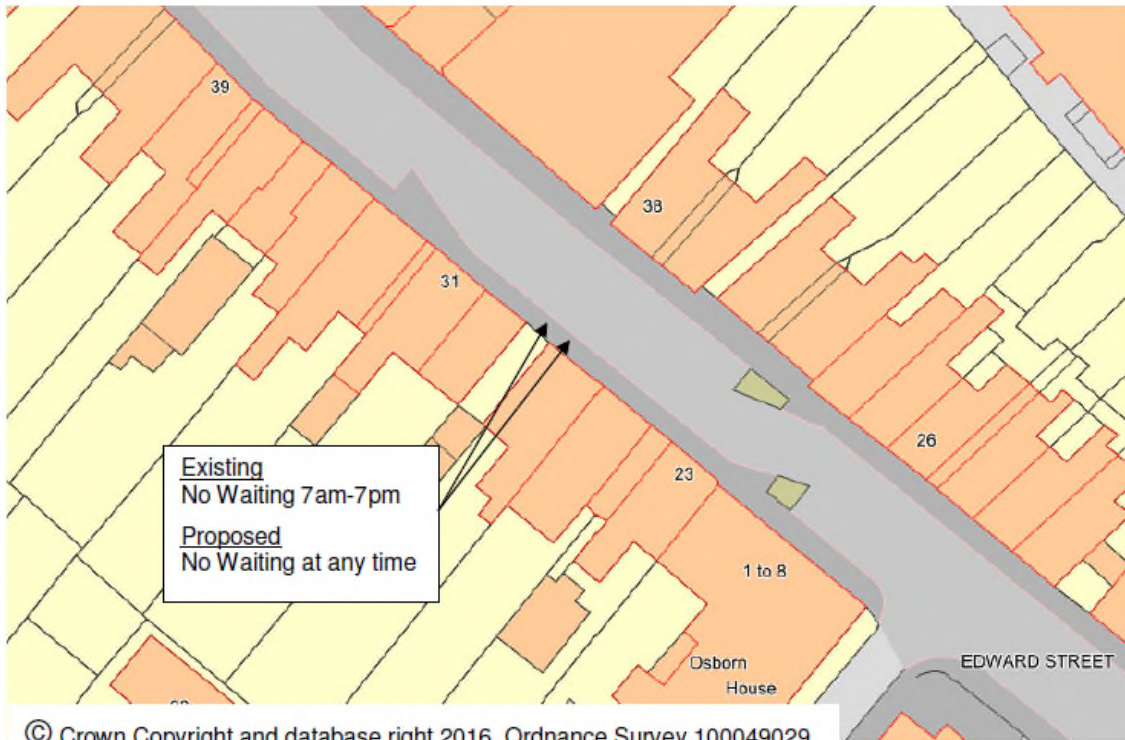
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Inset B – Edward Street

