

**TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER OBJECTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH
THE PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAYS AT BERNARD
CLOSE, HUNTINGDON**

To: Traffic Manager and the Local Member representing electoral division below.

Meeting Date: 3rd July 2020

From: Executive Director: Place & Economy

Electoral division(s): Huntingdon North & Hartford

Forward Plan ref: N/A *Key decision:* No

Purpose: To determine objections to the installation of two Disabled Persons Parking Bays in Bernard Close, Huntingdon

Recommendation: a) Implement the restrictions as advertised
b) Inform the objectors accordingly

<i>Officer contact:</i>	
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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** Bernard Close is located approximately 1 kilometre to the north of the Town Centre of Huntingdon, a plan of the location can be found at Appendix 1.
- 1.2** The carriageway at the location of the proposed Disabled Persons Parking Bay (DPPB) in Bernard Street is approximately 4.9 metres wide, the footways on either side of the carriageway are approximately 1.4 metres. There are existing no waiting at any time restrictions on both sides of the carriageway on Bernard Street from its junction with Sallowbush Road (13.5 metres on the west side and 14.5 metres on the east side of the carriageway). There are 17 garages at the northern end of Bernard Close.
- 1.3** Applications for a Disabled Persons Parking Bay in the vicinity of 2 Bernard Close, Huntingdon was received on the 10th April 2019 and an application for a DPPB in the vicinity of 12 Bernard Close was received on the 25th September 2019. The applicants meet the County Council's criteria for a DPPB. The applicant at 2 Bernard Close property has a hard standing at the rear of the property which has previously been used to park a vehicle however the applicant's vehicle is too wide to park on this hardstanding.
- 1.4** As there no waiting at any time restrictions spanning the carriageway at the rear of 2 Bernard Close it is not possible to install a disabled persons parking bay at the rear of the applicants property.
- 1.5** It was initially proposed to install a DPPB at the rear of number 4 Bernard Close, however the resident at this property has plans to widen the vehicular access at the rear of the property to accommodate more vehicles, it was therefore proposed to install a DPPB at the rear of number 6 Bernard Close as shown on the plan in appendix 2. The applicant has stated that their preferred option would be for the bay to be installed outside of the rear of number 4 Bernard Close, they have also stated that they would withdraw their application if they were give a small piece of land at the rear of their property to widen their drive, this land is owned by Huntingdonshire District Council.
- 1.6** Disabled Persons Parking Bays allow the applicant to park close to their residence as an aid to mobility and play an important role in helping maintain independence. In addition the intention of such bays is to maintain a parking place for any bona-fide disabled badge holder to use, not just the applicant.
- 1.7** A plan showing the location of the proposed Disabled Persons Parking Bays can be found at appendix 2.

2. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO) PROCESS

- 2.1** The TRO procedure is a statutory consultation process that requires the Highway Authority to advertise, in the local press and on-street, a public notice stating the proposal and the reasons for it. The advert invites the public to formally support or object to the proposals in writing within a twenty one day notice period.
- 2.2** A TRO to implement disabled persons parking bays at two locations in Bernard Close and in Avenue Road in Huntingdon was advertised in the Hunts Post on the 10th of December 2019. The statutory consultation period ran from the 10th of December 2019 until the 10th January 2020.
- 2.3** The statutory consultation resulted in two objections to the proposed disabled persons parking bays in Bernard Close which have been summarised in the table in Appendix 4. The officer responses are also given in the table.
- 2.4** On the basis of this analysis, it is recommended that the Disabled Persons Parking Bays in the vicinity of 2 Bernard Close and 12 Bernard Close, Huntingdon are implemented as advertised as:
- The applicants meet the County Council's eligibility criteria.
 - There is sufficient provision in the accessibility budget 2019-20

3 ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 A good quality of life for everyone**
Disabled Persons Parking Bays can have an important role in maintaining the applicant's independence.
- 3.2 Thriving places for people to live**
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 3.3 The best start for Cambridgeshire's children**
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 3.4 Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2050**
There are no significant implications for this priority.

4 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Resource Implications**
The necessary staff resources and funding have been secured through the Accessibility budget.
- 4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications**
There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

Disabled Persons Parking Bays can have an important role in maintaining the applicant's independence.

4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

The statutory consultees have been engaged including the County and District Councillors, the Police and the Emergency Services. The Police offered no objections and no comments were received from the other emergency services.

Notices were placed in the local press and were also displayed on site. Letters were also sent to nearby residents that would be directly affected by the proposals. The proposals were made available for viewing at Vantage House, Vantage Park, Washingley Road, Huntingdon, PE29 6SR in the reception area of Shire Hall, Castle Street, Cambridge, CB3 0AJ, at the offices of Huntingdonshire District Council and online.

