

SUBJECT:	Thornbridge Road
REPORT OF:	Officer Management Team - Director of Services Prepared by - Head of Environment

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present a resident's petition that raises questions about access at a parade of shops at Thornbridge Road, Iver Heath.

2. Links to Council Policy Objectives

- 2.1 Work with partners to improve the provision of and access for all to the right services, suitable housing and other amenities.

3. Background

- 3.1. An Environmental improvement scheme was carried out at Thornbridge Road in 2008 to improve the provision of parking and the paving outside the shops.
- 3.2 The scheme included paving, bollards to prevent vehicle access to the pedestrian areas and decorative mosaics in the paving.
- 3.3 The County Council was involved in the project and advised about the layout of the parking and access.
- 3.4 At the time of the improvement scheme, the provision of a disabled parking bay was discussed but due to Member concerns about limiting parking provision for other shoppers it was decided to omit a disabled bay.

4.0 Proposal/ Discussion

- 4.1 A resident has now written to the Council to say that she is disabled and uses a wheelchair and due to some inconsiderate parking on the pavements has trouble getting access to the shops. She has sent a petition, with 257 signatures, that asks for better provision for disabled residents such as 'no parking' signs and yellow lines.
- 4.2 A copy of the petition is available in the Members' Room and the resident's letter is enclosed as Appendix A.
- 4.3 In response to the petition officers of the District and County Council have met on site to review the access arrangements to the shops and the disabled parking bay position.
- 4.4 The County Council has agreed at their cost that it will mark white line 'access protection markings' at either end of the parade of shops. These will discourage parking near the tactile paving. Two bollards will also be installed at either side of the tactile paving at the western end of the shops. This will prevent parking at the point which seems to cause the most problems.

- 4.5 The County will also carry out a consultation about the implementation of a 1 hour parking limit and yellow line marking outside the shops to help the parking situation. The result of this consultation will be made available to Members of the PAG.
- 4.6 The County Council has also confirmed that if Members and the local community are in agreement, it will mark out one of the existing bays near the shop as an Advisory Disabled bay. They propose that the parking bay to the immediate west of the shops, on the same side of the road, is changed to a disabled bay for a trial period and that should this prove successful, a Traffic Regulation Order be put in place at a later date to formalise the situation.

The proposed location of the new disabled parking bay is shown as Appendix B. Members are asked to note the proposed location.

Should Members support the installation of a disabled bay this will be progressed with the County Council.

5. Resources, Risk and Other Implications

- 5.1 The cost of installing the white line painting, bollards and new disabled bay will be met by the County Council.
- 5.2 There is a risk that if a disabled bay is not provided, the Council may be open to claims that it is failing to provide for all groups of people.
- 5.3 The proposals in this report would assist in meeting the requirements of varied groups of residents.

6. Summary

6.1 The Policy Advisory Group is to advise the Portfolio Holder and:

- 1 Note the contents of the resident's letter and petition.
- 2 Note the actions proposed by the County Council.
- 3 Advise whether the Advisory Disabled bay should be installed.

Portfolio Holder:	Councillor B Lidgate
Officer Contact:	Simon Gray 01895 837321 email simon.gray@southbucks.gov.uk
Background papers	Services working file

Appendix A. The Resident's letter

10
Mrs. Nick Martin,

I have inclosed these partitions on behalf of my self in a wheel chair we find it very difficult to get to the local shops the access is at the end of Thornbridge Rd to attract this is brought to your attention. The "pace" that was left for us when the new parking was done a while ago. even the slabs are cracking with vehicles park there. is it possible for you to put a Sign "no Parking" or yellow lines please can you help us I sat behind a lorry who left it saying "I wait be a mo. he had gone to the pub. 1 hour + half he came back, I realize they have to park some way, But I sincerely hope you can help us. my Carer who works for "Blue Bird care at home. was very helpful in getting the petitions signed

and been very help ful in her
spare time Thank you for taking
the time to read this letter.

looking forward to hear from you.
Thank you so much.

Appendix B. The Proposed disabled bay location.