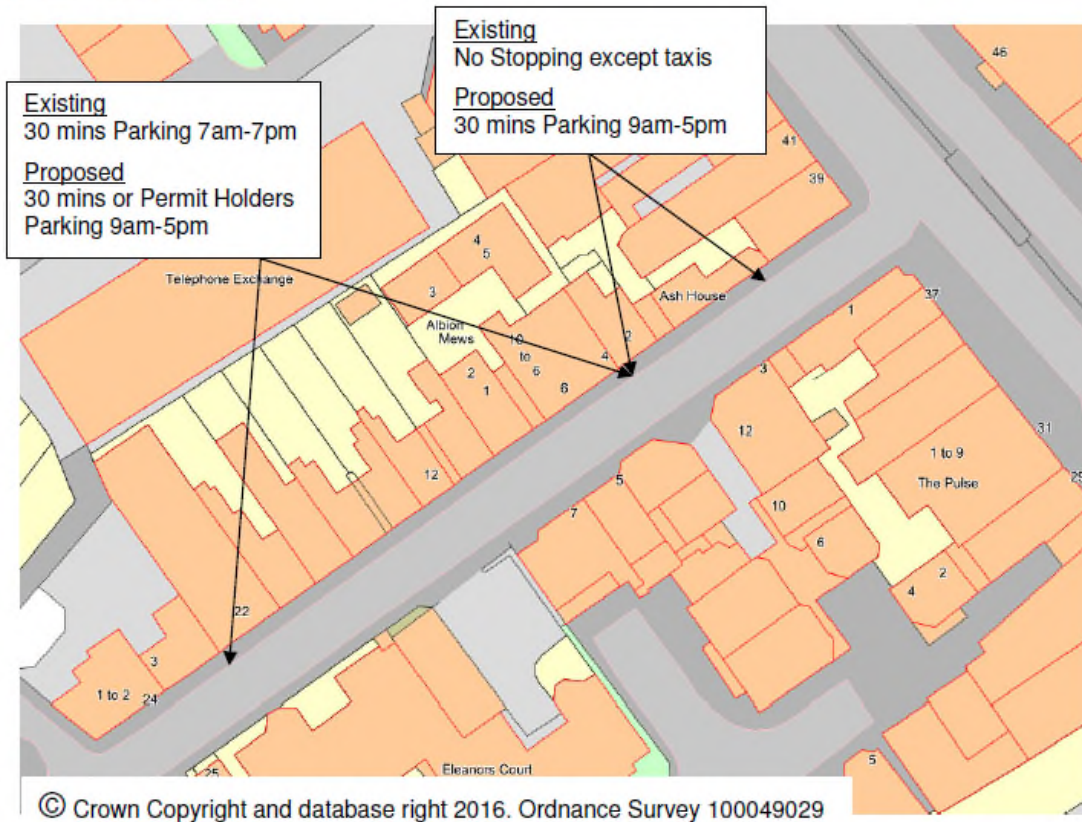


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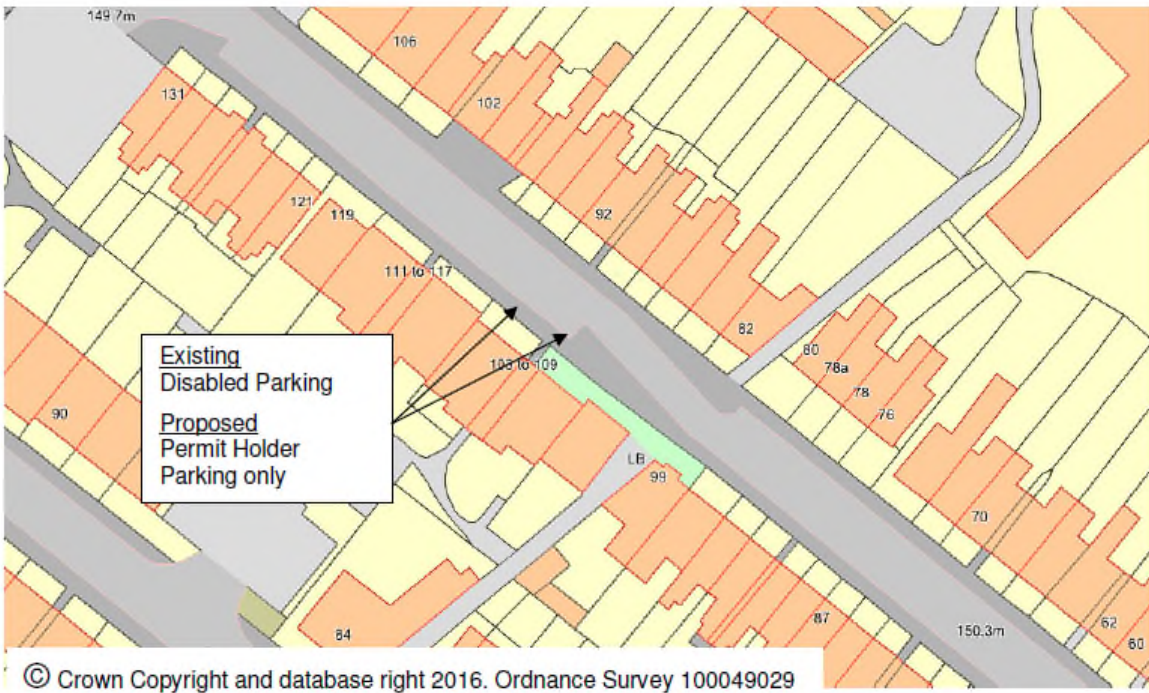
Inset C – Edward Street



