

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Stratford on Avon Area Committee**

Date of Committee **14 November 2007**

Report Title **Waiting Restriction - Broad Street,
Stratford-upon-Avon**

Summary At its meeting on the 16 May 2007 Stratford Area Committee Members considered a report containing a proposal to introduce No Waiting 8am-6pm Monday – Friday for Broad Street. The Committee resolved not to implement the proposal and that Officers should re-examine the restriction. The recommendation is to formalise the existing ‘School Keep Clear’ markings to prevent parking during school hours and provide unrestricted parking outside of term time.

For further information please contact Christopher Latham
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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? Yes/No

Background Papers Email from Ms Yvette Saunders Stratford District Parking Services Team.

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- *Details to be specified*

Other Committees

Local Member(s) Councillor R Hyde
(With brief comments, if appropriate) Councillor M Perry

Other Elected Members

Cabinet Member
(Reports to The Cabinet, to be cleared with appropriate Cabinet Member)

Chief Executive

- Legal I Marriott – agreed.
- Finance
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals

FINAL DECISION **YES/NO** (*If 'No' complete Suggested Next Steps*)

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS :

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee If there are objections to the proposed restriction they will be reported to this Committee.
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

**Stratford on Avon Area Committee -
14 November 2007**

Waiting Restriction - Broad Street, Stratford-upon-Avon

**Report of the Strategic Director for
Environment and Economy**

Recommendation

That a Traffic Regulation Order be advertised to formalise the existing 'School Keep Clear' Markings to prevent parking during school hours and provide unrestricted parking outside of term time.

1. Background

- 1.1 Broad Street is a predominantly residential area situated to the Southwest of Stratford-upon-Avon town centre. The Stratford-upon-Avon Primary School is situated on the northwest side of the street. Advisory 'School Keep Clear' markings are present along the frontage of the school.
- 1.2 Drivers have realised that these road markings are advisory and have taken to parking in this area, this creates a hazard to pedestrians attending the school.
- 1.3 A request was received from the Stratford-upon-Avon Primary school to introduce an enforceable waiting restriction in place of the advisory 'School Keep Clear' The proposal was to introduce No Waiting between 8am-6pm Monday-Friday, outside of these hours waiting would be unrestricted.
- 1.4 Following Formal consultation several letters of objection were received from residents of Broad Street. The objections centred around the timed operation of the restriction and that the restriction would apply outside of term time. The residents put forward several alternatives to the proposed waiting restriction.
- 1.5 At its meeting on the 16 May 2007 Stratford Area Committee Members considered a report containing a proposal to introduce No Waiting 8am-6pm Monday-Friday for Broad Street. The Committee resolved not to implement the proposal and that officers should re-examine the restriction.

2. Waiting Restriction to Apply to Term Time Only

- 2.1 Section 2 of the Road Traffic Act 1984 allows for restrictions/prohibitions to apply either at all times, or specified days or during specified periods. It is possible to legally implement this type of restriction.
- 2.2 Term Time is more difficult to define as term time dates for schools in Warwickshire are not the same for all years. Teacher training days also apply at different times throughout the year. It is possible for the Traffic Regulation Order to refer to Stratford-upon-Avon Primary School term times.
- 2.3 The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 do not permit the use of 'Term Time' signs. Such signs would require authorisation from the Department for Transport.
- 2.4 Enquiries with the Department for Transport indicate that these signs will no longer receive authorisation. The Department citing:-
 - (i) Term times now vary so much, even sometimes locally.
 - (ii) If you don't have school age children a driver can easily lose touch with when term time might be.
 - (iii) Term Time is not a legal definition.

3. Use of a 'Variable Sign' (Flapped Sign)

- 3.1 The use of a sign which can be altered to indicate the restriction in operation on specific days is a practical alternative. Provided that the sign face conforms to the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 a variable sign would not require Department for Transport authorisation. The number of times that the sign would need to be changed would amount to approximately 12 times per year.
- 3.2 The sign would be designed to incorporate a lockable device to prevent unauthorised operation. It is proposed that operation of the sign would be undertaken by a Parking Attendant.
- 3.3 During the Stratford-upon-Avon Primary School term time the sign face would show No Stopping Monday-Friday 8am-5pm on entrance markings. Outside of term time this sign face would be covered, effectively allowing unrestricted parking.
- 3.4 The operation of a 'flapped sign' requires the support of Stratford District Council Parking Services Team. Although they have expressed concerns about the effectiveness and consistency of this restriction they have agreed to operate the scheme.

4. Options

4.1 The following options for Broad Street have been considered:-

(i) **Option 1**

No change to the existing Advisory 'School Keep Clear' with the reliance on Police enforcement for the offence of obstructive parking during school attendance times.

Comment

Enforcement of obstruction offences are not high priority for the Police Authority. The parking situation would remain as at present and would not address the existing parking situation.

(ii) **Option 2**

Introduce a Traffic Regulation Order for the 'School Keep Clear' markings i.e. No stopping on entrance markings Monday to Friday 8am-5pm. This restriction would apply for 52 weeks of the year.

Comment

This type of Traffic Regulation Order prohibits vehicles from stopping on the 'School Keep Clear' markings during the hours of operation, the restriction is enforceable by Parking Attendants. This restriction would prevent vehicles from parking outside of school term time and would not address the requirements of the residents.

(iii) **Option 3**

As at 4.2, specify the Stratford-upon-Avon Primary School term time in the Traffic Regulation Order and use a 'flapped sign' with the restriction being covered outside of term time. Parking outside of term time would be unrestricted.

Comment

This restriction would address the problem of vehicles parking on the 'School Keep Clear' markings and allow unrestricted parking outside of school term time.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 Having considered the available options the recommendation is to formally advertise a Traffic Regulation Order for the 'School Keep Clear' No Stopping on entrance markings Monday-Friday between the hours of 8am-5pm. **Appendix A.** The Stratford-upon-Avon Primary School term time to be included in the Order with the operation of a 'flapped sign' at the beginning and end of each school term by a Parking Attendant.
- 5.2 Evaluate the scheme after a period of 12 months to gauge the effectiveness of the restriction.

JOHN DEEGAN
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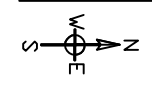
2 November 2007




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Stratford Area Committee
14 November 2007

'School Keep Clear'
No Waiting 8am-5pm Monday - Friday



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