4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

County Councillor Mike Shellens has no objections to the proposed disabled persons parking bays in Bernard Close. District Councillors Anita Diaz, Patrick Kadewere and Sam Wakeford had no comments to make.

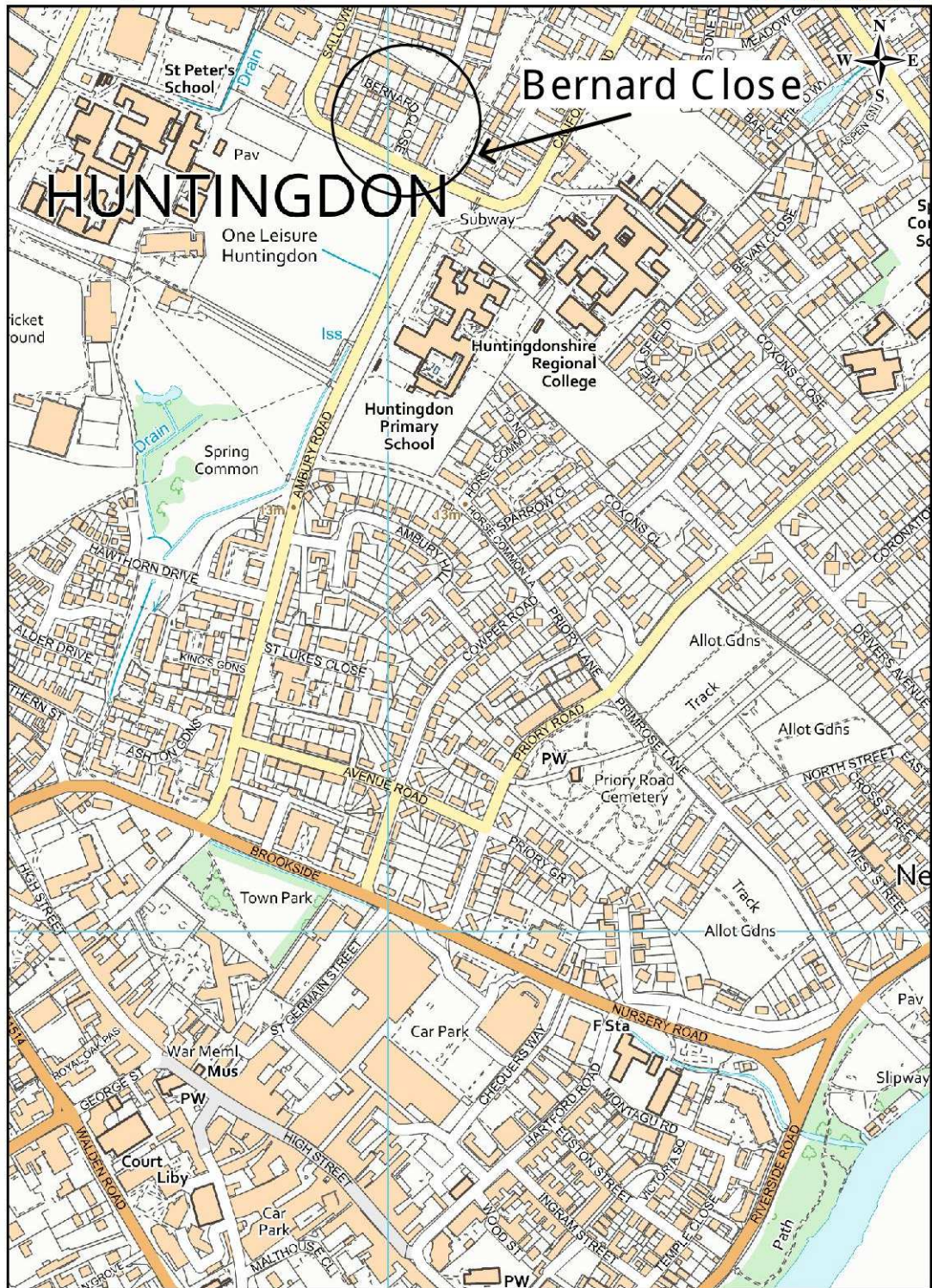
4.7 Public Health Implications

There are no significant implications for this priority.

