

Name of meeting: Cabinet Committee - Local Issues

Date: 15 December 2020

Title of report: Objection to Traffic Regulation Order for Hightown Lane, Holmfirth

Purpose of report: To consider an objection received to -
 Kirklees TRO No. 20 Order 2019 - Proposed permit holders only parking and no waiting at any time restrictions

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	No
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Colin Parr - 30.11.20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 27.11.20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 27.11.20
Cabinet member portfolio	Councillor Naheed Mather

Electoral wards affected: Holme Valley South

Ward councillors consulted on report: No

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered: Yes

1. Summary

- 1.1 The residents of Hightown Lane, an unadopted road in Holmfirth, approached Kirklees Council as a group and asked if the Council to help them in dealing with a regular problem of people parking in Hightown Lane in order to attend to daily activities in Holmfirth. This ranges from local shop staff parking for the length of their shift to visitors parking in the road while going around Holmfirth.
- 1.2 This is having a significant impact on the residents' day to day lives and means they cannot usually park near their property when they return during the day.
- 1.3 The Council has Cabinet approved (approved 21 June 2011) "Permit Parking Policy" which may be applied under such circumstances and it is considered that this request has met the criteria. This allowed the development of a traffic regulation order for Hightown Lane and two adjacent roads Town Hall Street and part of Wood Lane, see Appendix 1 for scheme plan.
- 1.4 The traffic regulation order was advertised between 21 August 2020 and 21 September 2020 and during that time one objection was received.

2. Information required to take a decision

This traffic regulation order covers three streets in Holmfirth -Hightown Lane, Town Hall Street and part of Wood Lane (between Hightown Lane and Huddersfield Road).

Town Hall Street and Wood Lane are adopted public highway but Hightown Lane is unadopted and is classed as a private street. We were approached by the residents of this street who asked the Council to create a traffic regulation order for the street at the expense of the residents.

The scheme put forward involved a permit holder only zone starting at around 28m up Hightown Lane from its junction with Huddersfield Rd. Between Huddersfield Rd and this point "no waiting at any time" restrictions have been included to keep parking away from both the junction and the first bend in Hightown Lane.

The permit parking scheme is intended to improve the opportunity for residents of the zone area to park in Hightown Lane which suffers from parking from non-residents, including both visitors to Holmfirth and other Holmfirth and surrounding area residents. There are approximately 57 properties which front or back on to the zone area, although a small number do have their own off-road parking the majority rely on these roads to park on when at home.

Objection -

An objection has been received from the Secretary of the Holmfirth Business Association on behalf of the Chair

“Their objection is that the changes add additional restrictions to the availability of parking in Holmfirth. Holmfirth is extremely busy town serving both the local community and attracting tourists from all over the world.”

The changes will:

- limit local shoppers from parking forcing them to use local car parks which are expensive and space availability can be difficult at time. This will make the experience of using the services offered by local businesses more inconvenient.
- many local employees who are part time workers to local businesses will have less choice in parking, driving them potentially to use local car parks that are expensive and could make working part time less economical.

A copy of the full objection letter is contained in Appendix 2.

In response:

The installation of the “permit only” zone is in line with our adopted policy and such zones have been introduced in other areas of Kirklees where a “nearby 3rd party influence” i.e. businesses, sports facility, hospital, university, shops / shopping areas impacts on the ability of local residents to park in reasonably close proximity to their homes for the majority of the time”.

While the Holmfirth Business Association believes the ability to park in these streets is vital for staff and visitors, it is considered that the inconvenience this causes to residents outweighs the benefits to the local economy and that these circumstances fit the policy criteria. The residents of Hightown Lane, an unadopted street and therefore not maintainable at public expense, wish to redress the balance so that they are generally free to park at whatever time they return to their property

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with people - The proposed works are considered necessary to protect residents’ desire to park outside their property at any time, on the private street.

3.2 Working with Partners – Not applicable

3.3 Place based Working – Not applicable

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality – These proposals will not have a detrimental impact on Air Quality or Climate Change.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children- No change.

3.6 Other – The residents have paid for the traffic regulation order process as they live on a private street.

4. Consultees and their opinions

Statutory consultees were consulted on these proposals

The Holme Valley South Parish Council have been consulted on the proposals and have not raised objections.

5. **Next steps and timelines**

Cabinet Committee Local Issues to consider the objection raised during the formal advertising period for the Proposed No Waiting at Any Time restrictions and permit parking only zone and reach a decision on whether the traffic regulation orders should be implemented as advertised.

If Cabinet Committee Local Issues chooses to overrule the objection received the TRO proposals will be implemented after the traffic regulation order is sealed in the next few weeks.

If Cabinet Committee choose to uphold the objections, then the changes will not be made and the residents of Hightown Lane will be informed.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

That the Objection, be overruled. Hightown Lane is a private street which due to its proximity to the centre of Holmfirth suffers from parking by visitors, town centre staff and local residents wishing to go in to the town centre.

This means that parking is very limited for residents at certain times of the day. Under such circumstances we have a permit parking policy which through preparing a traffic regulation order can prevent any one, apart from residents and their visitors, from parking on the road. Despite the concerns raised by the Business Association it is considered that this private street should remain a free for all and parking should be limited to residents.

This is the same level of protection we give to other residents of Kirklees affected by nearby third-party influences i.e. businesses, sports facility, hospital, university, shops/shopping areas.

7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

The Cabinet Portfolio Holder supports the Officer recommendation.

8. **Contact officer**

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9. **Service Director responsible**

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