

Halesowen Area Committee - 22nd January 2009

Report of the Director of the Urban Environment

Hawne Lane, Halesowen and surrounding area
Prohibition of Waiting, 7.5T Weight Restriction and One Way Order

Purpose of Report

1. To seek the support of the Area Committee for;
 - (i) The prohibition of waiting in Greenbush Drive, Shelah Road, Hawne Lane and surrounding areas.
 - (ii) A 7.5T weight restriction in Cherry Street, Bloomfield Street West, Bloomfield Street North, and Hawne Lane.
 - (iii) The Bloomfield Street West one way traffic order,

Background

2. The existing road junctions at Hawne Lane, Cherry Street and Attwood Street have restricted visibility particularly from Attwood Street. This problem is exacerbated by the presence of 'on-street' parking along bends within the carriageway. Highway safety concerns are raised by the increased possibility of vehicular conflicts.
3. Bloomfield Street West in Halesowen is a busy residential street connected directly to a strategic route; the road currently accommodates two way vehicular movements on a narrow carriageway. The presence of obstructive parking results in unnecessary levels of congestion whilst simultaneously presenting risks to highway safety.
4. In response to the problems highlighted above, the following Orders were advertised in March 2008:
 - Prohibition of Waiting in Hawne Lane and surrounding streets (TMD/CP/470).
 - Prohibition of Waiting in Shelah Road (TMD/TM/515).
 - 7.5t Weight Restriction in Hawne Lane (TMD/TM/517).
 - One Way Order in Cherry Street (TMD/TM/516).

5. Eleven letters of objection were received. The majority of the objectors feared that traffic would be displaced onto Bloomfield Street North. In addition, the combination of parking prohibitions with a one way Order along Cherry Street may prompt an increase in vehicular speeds. The remaining objections were concerned with the loss of 'on-street' parking in Cherry Street and Bloomfield Street North
6. Following consideration of the objections, the plans were amended accordingly:
 - The Cherry Street One Way Order was discarded.
 - The Prohibition of Waiting Order at Cherry Street and Bloomfield Street North were reduced so the residents without off street parking would not be affected and thereby complying with all objections received (TMD/CP/470a).
7. Following the public consultation in March 2008, further Traffic Regulation Order schemes were investigated and drafted.
8. The following proposals were advertised in June 2008:
 - One Way Traffic Order, Bloomfield Street West (TMD/TM/521)
 - One Way Traffic Order, George Road (TMD/TM/523)
 - 7.5T Weight Restriction Order on Bloomfield Street West, Bloomfield Street North and Cherry Street (TMD/TM/522).
9. Four objections were received to the one way traffic proposal in George Road Halesowen, citing speed as the main issue as motorists would increase speed knowing there would be no oncoming traffic. Therefore the proposal for the George Road One Way was abandoned. No objections were received to the remaining proposals.
10. A survey conducted by a resident of Bloomfield Street West showed 26 residents in the area, supporting a One Way scheme and a 7.5T Weight Restriction on Bloomfield Street West.
11. Following complaints raised by a local councillor, a Prohibition of Waiting Order at the junction of Greenbush Drive and Whittingham Road (TMD/TM/526) was advertised in October 2008. The intention of the Order being, to remove obstructive parking at the junction in order to aid both pedestrian and vehicular movements.
12. 3 letters of objection were received to the proposal; however on inspection two of the objectors had the misconception that the scheme would be more extensive than actually proposed.

Finance

13. The cost associated with the making and introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders can be met from the Minor Works Capital Allocation.

Law

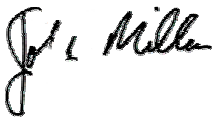
14. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Equality Impact

15. The proposal contained within this report complies with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Recommendation

16. That the making of the following Traffic Regulation Orders by the Cabinet Member for Transportation be supported:-
 - Prohibition of Waiting in: Greenbush Drive, Shelah Road and in Hawne Lane and surrounding area.
 - 7.5T Weight Restriction in: Hawne Lane, Cherry Street, Bloomfield Street West and Bloomfield Street North.
 - One way Traffic in Bloomfield Street West (TMD/TM/521).



.....
John Millar
Director of the Urban Environment

Contact Officer: Peter Van Geersdaele
Telephone: 01384 815437
Email: peter.vangeersdaele@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

1.	Letters to Ward Members and Police:	23.01.2008 07.04.2008 05.08.2008
2.	Public Notices of Proposals:	19.03.2008 12.06.2008 08.10.2008
3.	Final Proposals:	
	(TMD/CP/470A)	02.07.2008
	(TMD/TM/517)	23.01.2008
	(TMD/TM/521)	07.04.2008
	(TMD/TM/522)	07.04.2008
	(TMD/TM/526)	23.07.2008

Copies of representations received in response to consultation have been made available to the Cabinet Member for Transportation.