Source Documents	Location
Consultation responses Draft Traffic Regulation Order Letter of objection	Policy and Regulation Vantage House Vantage Park Washingley Road Huntingdon PE29 6SR

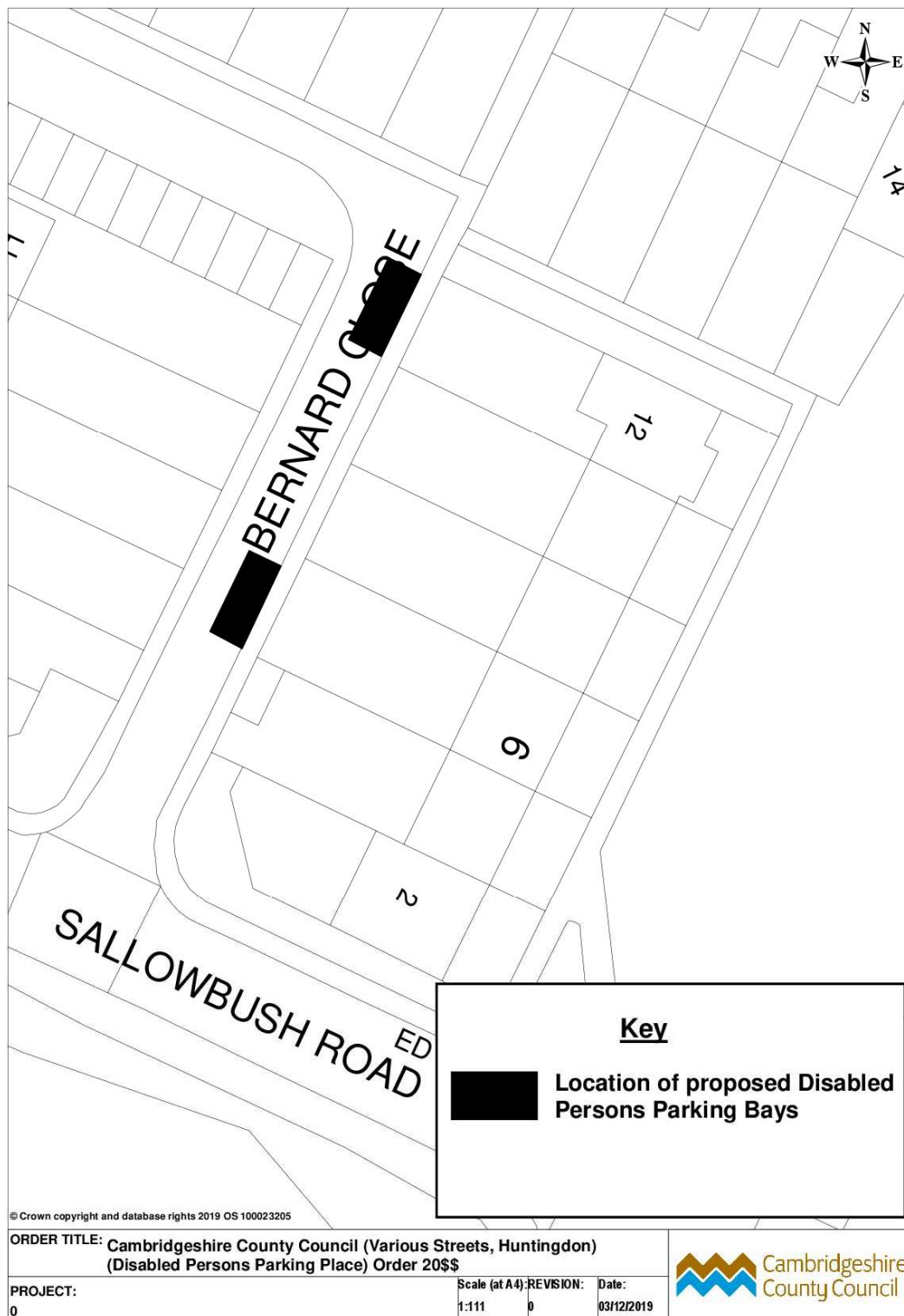
Appendix 1 – Location Overview

Cambridgeshire County Council



Scale (at A4): 1:5000 Centred at: 524101,272377 Date: 16/03/2020 © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 OS 100023205

Appendix 2 – Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Bays at Bernard Close, Huntingdon



Appendix 3 – Google Streetview image 2016



Appendix 4

Objections:

