



Report to Leader (Transport portfolio)

Decision Date:	17 February 2022
Reference number:	TR05.22
Title:	Places of Natural Beauty Parking (from November 2021 consultation)
Cabinet Member(s):	Councillor Steve Broadbent
Contact officer:	Ian Thomas Ian.Thomas@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	Aston Clinton & Bierton; Chiltern Villages; Denham; Farnham Common & Burnham Beeches; Great Brickhill; Iver; Ivinghoe; Ridgeway East; Stoke Poges & Wexham; Wendover, Halton & Stoke Mandeville;

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- a. **The Leader approves the making of all four of the Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) for the scheme outlined in this report.**
- b. **That responders to the Statutory Consultation be informed of the Decision**
- c. **The TRO be made as advertised during the statutory consultation subject to following amendments in relation to "The Buckinghamshire Council (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-street Parking Places) Order 2021:**

Ferry Lane, Medmenham

- To reduce the no waiting restriction on the west side of Ferry Lane near the river by 20 metres.

Green Lane, Farnham Common

- Withdraw the permit holder restriction as there was insufficient support from the householders.

Lord Mayors Drive, Burnham Beeches

- To withdraw the restrictions to the edge of the public highway.

Reason for decision:

Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for the highway network within its boundary; this includes the provision and management of restrictions both on the highway and in council run car parks, which includes the enforcement of waiting restrictions in both on-street and off-street locations.

- for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or
- for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians),

Executive summary

- 1.1 Parking Services have secured funding to consult upon and thereafter, if appropriate to implement a parking Traffic Regulation Order at various sites of natural beauty across the county.
- 1.2 This Key Decision Report relates to the subsequent review of the Statutory Consultation and makes recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Transport.

Content of report

- 2.1 Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for the highway network within its boundary; this includes the provision and management of speed, movement, and static restrictions on the highway and in council run car parks.
- 2.2 In addition, it is also responsible for parking enforcement of waiting restrictions in both on-street and off-street locations.

Other options considered

- 3.1 Not to proceed may affect enforcement activities of both the Police and the Council.
- 3.2 To partially proceed may affect some enforcement activities of both the Police and the Council.

Legal and financial implications

- 4.1 Section 122 of the Road Traffic Act 1984 places a duty on Buckinghamshire Council to secure the expeditious, convenient, and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

- 4.2 The TRO Regulations state that an Order making authority may make an Order. Whether in receipt of any objections or otherwise, before it is made. However, before proceeding to make the order it must inform persons likely to be affected by the modifications, giving those persons an opportunity to make representations and ensuring that such representations are duly considered.
- 4.3 When the decision is taken and recommendations agreed, the Traffic Regulation Orders will be made, and brought into operation. The respondents to the consultation and persons likely to be affected will be informed of the decisions made and representations considered. The made orders will then be re-advertised by Buckinghamshire Council.

Corporate implications

- 5.1 No property implications have been identified.
- 5.2 Equality and Diversity Issues – Equality Act 2010. This proposal will not have any disproportionate effect upon people with protected characteristics.
- 5.3 The consolidation of orders is funded by Parking Services.

Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

- 6.1 These measures were advertised and promoted locally through a Statutory Consultation process carried out between Wednesday the 13th October 2021 and Monday the 8th November 2021 in accordance with the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 ("the TRO Regulations") copies of the Statutory Consultation Documents can be found in the Appendices below.
- 6.2 The Police, Fire and Rescue Service and Ambulance Service were made aware of the consultation. No response have been received from the public or statutory consultees for the proposal as advertised.
- 6.3 Details of the proposed scheme were placed on the authorities' web site (see appendix 2, detailing the restrictions and locations affected and how they could obtain more information and provide feedback. The draft notice was also advertised in various local papers covering the county.
- 6.4 A summary of the comments made by ward councillors are:

Councillor Dominic Barnes

- a) **Ferry Lane, Medmenham** – I'm happy to support the minor changes proposed by the Parish Council.

Councillor Patricia Birchley

- b) **Chiltern Ridges (Map Tile EG63)** – I am happy with the proposals.

- c) **Aston Hill (near Chiltern Forest Golf Club)** – I am deeply unhappy with the proposals preventing parking on the verges of Aston Hill. Walking for local people in Wendover Woods has been completely ruined by new parking restrictions which mean that hordes of people from outside the area now come and pay to park in Wendover Woods. Local people wanting to walk regularly in the woods now cannot do so and if you check the dog bins regularly as I do (!), you will see that the best of the local trails are now deserted. The RAF and Forestry England are both to blame for depriving our residents of this facility. It now takes too long to enjoy a regular morning walk in the woods.
 - i. **Recommendation** – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code, please note that there are a number of hard standing areas along the verge which have been allocated as unrestricted off carriageway parking.

