

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for Place
to
**Traffic and Parking Working Party and
Cabinet Committee**
on
14th September 2017

Report prepared by: Peter Geraghty
Director of Planning and Transport

Station Avenue Permit Parking Area
Portfolio Holder – Councillor Tony Cox
A Part 1- Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Traffic and Parking Working Party & Cabinet Committee to consider objections relating to the implementation of a Permit Parking Area in Station Avenue and East Street Southend on Sea.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Traffic and Parking Working Party and the Cabinet Committee:-
- i) Note the contents of the report and Officers observations.**
 - ii) Agree to take no further action.**
 - iii) Further agree that in accordance with the adopted policy and practice of the Traffic and Parking Working Party, no further consideration as to permit parking controls are considered in the area within two years.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Following the advertisement of a proposal to introduce a Permit Parking Area in Station Avenue Southend on Sea, on 3rd November 2016, Members of the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee considered a number of objections received from residents.
- 3.2 The majority of objections related to the eligibility criteria for the purchase of parking permits. Residents of Priory Mews objected on the basis that they should be entitled to purchase parking permits as bona-fide residents of Station Avenue. Further objections from residents of East Street were also received and related to the desire to have a section of East Street included within the proposals.
- 3.3 Officers advised that as Priory Mews was not a new development and had an allocated address and postcode in Station Avenue, resident of this property

could not be excluded from purchasing parking permits to park on the public highway.

- 3.4 Local ward Members raised the fact that Priory Mews had off street parking provision and as such, residents should not be able to purchase any parking permits.
- 3.5 Further debate relating to the issue resulted in the recommendation as minuted below

The Cabinet Committee noted the recommendation of the Traffic & Parking Working Party regarding the proposed introduction of a permit parking scheme and waiting restrictions in Station Avenue to proceed as advertised. It also noted that the postal address of Priory Mews was registered in Station Avenue and that the property provided one off-street parking space per apartment with no availability for visitor parking or to accommodate additional vehicles. The Cabinet Committee therefore concluded that, on the basis that there was currently no policy in place to exclude existing premises from purchasing resident permits or visitor vouchers where off-street parking was available to them, it could not justify the Working Party's recommendation. Consideration should be given to consulting the residents of Priory Mews on its inclusion in the proposed scheme and their eligibility to purchase permits. Re-advertisement would also enable the residents of East Street to be consulted to ensure that the scheme addressed all the parking issues in the area.

Resolved:

1. *That the report be noted.*
 2. *That the recommendation of the Traffic & Parking Working Party regarding the introduction of a permit parking scheme and waiting restrictions in Station Avenue be noted but not progressed and the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to advertise the necessary traffic regulation order for the introduction of a permit parking scheme and waiting restrictions in Station Avenue to include the residents of Priory Mews and East Street.*
- 3.6 A revised Permit Parking Area proposal including the ability of Priory Mews residents to purchase permits was subsequently advertised on 24th May 2017 and resulted in the objections detailed in **Appendix 1** to this report being received.
 - 3.7 The objections are related to the eligibility criteria which allows residents of Priory Mews to purchase permits. (ie the opposite reason for the previous objections).
 - 3.8 Due to the nature of the objections, the situation is now impossible to resolve. The revised proposal reflected the objections previously received to the original proposal therefore, further amendment to reflect the views expressed to the revised proposal will merely result in the original objections being received again therefore the recommendation is for no further action to be taken in relation to permit parking proposals in the area.

4. Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 To reflect the previous decision taken by the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee related to the exclusion of established properties within a street from eligibility to purchase parking permits and reflect the outcome of the consultation on the revised proposals.

5. Other Options

- 5.1 Re-advertise the proposal excluding any property with off-street parking availability whether flats, houses in multiple occupation or individual houses. This would however create additional costs and resources to amend the Traffic Regulation Order on every occasion that an individual property created off-street parking provision.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities.

Any parking controls are designed to consider road safety, traffic flows and unnecessary repeated vehicle movements which contributes to a safer and healthier Southend.

6.2 Financial Implications

None if the recommendation is agreed. Considerable costs have resulted from completing the required consultations which consists of;

Officer time to progress the proposal and related advertising costs. Officer time to progress the further proposal and related advertising costs.

6.3 Legal Implications

Any request to introduce or amend a Traffic Regulation Order requires the relevant statutory procedures to be followed including the requirement for formal consultation with affected frontagers' and advertisement in the local press.

6.4 People Implications

None if the recommendation is agreed however considerable staff time has been utilised in managing this project since 2015.

6.5 Property Implications

None

6.6 Consultation

Formal and informal consultation has been undertaken resulting in the recommendation.

7. Background Papers

Minutes of the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee meeting 3rd November 2016.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – details of objections and officer comments.

**Appendix 1 Details of representations received and Officer Observations
Station Avenue Area Residents Permit Parking Scheme**

| Road | Proposed By | Proposal | Comments | Officer Comment |
|--|-------------|---|---|---|
| Station Avenue Residents Permit Parking Scheme | Members | Introduce residents permit parking Monday to Saturday 10am to 6pm in Station Avenue and East Street | <p>56 letters have been received but duplicated from 32 individual addresses in Station Avenue, mostly in the form of a standard photocopied letter, objecting to the inclusion of Priory Mews on the grounds that it is undemocratic, it already has its own parking area and if included will continue to cause parking difficulties for residents.</p> <p>1 letter has objected on the grounds that if implemented there will not be enough spaces for residents.</p> <p>4 comments have been received from Priory Mews questioning whether their private car park area is included in the scheme.</p> | <p>Please see main report for comments relating to permit eligibility.</p> <p>Parking permit controls are generally implemented in areas where parking is limited and are designed to give residents priority over the available parking. The issue of insufficient parking for residents vehicles is not possible to resolve unless permits are limited to 1 or two per property which is an option.</p> <p>Private car parks are not included in the scheme area as the local authority can only introduce parking controls on public highway, council owned land or private land with the permission of the landowner.</p> |