1	<p>I fully support the implementation of the Disabled Persons Parking Bay at the rear of 12 Bernard Close.</p> <p>However, I am totally against the implantation of a Disabled Persons Parking Bay at the rear of 6 Bernard Close for a number of reasons.</p> <p>Firstly, the person for whom this bay is intended does not have any issues walking as evident when they walk their dogs twice a day for half an hour at a time, and therefore placing the Disabled Persons Parking Bay at the end of the parking area on Sallowbush Road would only involve eight more paces from their rear entrance at 2 Bernard Close than outside 6 Bernard Close.</p> <p>Secondly, As I have mentioned before parking is very difficult for those properties that do not have rear vehicular access such as numbers 6, 10 and 12 Bernard Close with only seven available parking spaces in this section of Bernard Close.</p> <p>12 Bernard Close needs the Disabled Persons Parking Bay at the rear of their property for the disabled children. (1 car) 10 Bernard Close (1 car) 8 Bernard Close (2 cars) do have rear vehicular access but do not use it. 6 Bernard Close (2 cars),</p>	<p>Thank you for confirming your support for the proposed disabled persons parking bay at the rear of 12 Bernard Close.</p> <p>In response to the points you have raised in your objection to the proposed bay in the vicinity of 6 Bernard Close, Huntingdon;</p> <p>The applicant has provided evidence that they are a blue badge holder. To qualify for a blue badge the applicant either has to meet the qualifying criteria and provide evidence of this or be assessed, more information of the blue badge application process in Cambridgeshire can be found here https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/parking-permits-and-fines/blue-badges/</p> <p>Sometimes disabilities are not visible or people may have a condition that is worse on some days than on other days. Being able to have a parking space nearby to a blue badge holder's property can assist with maintaining the user's independence.</p> <p>I appreciate there is a high demand for the available on street parking spaces in Bernard Close and this high demand for on street parking is a major factor in the applicant applying for a disabled persons parking place.</p>
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<p>4 Bernard Close (2 cars, sometime 3), uses rear vehicular access for one car.</p> <p>2 Bernard Close (4 Cars), 2 cars use the garages around the corner of Bernard Close, 1 car parks either on Sallowbush Road or on the grass areas at the rear of 2 Bernard Close or 1 Bernard Close.</p> <p>All of the odd number houses have rear vehicular access, use the garages or do not have vehicles.</p> <p>Currently the vehicle the Disabled Persons Parking Bay is intended for, parks outside the rear of 2 Bernard Close on the double yellow lines, although it could be parked on Sallowbush Road or on one of the grass areas only a few paces from the rear of their house.</p> <p>By implementing the Order you will be preventing one of the other residents from parking anywhere near their residence which not only would be a major inconvenience would not allow them to unload shopping as the road is too narrow to park temporarily whilst this task needs to be completed.</p> <p>The parking area on Sallowbush Road only takes four cars and gets full very quickly leaving nowhere to park as the remainder of Bernard Close is fully taken or would block vehicular access of other residents.</p> <p>The action of this Order would result in one or more residents of Bernard Close having to try and find parking in a different road over 150 metres away if at all as all of the local roads are full with their own residents vehicles.</p> <p>I strongly suggest that this Order is revoked for the Disabled Persons Parking Bay at the rear of 6 Bernard Close and a different</p>	
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	place is considered for the resident of 2 Bernard Close.	
2	<p>I am emailing to Express my concerns over the proposed disabled parking spots in Bernard Close Ref PR0610.</p> <p>My objections are that no one in the Close is in desperate need of a disabled parking spot due to being able bodied. Where the proposed parking bays are going to be installed the people that live there have driveways or the option to install one.</p> <p>In my opinion they are just using their badge to guarantee a parking spot.</p> <p>Outside number 12 is the worst possible place to install a bay it should be double yellow lined we have had some incidents where the bin lorry could not access the estate due to parked cars on the bend, if there was ever an incident and an ambulance and fire brigade were needed to attend they would not be able to gain access to the incident so maybe you could look at double yellows on the bend.</p>	<p>Both the applicants of these bays are residents of Bernard Close and are blue badge holders and meet our criteria to be considered for a bay. Sometimes disabilities are not visible or people may have a condition that is worse on some days than on other days. Being able to have a parking space nearby to a blue badge holders property can assist with maintaining the users independence by offering a parking space near to home.</p> <p>The applicant of the bay which is being installed in the vicinity of 6 Bernard Close does have a paved area at the rear of their property however the access to this is too narrow for their vehicle to get through.</p> <p>Regarding your concern that refuse/emergency vehicles will not be able to access the road if a bay is installed at the rear of number 12 Bernard Close. The dimensions of the carriageway and footways have been measured and there is sufficient width for emergency vehicles and refuse vehicles to pass and we have also consulted with the emergency services and District Council (who operate the refuse collection service) as part of the consultation process for the proposed bays. The highway code does state that vehicles must not park on bends, if there are instances of the road being obstructed by vehicles parked on the bend this should be reported to police. For parking restrictions (such as double yellow lines) to be implemented a legal Order (called a Traffic Regulation Order or TRO) would need to be made, any proposed TRO would need to be advertised in the local press and consultation undertaken with interested parties. The Policy and Regulation Team at Cambridgeshire County Council does not have a budget for making TRO's, however if the road is frequently being obstructed</p>