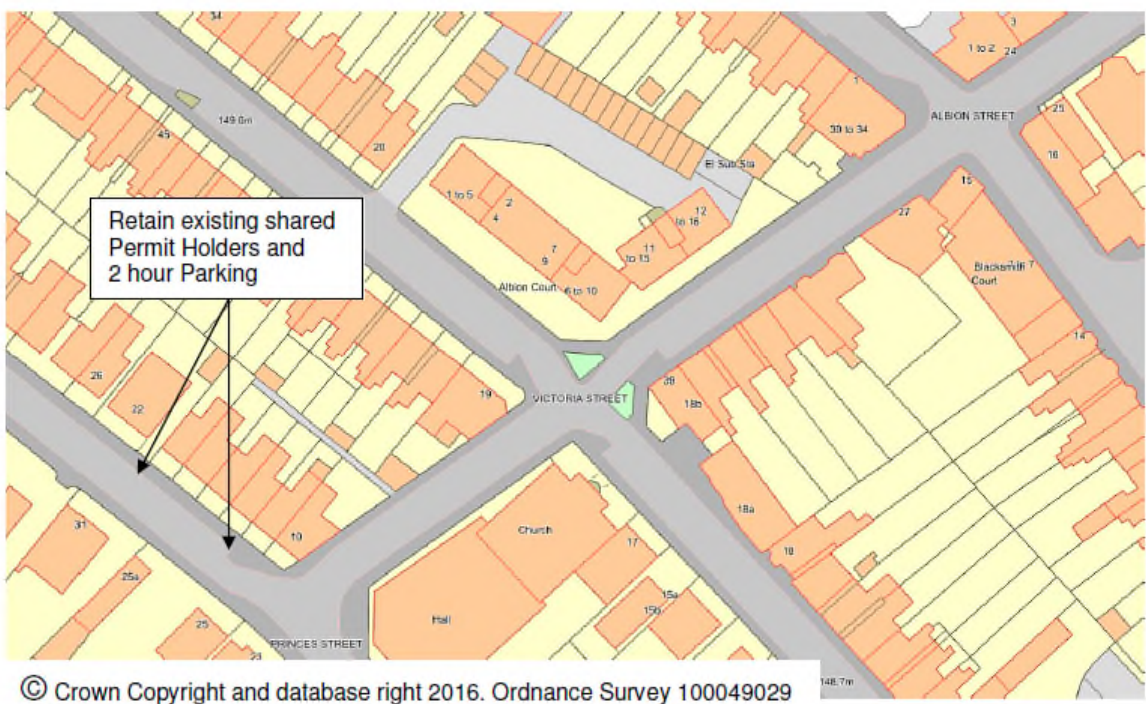
Inset D – Albion Street



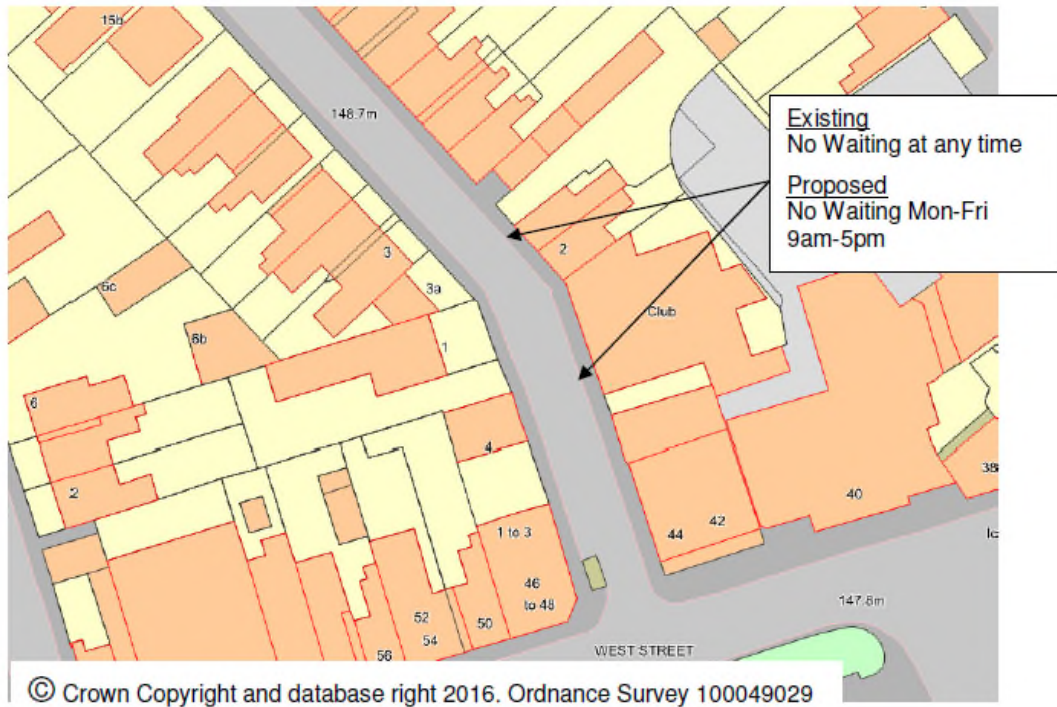
Inset E – Victoria Street



Inset F – Princes Street



Inset G – Victoria Street



Appendix C

I have had a chance to look over the proposed changes to the parking restrictions in Prince Regent area, for the following reasons I would like to object to the proposed changes.

1. Albion ST consists of 10/14 spaces depending on how considerate people park as well as the vehicle type. During recent planning consent for flats/ HMOs I was assured that residence could not park in the street as no permits would be issued and wardens will patrol regularly. This is not the case. I will elaborate at a later point about the issue with the flats and HMOs, but I would point out at this stage that we do not see wardens often, we are lucky to see them more than once or twice a week.

2. People already park for anything up to 2/3 hours plus in a 30 minute restriction bay. This unfortunately includes some local shop owners which is, in my opinion, wrong in itself and self defeating in trying to increase footfall to our businesses. These people just do not and will not pay for parking, so please do not make false promises that will not be kept. If the road is full of permit holders the wardens would be more irrelevant that they already are.

People who cannot park in Albion ST or surrounding areas are parking in Eleanor's Court which as you are aware it is a residential flats for elderly people rather the pay for parking in Matthews Street Carpark etc.

3. On top of this two residents park all day, everyday along with two disabled badly holders (one a carer and one a resident). The road is often used by utility vehicles such as British Gas, Affinity Water etc on a regular basis.

If you open up the road to permit holders there will simply be no space for shoppers and people with local errands i.e. Eleanor's Cross, post office, banks and all other local businesses.

The shops in Albion ST also have many deliveries. How will this work when there is no spaces? In addition to this, the businesses need spaces for drop in customers including the Opticians who have disabled and elderly customers.

