

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director of Place

Report to:	Planning and Regulation Committee
Date:	6 July 2020
Subject:	Gainsborough, Morton Road - Proposed Waiting Restrictions

Summary:

This report considers objections to a proposal for a traffic regulation order to introduce various parking restrictions at Morton Road, Gainsborough.

Recommendation(s):

That the objections are overruled and the order as advertised be introduced.

1. Background

Assessments of traffic and parking conditions in Gainsborough at Morton Road have been carried out in response to concerns raised by local bus companies involved in the transport of school children at Queen Elizabeth High School. Approximately 1200 pupils attend the school many of whom are transported by 15 – 20 buses. Currently the buses wait within a shallow layby on the east side of the carriageway. Four to five can be accommodated at any one time and their arrival is sequenced to collect groups of pupils assembled within the school grounds and marshalled by school staff to the appropriate vehicle.

Observations indicate that parking on the west side at this point reduces carriageway width and waiting buses restrict forward visibility for traffic heading south into Gainsborough

A total of four personal injury accidents have been reported in the area over the last five years.

A meeting took place with local Police Officers and representatives from the Lincolnshire Road safety Partnership and Queen Elizabeth High School to discuss proposals to introduce waiting restrictions, bus stop clearways and mandatory School Keep Clear markings as shown at Appendix A.

The proposals have been subject to statutory consultation and were publicly advertised from 26 September until 24th October 2019.

1.1 Objections

Five objections have been received to the proposals. Concerns relate to the potential for on street parking to be displaced onto Front Street and Main Street in Morton, resulting in obstruction to through traffic and private accesses, and a restriction on parking for those attending church services. Suggestions are made that the school should provide more off street parking within its site or that grass verges in the area could be turned into car parking facilities. It has also been put forward that measures to prevent all day parking such as short term restrictions could be applied as an alternative which would provide parking for parents collecting pupils.

1.2 Comments

The potential for displacement of on street parking is taken into account in the design of schemes which introduce restrictions. Whilst some vehicles may relocate to Front Street this is not expected to interfere with traffic flow, or be detrimental to service attendance at Morton Church, some 300m away.

Neither the school nor this authority is currently able to fund works to install additional car parking facilities within the school grounds or existing highway limits.

Requests for a lesser restriction to be imposed are noted. However the 24 hour restriction is proposed where parked vehicles will potentially cause an issue for through traffic and residents' access at any time when buses occupy the bus stop clearway. This being the case a part time restriction will not remedy the situation and, after consideration, was not pursued as an option.

2. Conclusion

The restrictions proposed serve to manage on street parking on roads and junctions in the vicinity of the local school. It is anticipated that improvements to pedestrian safety and traffic flow will result following their introduction.

3. Consultation

The following were consulted with regard to these proposals: Local Members; Gainsborough Town Council; West Lindsey District Council; Lincolnshire Police; EMAS; Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue; Road Haulage Association; Freight Transport Association; Queen Elizabeth High School, Stagecoach, Wifreda Beehive, Star Coaches.

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out??

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

n/a

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Plan showing extent of proposed restrictions outside Queen Elizabeth High School.

Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Copies of objections.	Dan O'Neill

This report was written by Dan O'Neill, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or dan.o'neill@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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