	<p>I have to rent a garage due to parking problems so if you take 2 more away we will have problems of people parking across the garages.</p>	<p>by parked vehicles it may be worth raising the issue with your local Councillors as there is funding available through the Local Highways Improvement Initiative (LHI). More information regarding the LHI scheme can be found here (link to LHI information on Cambridgeshire County Council provided).</p> <p>As the proposed bays have been requested by residents that reside in Bernard Close the bays will be used mostly by these residents (although it is acknowledged that anyone that has a valid blue badge can park in a disabled persons parking bay) and therefore the bays will not be increasing the numbers of cars parking in the road as these residents park here (when parking is available). I appreciate there is a high demand for the available on street parking spaces in Bernard Close and this high demand for on street parking is a major factor in the applicant applying for a disabled persons parking place.</p>
	<p>Applicant's representative's comments regarding position of proposed bay at 2 Bernard Close.</p> <p>Firstly, the distance from applicant's property from the disabled bay. Given his condition he needs the bay to be as close to his property as possible. Outside number 6 is a bit far up from access to his property. Secondly, number 4 Bernard close is a rented house owned by Chorus homes. Simply saying that the owner is possibly going to buy the property at some point in the future and hopefully get planning permission to have a second drive way installed isn't a good enough excuse to get the install of a disabled bay moved further up. If she owned the property I could understand your reasoning behind moving the bay, but she doesn't.</p>	<p>I do sympathise with the applicant, having visited the site I do acknowledge there is a high demand for on street parking places on Bernard Close. Ideally the best place to install a disabled persons parking bay would be outside the applicants address however in this instance this is not possible because of the parking restrictions (double yellow lines) that are in operation here, these restrictions are in place for road safety reasons to protect the visibility at the junction and to minimise the chance of vehicular conflict at the mouth of the junction.</p> <p>The next best option would have been to put the proposed disabled persons parking bay at the rear of number 4 Bernard Close adjacent to their rear access gate. An 'informal consultation' letter was sent to interested parties (including neighbouring owner/occupiers) informing them of our</p>

<p>It's also quite convenient that after learning of the disabled bay application she now has plans for a second drive way when and if she buys the house.</p> <p>The applicant would therefore like for you to reconsider placing the bay behind number 4 Bernard Close so it's closer to his property.</p> <p>I'm happy to accept the parking bay to be installed behind number 6 IF number 4 can provide evidence that proceedings to purchase the property are indeed going ahead. If she cannot provide any evidence then I see no reason why the bay can't be installed behind number 4 giving the applicant peace of mind that when his conditions deteriorate further the bay will be in the best place for him.</p>	<p>intention to install the bay and giving them an opportunity to raise comments, it was at this stage that the occupiers of number 4 Bernard Close informed us that they are in the process of buying the property and intend to widen their rear access to allow them more space to park their vehicles within the boundary of the property. Whilst I appreciate an intention to widen the access is not a guarantee it will happen at this present time but Cambridgeshire County Council has a limited annual budget for installing and removing disabled parking bays and if we were required to remove (or amend the location) the bay at the rear of number 4 in the near future to facilitate a widened rear access this would require another TRO and consultation and our contractors to remove some of the lining on the road and repaint the bay in an amended position as well as relocating the sign post and sign using money that could be spent installing disabled persons parking bays elsewhere. If the rear access of number 4 was widened to allow their vehicles to be parked off the street this would reduce the number of cars be parked on street easing the pressure on on-street parking somewhat.</p> <p>I appreciate that the amended position of the disabled persons parking bay does move the bay a further 4 metres away from his property however for the reasons given above this is the most suitable location for the bay and would still mean that the proposed bay is within 10 metres of the applicant's residence.</p> <p>A further option put to the applicant was the possibility of installing the a Disabled Parking Bay in Sallowbush Road adjacent to number 1 Bernard Close, however the applicant felt that this would be a safety issue for him because of the speed vehicles travel on Sallowbush Road.</p>
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	<p>Applicants comments:</p> <p>If the Council could give me the piece of land from my driveway to the BT box I can increase the width and remove a section of wall to allow me to park at the rear of my house, if this is possible I will withdraw my disability parking request.</p>	<p>The land adjacent to the rear of your property is owned by Huntingdonshire District Council and therefore you would need to discuss any plans to acquire this land with them.</p>
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