



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

Report to:	Planning and Regulation Committee
Date:	13 May 2024
Subject:	Bourne, Meadowgate – proposed waiting restrictions

Summary:

This report considers an objection received to proposed waiting restrictions at the above location.

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee overrules the objection so that the Order, as advertised, may be introduced.

Background

Meadow Gate and Hereward Street are residential streets which provide access to The Burghley Centre car park. The local Member initially requested the introduction of a one-way system to reduce congestion but given that this would impact heavily on residents and be complex to deliver, it has been agreed initially to approach the issues here by restricting on street parking at various locations, and then to review the situation at a later date as required.

A number of site visits identified areas on Meadowgate where traffic flow was obstructed by parked vehicles and where waiting restrictions might be of benefit. This includes an extension to the restrictions already in place on the west side of Meadowgate. These will allow traffic to queue at the junction without obstructing traffic entering from Harrington Street. Further restrictions here incorporate an existing H bar and create an area for vehicles to pull in and allow any oncoming traffic through. Further double yellow lines are proposed at the southern end of Meadowgate and at the junction of Hereward Street and Norman Mews as parking at these locations obstructs traffic flow, particularly for larger vehicles, as well as visibility for those exiting Norman Mews. The proposals are shown in Appendix A.

Objection and comments

One objection has been received to these proposals. The objector has concerns about displacement of parked vehicles and advises that changes to properties in the area to multi-occupancy residencies with no provision for off-street parking has resulted in high competition for on street parking. They suggest that a permit scheme should be introduced to give residents of Meadow Gate priority to park in the area. They also request that a one-way system is introduced to ease traffic flow.

The objection and comments are noted. The introduction of a permit scheme relies initially on strong local support and policy criteria being met in terms of kerbside space usage, and sufficient residents' support. To date no formal request has been received for this to be considered in Meadow Gate and it has therefore not been included in these proposals. As mentioned earlier in the report, the introduction of a one-way system through Meadow Gate has been suggested previously. However, such a scheme would be difficult to implement owing to lack of adequate footway width to accommodate the necessary signage. Also, there is a tendency for traffic speeds to increase on one-way streets as drivers are aware that there will be no opposing flow. Notwithstanding the above, if there is a desire to implement a scheme of this type in the future, surveys of traffic flow here and in the surrounding area will be carried out to demonstrate if this can be justified.

Three expressions of support have been received, two of which request that further restrictions are introduced.

Conclusion

The aim of these proposals is to facilitate traffic flow and enhance safety at the junctions and bend on this through route. The introduction of 24-hour waiting restrictions will restrict parking in the problem areas and are the minimum required whilst minimising the impact on residents' parking requirements. Although a small loss of on-street parking will result, alternative parking is available in the surrounding area.

Consultation

The following were consulted on this proposal: Local Member, LRSP, the Police, SKDC, Bourne Town Council, Fire and Rescue, EMAS, Traffic Commissioners, Confederation of Public Transport, Stagecoach, PC Coaches, Delaine Buses, Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association and the National Farmers Union.

Following statutory consultation, the proposals were advertised in December last year and all residents were in receipt of the consultation documents.

The local Member is in support of this proposal.

Risks and Impact Analysis

None carried out.

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Site location and detail of proposals

Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Consultation documents and correspondence	Available on request

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