



## **OBJECTIONS AND APPEALS COMMITTEE**

Date Written	22 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
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Service Area	Engineering
Committee Division	Objections and Appeals Committee
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2018

*To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen*

### **MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL VARIOUS ROADS (PROHIBITION OF WAITING AT ANY TIME) ORDER 2018 – CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS**

#### **1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To consider TWO objections received to the above mentioned, recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order relating to proposed introduction of Traffic Regulations across the County Borough. The objections relate to Ynysfach section of the Order.

#### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that**

2.1 The objections received to the advertised Order be noted but discounted on Traffic Management and Road Safety grounds so as to allow the making of the Order as intended.

#### **3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

3.1 A report was presented to Cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 for Councillors to authorise the intention for Public Notice to be given of the County Borough Council's intention to make a permanent Traffic Regulation Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in the event of no objections, the Order be made. The Order will cover the following areas:-

- i) Brecon Road outside Cyfarthfa Junior School.
- ii) Cardiff Road, Quakers Yard.

- iii) Cyfarthfa Industrial Estate.
- iv) Heolgerrig/Shirley Drive junction.
- v) Duffryn Road/Plymouth Gardens Junction and Duffryn Road/Castle Street. Junction, Pentrebach.
- vi) Woodlands Avenue/Rodericks Terrace Junction, Quakers yard.
- vii) Ynysfach area.

- 3.2 It was resolved to accept the recommendations within the report (Item No. 438 refers).
- 3.3 This report considers objections received to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order relating to the proposed introduction of Traffic Regulations at Ynysfach area – item vii above.
- 3.4 The background to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order in Ynysfach as informed in the report presented to Cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017, involves requests received for the introduction of parking restrictions to improve accessibility. Information was provided in relation to consultation carried out in April 2017 involving a 4 day consultation exercise with residents of Ynysfach to determine their views on proposed parking restrictions along the main road and various junctions to ease parking congestion. This consultation information is available via Appendix 1 for information purposes. The introduction of parking restrictions is requested to maintain accessibility throughout Ynysfach and to improve traffic conditions as this is a local bus route. It is considered a prohibition of waiting at any time restriction (24 hour) is appropriate, as opposed to a daytime restriction, for example, 8am to 3pm given the level of parking congestion also outside these hours and to maintain accessibility at all times of the day along various lengths of road. Additional parking restrictions are also proposed into various side roads within Ynysfach to maintain accessibility. The area suffers from double parking on the main estate road, at junctions and on bends, including pavement parking which is exacerbated in the area surrounding the rugby club when matches and tournaments take place. The proposal involves introduction of parking prohibitions that will enable the double yellow lines to be enforced by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers improving accessibility and alleviating parking issues being experienced in the areas. A drawing showing the proposal is available via Appendix 2 for information purposes. The proposal at Ynysfach will improve accessibility, reduce congestion and improve Traffic Management and Road Safety.
- 3.5 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 Edition 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 stating that objections to the Order should be returned by 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Public Notices were also displayed on site.

## **4.0 OBJECTIONS**

- 4.1 The Council has received two letters, objecting to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order. The objections are available via Appendix 3 for information purposes.
- 4.2 Officers have carefully considered the objections and make the following comments.

4.3 Letter referenced No. 1

- 4.4 The Ynysfach area is used by commuters to park during the day due to local attractors in the town centre and parking also occurs on weekends when rugby matches take place. However requests have been received for the introduction of parking restrictions to improve accessibility and ease parking congestion, prevent double parking on the main estate road, at junctions and various bends, including pavement parking. It is recommended a prohibition of waiting at any time restriction is introduced.
- 4.5 It is considered a daytime only restriction would not be appropriate in addressing all issues raised given the level of parking in the evening/overnight related to double parking on the main approach road, parking at junctions and on various bends, including pavement parking. It is recommended a prohibition of waiting at any time restriction is introduced to enable all issues to be addressed.
- 4.6 There are parking issues reported throughout the Ynysfach area and requests have been received for parking restrictions over a large extent to address these issues. The majority of these prohibitions are on one side of the road and parking opposite would still be available except where driveways and junctions exist.
- 4.7 The Council introduces parking restrictions to alleviate issues caused by drivers parking at inappropriate locations causing Traffic Management and Road Safety issues. The introduction of restrictions can cause vehicles to be displaced to other roads/areas and subsequent monitoring can be carried out to determine this.
- 4.8 It is suggested the college car park is utilised for students/staff. Observations carried out have shown indiscriminate parking occurs in Ynysfach at times when college students are not present in the area for example at weekends when rugby matches take place. Following previous consultations with the College regarding discounts for students, the Council introduced Academic Permits in 2015. These permits are over £100 cheaper than the standard permits and can be used in any of the Council car parks.
- 4.9 The Georgetown area has previously been investigated with a combination of parking restrictions and short term parking introduced near the shops to provide a turnover of parking.
- 5.0 The Council has introduced permit parking at Dixon Street. Traffic surveys have previously been carried out in Georgetown and parking restrictions introduced at locations where obstructions occurred.
- 5.1 In addition, investigations have taken place involving site visits around Cadlan Bethel and Howell Close areas. Whilst it is noted that on-street parking does take place in

this area, no issues were observed that would justify the introduction of parking restrictions. The Georgetown and other areas can be further monitored.

5.2 Letter referenced No. 2

5.3 The proposed parking restrictions in Ynysfach are requested and considered necessary to alleviate parking issues being experienced along the lengths of roads at various times of the day and days of the week.

5.4 The introduction of parking restrictions in Ynysfach will enable the Council to enforce indiscriminate parking taking place along the lengths of roads and junctions making the area more easily accessible.

5.5 Parking restrictions are proposed in the vicinity of the rugby club to improve congestion, double parking and accessibility, however, the restrictions do not include all lengths of roads and on-street parking will still be available along certain roads in the area.

5.6 The private off-road car parks in the vicinity of the rugby club on match days would be a matter of management and supervision for the club. Off-road parking may assist and reduce on-street parking however the roads around the rugby club become congested by double parking, particularly on junctions and parking restrictions are required to alleviate difficulties being experienced.

5.7 The general comment regarding introduction of a mini-roundabout in the area is noted however no parking issues were observed at this location.

6.0 **CONCLUSION**

6.1 Officers consider that the proposed parking restrictions will alleviate parking difficulties in the area and should be introduced to improve accessibility, Traffic Management and Road Safety.

6.2 In making a decision the Appeals Committee is required to consider the objections in determining the outcome of the proposal to introduce these traffic prohibitions.

6.3 Officers have carefully considered the objections and consider the objections should be noted but discounted on Traffic Management and Road Safety grounds so as to allow the making of the Order as intended.

## 7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

7.1 No financial implications are associated with this report.

**CHERYLLEE EVANS**  
**CHIEF OFFICER NEIGHBOURHOOD**  
**SERVICES**

**COUNCILLOR HOWARD BARRETT**  
**CABINET MEMBER FOR**  
**NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>		
<b>Title of Document(s)</b>	<b>Document(s) Date</b>	<b>Document Location</b>
File ref: H10.0	Ongoing	Traffic Management Section, Engineering Department, Unit 5 Pentrebach
<b>Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?</b>		<b>No</b>

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