Cambridgeshire County Council Record of Executive Decision

Decision taken by Traffic Manager in consultation with the local Member

Title of decision	Consider Objections Received in Relation to Proposed Pedestrian Zone and Associated Waiting Restrictions in Market Place Area, Wisbech
Date decision taken	11 th November 2020
Decision maker	Sonia Hansen (Traffic Manager) in conjunction with County Councillor Steve Tierney
Is this a key decision?	No
Is the decision subject to call in?	No
Details of decision taken	Having reviewed details of the Pedestrian Zone, including Waiting Restrictions, and taking into account the consultation process and written representations received, the Traffic Manager and County Councillor decided that the proposal should be implemented as published.
	The objectors will be informed of the outcome accordingly.
Reasons for taking decision	The report was presented to the meeting to allow officers to explain the proposals. It was noted that:-
	• The proposal is to close the Market Place between 7am and 4pm to create a safer space and to allow it to be used for community events.
	• The proposal also includes changes to parking restrictions to reduce street clutter and make them easier for drivers to understand.
	• It is recognised that some businesses have concerns about access and parking. Whilst there may be some inconvenience, but it is felt that the traffic-free space created will greatly benefit traders and the public. Those businesses in Hill Street and High Street can still be accessed by vehicle and short-stay parking will be allowed for loading/ unloading. In addition, adequate public car parking is available within a short walk of the Market Square.
	• Some disabled parking spaces will be lost, but others will remain and new ones are to be provided. There are currently no disabled spaces in the pedestrian zone that drivers need to reach, but in exceptional circumstances occasional access can be granted.
	• Several options to allow vehicular access to Church Terrace have been considered, but were rejected for a number of reasons. Allowing more traffic to enter that road would create conflict with pedestrians and cause issues with turning vehicles. The existing parking area in Church Terrace will remain with access permitted up to 10am for loading/unloading.
	• Street furniture used for the closure points has been sensitively designed to minimise its visual impact. The revised parking restrictions will reduce the number of signs and posts required, and any new markings will be conservation area friendly.
Options considered	Please see above – 'Reasons for taking decision'.

Details of any conflict of interests declared	No conflicts of interest.
Details of any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	No pecuniary interests or non-statutory disclosable interest declared.

Signature of decision maker (if appropriate)