Councillor Bill Chapple

I have looked at all the affected roads on my ward and in favour of them all, even Aston Hill as the problem is real and probably most of the objections are the offenders.

Councillor Dev Dhillon

- a) **Blackpond Lane, Farnham Common** – Would like to object to restrictions.
 - i. **Recommendation** – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.
- b) **Hill Place, Farnham Common** – Would like to object to restrictions, I am aware of the pinch point, entry hump and that the road has no through road.
 - i. **Recommendation** – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Councillor Philip Gomm

I agree with ALL and I'm sure the parishioners that don't understand exactly why these are being implemented they will once the countryside site next door gets used more by walkers etc.

Councillor Thomas Hogg

- a) **Stoke Common Road, Fulmer** – There needs to be as much parking along there as possible because otherwise it's impossible to take a dog for a walk unless you live right next to the Common.
 - i. **Recommendation** – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Councillor Zahir Mohammed

- a) **Ferry Lane, Medmenham** – I'm happy to support the minor changes proposed by the Parish Council.

Councillor Mark Turner

- b) **Ferry Lane, Medmenham** – I'm happy to support the minor changes proposed by the Parish Council.

6.5 From the formal consultation Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) received one hundred and forty-seven objections across the nine sites from the public for these proposals.

6.6 A summary of the comments made by Parish Councils:

Councillor Sally Woolven (Medmenham Parish Council)

- a) Cllr Sally Woolven commented: - I am writing to say that I fully endorse the proposal of yellow lines in Ferry Lane at key pinch points in the lane and at the junction with the Henley road. As these measures are purely for safety reasons access of emergency vehicles ambulances and fire engines. There have been two incidents in the last couple of years both at busy times where (1) The Fire Engine could not get down to attend to a fire (2) An ambulance could not get down to attend to a little girl having a fit. This delayed the ambulances arrival by 20 minutes as the ambulance could not get down and then on the return journey again a further 20 minutes despite the blue light being on and led to a great deal of upset and anxiety for the mother concerned. This could have been someone having a heart attack where speed is the essence. Access to the river is important a friend of mine had hypothermia from swimming in the river and an ambulance was called. These incidents may be rare none the less access needs to be insured at all times for these key vehicles. I think many residents of Ferry Lane and those who live in Medmenham but not in Ferry Lane may be unaware of the above incidents. At the junction if cars are parked it reduces visibility making it dangerous.

Medmenham Parish Council

- a) **Ferry Lane** - We would hence like to propose a small amendment to the scheme. Specifically we would like to allow for more parking by the river by cutting back on the length of double yellow lines on the WRC side - but leave everything else as planned. We feel this will result in a scheme that helps improve emergence vehicle access and will be more accepted by the community.

6.7 A summary of the objections are:-

Access to Old Telephone Exchange off Kingsway, Farnham Common

- a) Restrictions here will mean that as a residents of the flats above the shops I will have nowhere to park, the site is also used by customers of the shops during the working day.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Aston Hill, Chivery

- a) This will remove free parking for Wendover Woods, forcing the public into chargeable car parks.
- b) It is important for local people to park along this road so that they can access the various footpaths.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Bedford Drive, Burnham Beeches

- a) Restriction not required.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Beeches Road, Farnham Common

- a) Restrictions in nearby roads will cause displacement.
- b) Restriction outside houses with driveways will achieve nothing.
- c) Restriction will be detrimental to local businesses.
- d) Restriction will make getting deliveries or trades people difficult.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Blackpond Lane, Farnham Common

- a) Restrictions in nearby roads will cause displacement.
- b) Restriction is not needed as this is not a high parking demand area.
- c) Restriction will be detrimental to residents and doctor's surgery.
- d) Restriction will make parking for visitors and getting deliveries or trades people difficult.
- e) Restrictions are only needed on one side of the road.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code, especially around the doctor's surgery.

Chivery, Chivery

- a) This will remove parking for the public wanting to access to walking, cycling and hiking tracks.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Crown Lane, Burnham Beeches

- a) There is no issue with parking at this location.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Curriers Lane, Burnham Beeches

- a) No need for restrictions on the 3 or 4 spaces off the carriage way by Curriers Lane by the electric substation close to the junction with Pumpkin Hill, Park Lane and Green Lane.

