Proposed Residents' Permit Scheme Ascham Road Area, Cambridge - PR0481

Objection to proposed double yellow lines in Metcalfe Road

A survey has been carried out of residents in Metcalfe Road who will have new double yellow lines directly outside their properties if the above named scheme goes ahead as planned.

In total, there are 32 properties in Metcalfe Road which will be affected – residents of 28 of these 32 properties have been surveyed¹. The graphic below shows that the majority of the residents of these households are against having double yellow lines outside their properties – 24 of the 28 households have said they are not happy or have expressed concerns and 28 residents from 21 households felt strongly enough to sign a petition objecting to the planned double yellow lines - enclosed below.

32 properties affected 28 properties surveyed
24 properties not happy or expressed concern
28 residents from 21 properties signed petition

Double yellow lines will prevent any parking **24 hours a day, 7 days a week** on one side of Metcalfe Road or the other along its entire length. This is an extreme measure which is not necessary to solve the parking issue that exists in Metcalfe Road and will cause inconvenience to the residents.

- The problem exists Monday to Friday, during the school day, during school term time.
- There is not a problem in the evenings, at weekends or during the school holidays.

Most residents acknowledge that there is a problem and that something needs to be done to make Metcalfe Road safer. However this survey has shown that many residents do not feel that the proposed plan is best approach.

Words used by residents to describe the use of double yellow lines:

• 'Excessive' 'Extreme' 'Bonkers' 'Unnecessary' 'Overkill' 'Disproportionate'

Many residents surveyed had not appreciated that the plan involved extensive use of double yellow lines in Metcalfe Road – and many were shocked to see that the road directly outside their house would be affected. People had not inspected the plan closely enough.

The photos overleaf show Metcalfe Road at various times when there is no parking problem.

• Does this look like a street that needs double yellow lines?

¹ Attempts were made to survey all 32 properties, however there was no reply at several of the houses.



Weekend – looking both ways from #23

Weekday morning – looking both ways from #23



Weekday evening – looking both ways from #23



Weekday night time – looking both ways from #23



PR0481 Objection to Double Yellow Lines in Metcalfe Road

Petition

We object to the double yellow lines in Metcalfe Road that are part of the proposed Residents Parking Scheme in the Ascham Road area, Cambridge (Reference Number PR0481)





Alternative Suggestions for Consideration

Residents made suggestions for alternatives to the double yellow lines and these are listed below:

- Cancel the proposed resident permit plans altogether and put single yellow lines with time restrictions (similar to the permit times or even shorter?) along one side of the road. This will allow residents to use on-street parking safely on one side of the road without restriction and to make use of the stretches with single yellow lines at times also.
 - Introducing single yellow lines was by far the most common alternative suggested.
- Widen Metcalfe road to allow parking on both sides this could be done by making the verges narrower or by losing the verge on one side safe parking on both sides would then be possible. Many residents were in favour of this.
- Make better use of the space taken up by the verges:
 - Concrete some of the verges and allow cars to park half on the pavement (like in the roads off Mill Road).
 - Remove some of the verges to create parking bays like has been done outside 50 & 52 Metcalfe Road.
- Would making the road one-way solve the issue about the road not being wide enough for two cars to park? Are the rules for one-way roads different?

Comments

- Many parents collecting children from the Castle School will have disabled badges and will be able to park on the double yellow lines this will defeat the object of the plans.
- Many elderly residents in the streets have carers visit them multiple times a day they need to be able to park quickly and easily for short times and not to worry about receiving a parking ticket.
- The current plan is felt to have the parking bays on the wrong side of the road at the Courtney Way/Metcalfe Road junction cars parked in the bays shown will restrict the view of the road for drivers coming from Courtney Way.
- The plan shows bays drawn across driveways outside numbers 59 and 61

We ask that you take time to consider our objection carefully and to consider the impact the proposed measures will have on the residents of Metcalfe Road.

Any correspondence should be sent to:





Graham Hughes Executive Director Place and Economy % Policy and Regulation Vantage House Washington Road Huntingdon PE29 6SR

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7th September 2018

Dear Mr Hughes and Team,

Ref: PRO4081 - Proposed Residents Parking Scheme - Ascham Road Area

As you will see above, my husband and I live at of your proposal for the following reasons:

We are not in favour

1. Most of those who park on Metcalfe Road and Courtney Way must be teachers at one of the three schools nearby because there is only a problem during term time.

2. Have you thought where those teachers will park if there are restrictions on these roads? This is especially relevant during the building work going on in Chesterton School, which is apparently taking place on former parking areas and likely to last some time?

3. During the weekends, evenings and holiday periods there is plenty of space.

4. Most houses and flats, if not all, on these roads have off road parking.

Yours sincerely,



Objection to Draft Order PR0481

This objection is concerned with the removal of approximately 25 parking spaces that are marked on the footway along the north-west side of Milton Road between Mitcham's Corner and Ascham Road.

1. The Statement of Reasons for the draft order is as follows:

"To facilitate the movement of traffic and to enhance safety for all road users and for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs".

<u>Facilitate movement of traffic</u> – as these parking spaces are not on the carriageway their removal will not have any impact on facilitating the movement of traffic.

<u>Enhance safety</u> – during their many years of use there is no evidence that these parking spaces have been the cause of any accidents or have posed a major safety risk. They are marked on the footpath where its total width is generally in excess of 4 metres leaving plenty of space for pedestrian traffic. Any concerns expressed have generally been about aesthetics rather than safety.

<u>Preserve or improve the amenities</u> – the removal of approximately 25 parking bays will cause a <u>loss</u> of amenity of the area through which the road runs. Recent research* shows that the majority of these spaces are used by residents (or their visitors) of Milton Road or side streets on the south-east side – not by non-residents or commuters. It seems perverse to remove parking spaces for Cambridge residents as a result of a residents' parking scheme.

2. A further statement is made in the Explanatory Note:

"In the longer term, there are plans to provide a bus lane along this stretch of Milton Road, which would necessitate the removal of the parking bays".

This is an incorrect statement. The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is planning a major re-development of Milton Road but it will not be providing a bus lane on this stretch of the road that is any different from the bus lane that is already there. It is, and will remain, on the south-east side of the road.

It is true that, for other reasons, the proposed plan does not envisage inclusion of the current parking bays and the GCP therefore undertook to come forward with proposals for mitigating their loss. These proposals have not yet been formulated or published, and members of the local community who are not Ascham scheme residents, including Local Liaison Forum members, will find it intolerable if the parking bays are removed by some other means without any mitigation measures having been discussed.

Construction work on the Milton Road re-development is not due to start until mid-2020 with completion by the end of 2021. Removal of the parking bays is properly the responsibility of that project and should not be carried out two years in advance without mitigation** and by a residents parking process that has no real need or justification for doing so. It will involve unnecessary extra cost to the public purse.

* http://chestertontriangle.uk/parkingreport2018

** elimination of commuter parking within the Ascham scheme cannot be regarded as mitigation for local residents who will not have access to the Ascham zone