

Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES
WEDNESDAY 17th AUGUST 2022**

Present:

Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Naheed Mather

In Attendance:

Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer
Karen North, Principal Technical Officer – Highway Safety
Elizabeth Twitchett, Operational Manager – Highway Safety
Robert Hardcastle, Senior Engineer

Apologies: N/a

1. Membership of the Committee

No apologies were received

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on the 23rd March 2022 and 21st June 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on the 23rd March 2022 and 21st June 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3. Interests

There were no interests declared.

4. Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session

5. Deputations/Petitions

No Petitions or deputations were received.

6. Public Question Time

No public questions were received.

7. Member Question Time

No member questions were asked.

8. Objection to Traffic Regulation Order No 4 2022,

The Committee considered a report in respect of an objection received in response to the advertisement of Traffic Regulation Order No 4 2022, Proposed Permit Parking, Oddfellows Street, Beech Street, Shaw Street, Beech Grove, The Embankment, Mirfield and No Waiting at Any Time, Doctor Lane, Mirfield.

The report was presented by Karen North, Principal Technical Officer – Highway Safety who explained that an application for the introduction of permit parking was received from the residents of Oddfellows Street, Mirfield and the surrounding roads.

At that time, local Councillors raised concerns that these proposals would displace parking into the two remaining cul-de-sacs here, Beech Grove and The Embankment and asked for these to be also added to the proposals. This request was agreed following further consultation with residents.

Residents were supportive of the scheme and the application was progressed to advert. The proposals were advertised from 7th April 2022 to 5th May 2022 and during that period one objection was received.

The objector was concerned that the displaced parking would take place on Knowl Road affecting residents at that location. In response, officers acknowledged that whilst it was not possible to predict exactly where parking would take place, that it was more likely for displaced parking to affect the A644 because the parking here was associated with the nearby doctors surgery and care home.

Karen North further reassured the committee that all new schemes introduced were monitored after implementation to monitor the effect of the proposals on the surrounding area and to determine if any further changes were necessary. Knowl Road would be included in this assessment and any further changes undertaken if found to be necessary at that time.

Other mitigating measures taken in order to prevent the displaced parking included the decision to change the current 'No Waiting Mon-Sat 8am-6pm' parking restrictions to 'No Waiting at Any Time' to help maintain access up and down Doctor Lane and help improve visibility for drivers exiting from the side roads.

Considering the information presented both verbally and in writing the Committee expressed that it was satisfied that the objection had been responded to in highlighting that the schemes impact would be continually monitored. The Committee noted that 60% of residents, and all ward councillors support the scheme, and it was agreed that:

RESOLVED: That the objection be overruled, and that the proposals for Traffic Regulation Order No 4 2022, Proposed Permit Parking, Oddfellows Street, Beech Street, Shaw Street, Beech Grove, The Embankment, Mirfield and No Waiting At Any Time, Doctor Lane, Mirfield be implemented as advertised.

9. Objections to the Proposed Zebra Crossing, Knowl Road, Mirfield

The Committee considered a report in respect of the objections received in response to the advertisement of the Proposed Zebra Crossing, Knowl Road, Mirfield which was presented by Robert Hardcastle, Senior Engineer.

Highways Safety was approached by the Mirfield Ward Councillors and asked to assess the feasibility of providing a pedestrian crossing facility on Knowl Road to help assist pedestrians wanting to cross the road here and improve road safety at this location. During the scheme's development, it was determined that a safe zebra crossing could be accommodated on Knowl Road

Prior to the development of these proposals, a feasibility study was undertaken to determine a suitable location. Various legislation requirements were taken into consideration before a decision was taken on the only safe and suitable location available on the desired crossing line.

The proposed scheme was advertised from 27 January 2022 to 24 February 2022 and during that time two objections were received. The objectors raised various concerns which Robert Hardcastle summarised and explained officers responses to the points raised.

Councillor Martyn Bolt, Mirfield Ward Councillor also submitted a letter of support from the Chair of Governors Crowlees CE Primary School on behalf of the School which the Chair presented to the Committee. It was noted that any Kirklees Council interventions that promote safer active travel to and from Crowlees school as very positive and great benefit to their pupils now and in the future.

Considering all the information presented verbally and in writing the Committee were satisfied that the concerns of the objectors had been addressed but acknowledged that in congested areas it was difficult to meet every individual need and that a degree of compromise was required. The Committee further highlighted the benefits of the scheme in promoting active travel, alleviating congestion, improving air quality and increasing pedestrian safety. The Committee also expressed confidence that officers would continue to monitor the impact of the scheme after implementation, and it was agreed that:

RESOLVED: The objection be overruled, and that the Proposed Zebra Crossing, Knowl Road, Mirfield be implemented as advertised.