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## **OBJECTIONS AND APPEALS SUB COMMITTEE**

Date Written	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2014
Report Author	Martin Stark
Committee	Objections and Appeals Sub Committee
Committee Date	12 <sup>th</sup> November 2014

*To: Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen*

### **MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL TRAMROAD SIDE, BETHEL STREET, HEOL S O DAVIES, ST. MARY'S CLOSE, MERTHYR TYDFIL (PROHIBITION OF WAITING AT ANY TIME) (LIMITED WAITING) ORDER 2014 – CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:**

To Consider objections received to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order.

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 A report was presented to Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014 concerning a petition received from residents of St. Mary's Close with approximately 30 signatures, describing parking problems residents are experiencing in proximity of the bend at the entrance/exit to St. Mary's Close. It was resolved to accept the recommendations within the report (Item No. 1428 refers).
- 1.2 The report referred to discussion with the lead petitioner who explained in detail the problems associated with vehicles parking on the bend and partly on the pavement at the entrance to the Close affecting visibility and manoeuvring for oncoming vehicles and pedestrians. Site investigations were carried out by Council staff and it was considered that the introduction of parking restrictions on the inside of the bend would improve visibility, manoeuvring and overall road safety.

- 1.3 In accordance with Statutory Traffic Order procedures, public notice was given of the County Borough Council's intention to make the Order and included a Notice advertised in the Merthyr Express on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014 stating that objections to the Order should be returned by 18<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Public Notices were also displayed on site throughout the objection period. Detail of the Order Schedule is indicated below in Appendix A for Councillors' information together with a plan showing the extent of the restriction.

## **2.0 OBJECTIONS**

- 2.1 The Council has received a total of 5 letters of objection to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order and these are attached as Appendix B for consideration.
- 2.2 Officers have carefully considered the letters of objection and make the following observations.

Parking restrictions would be enforced by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers as part of their duties. It is acknowledged motorists would need to consider an alternative parking location to the current parking practice that occurs on the bend. The majority of properties possess parking facilities i.e. garage and/or hardstanding which can be used as alternative off-street parking. Similarly parking should be available at other locations along the highway in St Mary's Close. Council Officers consider parking restrictions should be introduced to improve visibility, manoeuvring and overall road safety.

The petition has highlighted safety problems in proximity of the bend associated with vehicles parking on the bend and partly on the pavement and following site investigation Officers consider parking restrictions should be introduced for overall road safety reasons.

The cost associated with parking restrictions is less than originally estimated. The total cost is approximately £1200. It has also been possible to reduce overall costs by advertising two Traffic Regulation Order proposals as a combined Notice. Once introduced maintenance costs to repaint yellow lines would be relatively inexpensive.

## **3.0 ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN SUPPORT OF PETITION**

- 3.1 Attached at Appendix C is further correspondence received in support of the request for parking restrictions along the bend in St. Mary's Close. Also included are 62 photographs showing vehicles parking along the bend and part on the pavement.
- 3.2 Officers make the following observations.

The Council has contacted the Police for details of the alleged accident referred to on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The Police have no details available concerning this as they were not called to the incident.

The photos provided show how visibility is affected due to vehicles parked along the bend and which demonstrate the requirement for parking restrictions to improve

visibility, manoeuvring and overall road safety. It is considered that the introduction of parking restrictions would greatly improve visibility.

3.3 In making a decision the Appeals Committee is required to consider the objections and additional correspondence received in support of the petition in determining the outcome of the proposal to introduce parking restrictions.

3.4 Officers have carefully considered the letters of objection and additional correspondence received in support of the petition and consider the objections should be noted but discounted on road safety grounds so as to allow the making of the Order as intended.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

4.1 The cost associated with parking restrictions is less than originally estimated. The total cost is approximately £1200. It has also been possible to reduce overall costs by advertising two Traffic Regulation Order proposals as a combined Notice. Once introduced maintenance costs to repaint yellow lines would be relatively inexpensive.

#### **5.0 SINGLE INTEGRATED PLAN AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT SUMMARY**

5.1 Previously completed for report to Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

#### **6.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

6.1 Previously prepared for report to Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

#### **7.0 RECOMMENDATION(S) that**

7.1 The objections received to the advertised Order be noted but discounted on road safety grounds so as to allow the making of the Order as intended.

**ELLIS COOPER**  
**CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMER SERVICES**

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
File H10.0	Ongoing	Traffic Management Section Engineering Department Unit 20 Pentrebach

***Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report***