

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

HALESOWEN AREA COMMITTEE – 15 SEPTEMBER 2004

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

PORTSDOWN ROAD AND LUTLEY LANE, HALESOWEN
OBJECTION TO PROPOSED WAITING PROHIBITIONS

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform Area Committee of letters providing views and an objection to a proposal to introduce prohibited waiting in Portsdown Road and Lutley Lane, Halesowen, around their junction.
- 1.2 To seek Area Committee's support for the introduction of the prohibited waiting scheme.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The junction of Portsdown Road and Lutley Lane, Halesowen, lies in a residential district.
- 2.2 Lutley Lane forms part of a country lane joining Halesowen and Stourbridge. Lutley Lane narrows to approximately 6 metres as it joins the open country, and has no pedestrian footway on its rural (north) side.
- 2.3 Portsdown Road is wholly residential, and forms part of a bus route.
- 2.4 In early 2003, Dudley Council's Development Control (site visits) Working Party visited a proposed housing development at the junction of Portsdown Road and Lutley Lane, Halesowen, in order to assess a planning application.
- 2.5 The on-street parking habits of existing and future residents was a cause of concern to members of the Working Party, who considered that parking could obstruct traffic movements, especially those of buses and lorries delivering to nearby houses. It is considered that the new housing development could attract extra traffic movements and increase visitor parking.
- 2.6 Accordingly, a prohibited waiting scheme was proposed for the location.

2.7 Consultation

2.7.1 On 27 January 2003, letters and plans detailing proposed waiting prohibitions were sent to the three Ward Members. Members indicated that they supported the proposals in principle.

2.7.2 On 27th January 2003, a letter and plan showing the proposed waiting prohibitions was sent to the Police.

2.7.3 On 7 February 2003, the Police wrote that they supported the proposals.

2.7.4 The proposals were advertised in the 'Express & Star' newspaper on 4 February 2004, and on-street between 4 February 2004 and 1 March 2004.

2.7.5 Public Observations and an Objection

2.7.5.1 Three letters regarding the proposals have been received:-

- (i) A resident of Portsdown Road would like the proposals to be introduced as soon as possible to improve traffic movements and motorists'/pedestrians' visibility.
- (ii) A resident of Portsdown Road wishes the proposals to be lengthened, extending further along Portsdown Road, because there is already adequate provision for off-street parking.
- (iii) A resident of Portsdown Road objects to the proposals, on the following grounds:-
 - (a) The objector has never known of any problems with on-street parking.
 - (b) The Council has no issues with the new housing development.
 - (c) The objector is of the opinion that there will be no new problems.
 - (d) Visitors to the objector's home should not have to park far away.

2.7.6 Conclusions from Correspondence

2.7.6.1 Three residents of Portsdown Road wrote to Dudley Council following public advertisement of the proposals. One resident wants the proposals to be introduced soon, a second wishes them to be longer, and an objector does not wish them to be introduced.

2.7.6.2 It would appear that the majority of residents of the area support the proposals as being reasonable to keep a road junction clear, without being unnecessarily onerous.

2.7.6.3 Accordingly, it is recommended that the advertised scheme be introduced.

3.0 **PROPOSAL**

- 3.1 That, having considered the opposing comments made by the two correspondents and the objector, Area Committee supports the introduction of the Borough of Dudley (Portsdown Road/Lutley Lane, Halesowen)(Prohibition of waiting) Order 2004 as shown on the attached drawing and detailed in Appendix A.

4.0 **FINANCE**

- 4.1 Funds to introduce a Prohibition of Waiting Traffic Regulation Order, estimated at £1,500, are available in the current Highways Capital Budget.

5.0 **LAW**

- 5.1 Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

6.0 **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- 6.1 If introduced, the proposal should improve public transport services for elderly persons, and persons with disabilities.
- 6.2 The proposal contained within this report comply with the Council's Policy regarding Equal Opportunities.

7.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 That members support the proposal in Paragraph 3.0 of this report.

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J. B. MILLAR – DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Contact Officer: G.E. Isherwood. Ext.5459
 Peter Van Geersdaele. Ext.5437

Background documents used in the preparation of this report:-

22/11/02	Letter to a Ward Council and Member of the Development Control (Site Visits) Working Party
27/01/03	Letters to 3 Ward Members
27/01/03	Letter to Police
07/02/03	Letter from Police
04/02/04	Notice of Proposed Order
26/02/04	Letter from resident of Portsdown Road
27/02/04	Letter from resident of Portsdown Road
29/03/04	Letter from 2 residents of Portsdown Road

THE BOROUGH OF DUDLEY
(PORTSDOWN ROAD/LUTLEY LANE, HALESOWEN)
(PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2004

SCHEDULE

(NO WAITING AT ANY TIME)

Lutley Lane	- both sides	Between a point 65 metres north of the junction with Portsdown Road and a point 31 metres south of that junction.
Portsdown Road	- both sides	From the junction with Lutley Lane, for a distance of 25 metres in an easterly direction.