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**Meeting:** Traffic Management Meeting  
**Date:** 28 February 2017  
**Subject:** Riverside, Leighton Buzzard – Petition requesting Residents 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 conjunction with other restrictions in the Leighton-Linslade area during the 2017/18 financial year and that the lead petitioner be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

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**Contact Officer:** Paul Salmon  
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**Public/Exempt:** Public

**Wards Affected:** Leighton Buzzard North

**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: £1,500	Budget: Minor Traffic Management
Expected delivery: During 2017/18 financial year	

**Background and Information**

1. A petition has been received, signed by 50 people, requesting the Council to introduce residents parking in Riverside, Leighton Buzzard. The petition was submitted by a resident of that road. It has also been signed by residents of Wentworth Drive, suggesting that they too would like to be included.
2. Residents permit parking is normally used in roads located close to railway stations and town centres where most properties have little or no off-street parking. A permit scheme will stop all-day parking by non-residents and increase opportunities for residents to park in their own street. These conditions do not apply to Riverside, so a residents' permit scheme might not be the most appropriate solution.

Observations indicate that on-street parking in Riverside is relatively light during the working day, but is heavy overnight and at the weekend. This strongly suggests that the majority of parked cars belong to residents. Most properties in Riverside have off-street parking, but there are a large number of homes in Plantation Road that do not and it is likely that residents of that road park in Riverside if space outside their own homes is taken. The main concern is related to parked vehicles close to the Plantation Road/Riverside junction.

3. The imposition of extensive parking controls in Riverside and Wentworth Drive is likely to result in drivers seeking unrestricted parking in other roads that do not currently experience parking pressures. That would simply transfer the current issues to other residential roads in the area. Hence, it is recommended that double yellow lines be considered at the junction of Plantation Road and Riverside, which would address the most critical concerns. This would still allow on-street parking to take place where it can be safely accommodated.
4. 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.

5. 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
- Appendix B – Location plan

**Appendix A**

THIS IS A PETITION TO CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE.GOV.UK TO APPLY FOR RESIDENTS PARKING AT RIVERSIDE INCLUDING WENTWORTH DRIVE LEIGHTON BUZZARD		
NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE

**Appendix B**