I do live locally, in Winfield Street and have no objections to the changes in the residential streets however Albion Street is not a residential street and the restrictions that have been proposed would be a disaster for the businesses in that road that are trying to survive.

Albion ST is the last commercial side street in the town centre. If it is opened up or permit holders it will cease to be. Running a business in this town has become tough enough, please to not make it any tougher.

I am happy to discuss further by phone. I am hoping you take my concerns in to serious consideration, I have been a shop owner for 25 years in the same street and have a real concern about my future there.

Further to our telephone conversation this afternoon, that as a business rate payer I wish to request for short stay parking to remain available near/opposite my business at Three Counties House, 18A Victoria Street (opposite the Polish Church) for my visitors to have somewhere to park for a short period, same as the Vets in Princes Street have requested and businesses within Albion Street.

I wonder also if it would be at all possible for these spaces to be restricted one way or another to businesses in the area/street due to the fact that shoppers in the town may take up these spaces?

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Thank you for your recent notification concerning the proposal to change the waiting restrictions in Princes Street, Dunstable.

I understand from the map, Inset F, that the current proposal for Princes Street is to retain the existing 'shared Permit Holders and 2 hour parking' slot which is directly opposite our entrance gate. While I am grateful for the recognition given to continue to provide some on-street parking for existing business premises, I am extremely concerned that the designated section to be retained is only long enough to accommodate up to 3 vehicles at any one time. Since this is to remain as a 'shared' parking facility between permit holders and non-permit holders, I feel that, with the shared area being so small, the likelihood of space being available for non-permit holders to use, is too low for me to have any confidence that clients of our business stand much chance of getting parked close enough to the surgery building for them to manage their dogs and/or cat baskets with any ease.