Recommendation – This area forms the access to both the electrical substation and a private field used by a farmer and the restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Ferry Lane, Medmenham

- a) I object to yellow line restrictions being placed in the first 200 metres from the river, if anything it should be limited waiting to allow parking otherwise the slipway becomes unusable.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Green Lane, Farnham Common

- a) The person undertaking the second informal consultation was coercing residents into signing the petition documentation for permit restrictions
- b) Removing parking will increase traffic speed
- c) Households in this section of the road do not need highway parking as they almost all have drives.
- d) The road is mainly used by residents of the Broadway and people working in the local businesses this will cause these businesses difficulty in keeping staff.
- e) Detrimental to the businesses in the area
- f) Restrictions will prevent the Green Lane residents from the lower section from parking as most of these houses do not have off-street parking.
- g) This will cause displacement into roads which currently do not have issues.

Recommendation – Withdraw the permit holder restriction as there was insufficient support from the householder, proceed with the no waiting at any time restrictions as they are designed to maintain access for the emergency services.

Hale Lane, Wendover

- a) This will remove parking for Wendover Woods, it is important for local people to park along this road so that they can access the various footpaths.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to allow parking where it is safe to do so while ensuring that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Hawthorn Lane, Burnham Beeches

- a) There is no issue with parking.
- b) Restriction will make parking for visitors and getting deliveries or trades people difficult.
- c) When the car park is closed there will nowhere for our visitors to park.
- d) This will remove parking, forcing the public into chargeable car parks.
- e) Remove the car park charges and keep the car parks open and there will be no issues.

- f) Where the road is wide enough to allow parking restrictions should not be placed.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Hill Place, Farnham Common

- a) There is no issue with parking and the existing speed bump stops speeding.
- b) Due to the pinch point any parking would block the roads which has not happened so there is no need for restrictions.
- c) Yellow lines are inappropriate.
- d) These restrictions will only impact the residents.
- e) Parking near the junction is already covered in the highway code we do not need lines.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Kingsway, Farnham Common

- a) Restriction will make parking for visitors and getting deliveries or trades people difficult.
- b) Restriction will be detrimental to local businesses.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Lodge Hill, Coombe Hill

- a) Generally, there is no issue with parking and there are several areas to the side of the Hill, and a couple beyond, which have always been used for parking without any problems.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Lord Mayors Drive, Burnham Beeches

- a) This would be problematic to the City of London Corporation as it has potential to cause conflict with the City of London's ANPR enforcement on its private land at that location. The City would ask that this restriction be reduced so that it only covers the immediate junction.

Recommendation – To withdraw the restrictions to the edge of the public highway.

Park Lane, Burnham Beeches

- a) Verge parking does not cause any problems to traffic flow.
- b) No need for additional restrictions above those already in place by City of London.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services on the public highway in line with Highway Code.

Scotlands Drive, Farnham Common

- a) Restrictions in nearby roads will cause displacement.
- b) Restriction are not needed and will cause huge inconvenience for residents.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Stoke Common Road, Fulmer

- a) This will remove parking, it is important for local people to park along this road so that they can access the various footpaths.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Victoria Road, Farnham Common

- a) Restrictions will make parking difficult for myself and my family.
- b) These restrictions will result in people having to drive around looking for parking therefore displacing the parking.
- c) Village hall car park is too small and these restrictions will prevent local groups/clubs meeting.

Recommendation – The restriction is designed to ensure that access is maintained for the emergency services in line with Highway Code.

Communication, engagement & further consultation

- 7.1 All consultees and responders to the consultation will be contacted by either e-mail or letter and will be informed of the decision and where they can find the details of the statutory consultation and the decision taken. This report will be published on the Council's web page.

Next steps and review

- 8.1 Transport for Buckinghamshire will, if this report is approved make the Traffic Regulation Orders. The council managers responsible for each Traffic Regulation Order will then review the restrictions in relation to complaints, penalty charge notices issued, and income received from penalty charge notices.
- 8.2 If this report is rejected, no further action will be taken.

Background papers

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – Map Tiles 1 to 68.
- 9.2 Appendix 2 – Map Tiles 69 to 136.
- 9.3 Appendix 3 – Consultation details.
- 9.4 Appendix 4 – Public Consultation Report.

Your questions and views (for key decisions)

- 10.1 If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report, please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider, please inform the democratic services team. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.