The need for parking space for people attending the Princes Street surgery is only during our daytime opening hours – our out-of-hours services for the people of Dunstable and Luton are provided at our surgery in Brook Street in Luton, where we are able to provide enough off road parking for animal owners to get close to the surgery door.

Since I came to join the Vet Practice here in 1986, we have always left our car park available for residents of Princes Street to use overnight, once the business closes at 6.30 p.m. on weekdays, at their own discretion and risk of course. In our car-park, there are up to 14 spaces for local residents to use, free of charge, if they wish. Almost every night, some of the residents make use of this facility, and on nights when there is a meeting in the Polish Catholic Church on Albion Street corner with Princes Street, the car-park is often full to capacity.

Please would you confirm if my interpretation of the Inset F map is correct, and if the 'shared parking' is only to include 3 parking spaces.

If this is indeed the case, please would you consider extending the 'shared parking' area to include a more significant portion of Princes Street, preferably commensurate with our 14 spaces which we have left available for the residents to use in the evenings. I believe that the period when parking in Princes Street is in highest demand is for overnight parking – during the daylight hours spaces are often to be found all along the length of the street. It does not seem sensible to me to have only 3 of those spaces potentially available to animal owners who, for various reasons, may need to be relatively close to the surgery building.

We do provide off-street parking for our clients in the car-park in our yard, but many of the clients, particularly the older people, would prefer not to have to turn in and manoeuvre around in the yard, but to park along the straight line of Princes Street.

If I can provide any further information please do contact me at the surgery on 01582 471177. I am sure some of the residents living close to the surgery will be able to confirm my comments.

Thank you for your attention.

I know you are opposed to line painting in the bays to split up the parking area, but since living here we still have residents double parking so leaving half a space front and back of their cars so reducing the parking availability, could we not trial this in Regent Street as it would gain a space or 2 when drivers do not realise this effects their neighbours. I am aware you don't like the aesthetic look, I have discussed with neighbours and they would prefer the availability to park, rather than worry about more paint markings, that blend in after time.

Also can we have permit holders using the Regent Street Car park if we are Permit holders like the facility offered to the businesses in the area, who can have business permits. As you are aware with there being more cars than parking spaces, we still do not have enough parking on a Saturday, if the single yellow line is for Mon-Fri. We could have permits allowed on a Saturday in the car park this would give the residents a space to park.

Few more things I thought to ask re the parking proposal.

If the single yellow lines are restricted between 9-5pm mon to Friday will the sat and sun be unrestricted, therefore we can park on the single yellow lines.

Another question relating to parking on single yellow lines, as I am sure you are aware Regent Street is narrow and all the residents park partly on the kerb and part on the road in the evenings.

Technically we should not park on the kerb as this as I understand is against the law, unless planned for.

If unrestricted at the weekend will we be able to park half on the kerb and road to enable pedestrians and cars to pass by.

Parking on pavement in Albion Street (N.W..Side between Victoria Street and Princes Street) is causing a serious obstruction to pedestrians particularly blind or disability scooter users and those with buggies. Even those without as the path is severely blocked. Meaning pedestrians having to use the road or cross over and back again. This is an issue particularly on Sundays. Also vehicles are parking fully on the footway on the corner of Albion Road and Prices Street behind the Polish Club where there is a double yellow line.

Please would the council consider changing the proposal for this small section to a continuous double yellow line to reduce the obstruction to pedestrians and vehicle movements especially emergency vehicles.

Further to our phone conversation on Thursday 17 November (just before 3pm) I would like to submit some formal comments for your consideration.

The proposal to make parking bays for permit holders only, and to create new parking bays, will undoubtedly improve parking availability for all residents in the Prince Regent area.

However, I believe the proposal which will legally allow parking on the single yellow lines between 5pm and 9am on weekdays and all weekend will create new issues for some residents.

As discussed, the new proposal will effectively mean anyone can park on the single yellow lines outside of the restricted hours which will increase demand for parking on the single yellow lines.

There are pay-and-display car parks on Matthew Street and Regent Street, but I can't envisage visitors on a Saturday opting to use them when they can take advantage of free on-street parking which offers the same proximity to the town centre.

I believe the single yellow lines closest to the town centre, which will be the most attractive for visitor parking, need special consideration when it comes to the new proposal.

Specifically I am referring to Edward Street (the section from outside house No.4 along to outside house no.28). My preference for this section would be to implement double yellow lines (which can be found in other sections of Prince Regent) or the same restrictions proposed for Albion Street (the section from High Street North up to Edward Street/Matthew Street).

On the whole I agree something needs to be done and the proposed ideas seem sensible.

I just have a few comments, and I suspect they may already have been considered.

1. Some of the roads are very narrow - in particular by number 6 on Victoria street. If cars can park on both sides in the evening and early morning, will delivery lorries, waste disposal lorries (who come by very early) or emergency vehicles be able to get through?
 2. After a long time, Dunstable is finally again becoming an 'upcoming' town and businesses are wanting to start here. Is there sufficient parking available for those visiting a corner shop or take away on their drive passed the town?
 3. Will visitor resident permits still be available for residents to purchase, and at a similar price to at the moment? With car park charges going up in price, and no longer offering 2 hour stops, we need to ensure that family and friends are still welcome to visit Dunstable
 4. Is more parking going to be available for those who wish to shop in Dunstable?
-

I am a resident of Princes Street, I have lived here for 14 years. Further to my phone call to Gary Baldwin voicing concerns regarding the proposed changes to parking in Prince Regent area I am writing to clarify the following concerns:-

1. Proposing to legally allow parking on single yellow lines between 5pm and 9am would mean cars will be parking on the pavement as the roads in this area are not wide enough to accommodate cars on the road where there are already marked parking bays, Whilst this would not cause excessive problems overnight it would be very inconvenient and unsafe in the morning for the many families walking young children to the local school in Leighton Court off of West Parade.

2. Not everyone who lives in the Prince Regent area is eligible for a parking permit, for example my daughter, she lives at home in Princes Street would like a permit but the V5 document for her car is in her boyfriend's name and he doesn't live at this address. This is inconvenient for her at present but at least she has up to 2 hours to park close to home. The new proposal to make the whole area Permit Holders only would make it impossible for her to park anywhere near where she lives!

3. The proposal to make more permit holder bays needs to be looked into as the extension of two bays in Albion Street has already caused problems for larger vehicles turning from Edward, Matthew and Victoria Streets into Albion Street as the new Parking spaces are too close to these corners meaning large vehicles cant make the turn. I am aware of this because we were due a coal delivery but the 18 ton truck couldn't access Albion Street which is the only road that leads to Princes Street in the one way system. The lorry had to reverse out and the coal was loaded onto a 7 ton truck the next day, this truck experienced exactly the same problem which resulted in the lorry having to park in Union Street and the driver along with my husband having to drag 20 bags of coal on a trolley the entire length of Princes street.

4. The most serious and worrying implication of making the majority of the Prince Regent area Permit holders only is there will be nowhere for visitors to any of the residents to park!

Since I have received the public notice I have observed the cars that have parked in my street and by far they are residents with permits or occasional visitors to these residents, not shoppers using the town centre as was stated by some residents. What does the council propose as alternative parking for such visitors? I put this question to Mr Baldwin who was happy to take my concerns on board but could not come up with an answer to where such visitors might park if the proposal goes ahead. I represent only one household but this proposal would affect me negatively in two ways, one is my daughter who visits with a 2 year old and a young baby needs to park close to where I live to manage to get two young children and their necessary paraphernalia to my house.

The second negative affect for me would be when my mum pops in to visit, she can't walk far due to arthritis in her knee/feet and as any public car parks are not within walking distance for her she would be unable to visit me without assistance.

I understand that parking In this area can be frustrating but I think the proposal to make the area Permit Holders only will create more problems than it solves, and I know several of my neighbours share my concerns regarding visitor parking.

I am aware that visitors permit books can be purchased at present but these are expensive and not a practical solution for regular visitors who may only be popping in for a cup of tea!

As a resident at 4, Victoria Street, Dunstable I wish to object to proposals for relaxing parking restrictions in the Prince Regent area. My objections are as follows

- The proposals are based on a poor response rate of 28% (according to the online consultation results) and therefore how can this be considered enough to change the current parking restrictions. By nature those who have had an issue will respond to a consultation, the opposite is true those who have not had an issue will be complacent. This therefore suggests that 72% of residents do not have an issue with parking.
- There are a total of 135 properties within the two stretches of Victoria Street, the response rate from Victoria Street is not split between the two streets however the total response is 53, so 39% of the residents of both streets responded. This is not a majority of residents.
- There are 115 properties on Victoria Street between Union Street and Albion Street, there are only 38 parking bays within the same stretch of road. There will be a parking issue. The consultation clearly states that 22% of respondents are concerned about parking on pavements. The proposal does not address this issue.
- The area of Victoria Street between West Street and Albion Street has 18 properties. There are 13 properties on this stretch that do not have off road parking, there are 12 marked parking bays. This does not constitute a parking issue. There are also two large car parks within a 5 minute walking distance from these properties as well as off road free parking outside the Victoria Pub and a further unrestricted parking bay for three cars on West Street.
- The proposal is to replace the existing parking restrictions with Permit Holders only parking on Victoria Street between Union Street and Albion Street thus reducing parking pressure by removing the parking for none residents. There is no such proposal for Victoria Street between West Street and Albion Street, therefore the proposal will increase parking pressure, the issue is simply being moved from one street to another.
- There is a proposal to remove the double yellow lines from outside of my property and replace with single yellow lines with restriction on parking Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm. Vehicles often currently park illegally in this area and this proposal will simply legalise dangerous parking.
- The road at this point is not wide enough to allow parking and subsequently motorists will park on the path, this is dangerous and forces pedestrians onto a road that is used as a 'cut through' particularly during rush hour. I have complained about this parking on several occasions and have photographic evidence of this happening over several years.
- The proposal to allow parking outside my property and that of my neighbour will allow vehicles to park within 120cm of our front doors and living room windows, exposing us to noise and pollution from vehicles parked here.

- With vehicles parked at this point there is no line of sight from the off-road parking at 4, Victoria Street. There will be considerable danger to other road users particularly cyclists who will not be visible to anyone exiting the driveway.
- Vehicle parked at this point will cause difficulty for the residents of 3a Victoria Street as the driveway is directly opposite the proposed parking. The road curves reducing visibility and residents will then need to consider parked vehicles directly behind.
- With additional parking there will be limited safe places to cross the street as vehicles will be on both sides of the road and pedestrians will not have a clear point to cross.

Overall I believe the proposals will have an adverse effect on the quality of life for residents of Victoria Street between West Street and Albion Street causing increased traffic issues and life threatening dangers to pedestrians and cyclists who will not be visible to drivers. The proposals do not solve the issues of parking it simply moves the issue to a smaller street, the proposals do not create any significant increase in parking spaces, it does reduce the opportunity for none residents to park locally and this will have an adverse effect on small businesses in the area as their customers will be unable to park freely, subsequently customers will simply go elsewhere. These proposals are bad for local residents, bad for businesses and bad for pedestrians.

As part of the changes being undertaken within the area could I request a change to the parking outside the entrance to my house, xx Matthew Street?

At the entrance to my rear access I have a drop kerb with a single yellow line a 7 to 7 restriction with the works 'keep clear' in the road. The history of this is that this large space and the 7 to 7 restriction was for an ambulance to park in front of what was the doctor's surgery. Number 10 has not been a surgery for over 10 years and the request to reduce the space has been forwarded before but to no avail. In my reply to the questionnaire I again advised that by reducing my entrance to the width of the drop kerb, and applying a double yellow line, the bay to the north of my entrance will then take four cars and not the frustrating 3½ that it is at the moment! I am fortunate in that the only people that usually park there of a night are neighbours and as such they know I will knock on their doors if I require access. I am concerned that should the times be changed I will have problems with access and have no legal leg to stand on. For the record I do regularly use this access for a vehicle. I would point out that what is required is also to be seen at Blacksmith's Court, on Matthew Street, and 29 Albion Road.

I trust that this will be considered and so changed in the future.