



Report to Cabinet Member for Logistics

Date: 9th October 2020

Title: **Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles Waiting Restrictions Review**

Relevant councillor(s): Cllr D Martin, Cllr L Smith, Cllr M Harrold, Cllr J Rush, Cllr J Wertheim, Cllr C Ford, Cllr I Darby, Cllr T Butcher, Cllr C Rouse, Cllr C Ford, Cllr J Burton, Cllr J Waters, Cllr S Patel, Cllr D Bray and Cllr C Jackson.

Author and/or contact officer: Ricky Collymore

Ward(s) affected: **Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles**

Recommendations: **It is recommended that:**

- a. **The Cabinet Member for Logistics authorises the Executive Director for Transport, Economy, Environment to make the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the scheme outlined in this report. Noting that it is different to the one that was advertised as part of the Statutory Consultation process.**
- b. **That the Traffic Regulation Order be made as advertised at Statutory Consultation but with the following amendments:**
 - The proposed Permit Parking zone located off Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter (Plan AE72) not to be implemented as there was insufficient support for the proposal during the consultation.
 - The Permit Parking Zone times proposed at Ellwood Rise, Chalfont St Giles (Plan AE74) are changed from Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm excluding Bank Holidays to Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm and Saturdays 8am to 12 noon. This was after representations from affected residents were received advising that the prescribed hours should be extended as above.
- c. **That responders to the Statutory Consultation be informed of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation Decision.**

Reason for decision:

The reason for this decision was contrived after the results received during a Statutory Consultation on the proposals set out.

1. Executive summary

On behalf of local members, residents and the Neighbourhood Action Group, Transport for Buckinghamshire were commissioned to undertake a waiting restriction review for parts of Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles. The project scope included proposals to implement changes to the selected locations such as introducing “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions and Limited Waiting Restrictions, as well as introducing some areas of Resident Permit Parking.

This Key Decision Report relates to the subsequent review of the Statutory Consultation and makes recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Logistics.

2. Content of report

2.1 Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for the highway network within its boundary; this includes the provision, management and enforcement of waiting restrictions:

2.2 It had been established that commuter parking within Chalfont St Peter had become a problem and detrimental to the safe through flow of traffic within the town.

2.3 An Informal Consultation was conducted to gain an idea from the residents and local business owners whether they believe there was a parking problem in the Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles, if so; when there was a problem in the towns and put forward a number of proposals that could, in theory, relieve any parking problems. These proposals were voted on, and together, with the commented responses from the Informal Consultation, were collated to draw up proposals for a Statutory Consultation. These measures were advertised and promoted locally through the Statutory Consultation process, carried out between Friday 29th May 2020 and Friday 26th June 2020 in accordance with the Local Authorities’ Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (“the TRO Regulations”) Copies of the Statutory Consultation Documents can be found here:

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/roads-parking/chalfonts2020/>

A copy of the consultation documents were deposited with the local libraries and at County Hall, Aylesbury. The Police, Fire and Rescue Service and Ambulance Service were made aware of the consultation.

- 2.4 In support of the Statutory Consultation, Transport for Buckinghamshire distributed letters to residents of the roads where waiting restriction changes or introductions were proposed. This letter included the methods by which the residents could obtain more information and provide feedback. Letters were also posted to local businesses whose employees may be affected by a change in waiting restrictions.
- 2.5 Notices and posters were placed on site informing the public of the statutory consultation on the road names affected and how they could obtain more information and provide feedback. The draft notice was also advertised in the local press.
- 2.6 The proposals arose following requests to, and subsequently, from Councillor David Martin, Councillor Timothy Butcher and the Neighbourhood Action Group for parking and waiting restrictions within the area. The proposed locations are where there are parking safety issues and limitations due to parking in areas of limited or obstructed view and excessive commuter parking.
- 2.7 Thames Valley Police confirmed that it had no objection to the proposals going ahead.
- 2.8 The proposals developed by Councillor David Martin, Councillor Timothy Butcher and the Neighbourhood Action Group were put out to public consultation as follows:

Bottrells Lane, Chalfont St Giles

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions,

Bowstridge Lane, Chalfont St Giles

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions,

Churchfield Road, Chalfont St Peter

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions,

Cophall Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions,

Denham Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions
- No Stopping on School Entrance Markings

Ellwood Rise, Chalfont St Giles

- Resident Permit Parking Restrictions

Field Way, Chalfont St Peter

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions,

Gold Hill North, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions,

Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter

- Resident Permit Parking Restrictions,
Hampden Road, Chalfont St Peter,

- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions
Hither Meadow, Chalfont St Peter

- Resident Permit Parking Restrictions,
Joiners Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions
- Limited Waiting Restrictions

Lower Road, Chalfont St Peter

- Resident Permit Parking Restrictions
- “No Waiting At Any Time” Restrictions
- Limited Waiting Restrictions

Misbourne Avenue, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

Orchard Grove, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

Penn Road, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

Silver Hill, Chalfont St Giles

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

Southcliffe Drive, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

Sussex Close, Chalfont St Giles

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

The Vale, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

Vale Close, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

West Hyde Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

2.9 The reasons for implementing the proposals detailed in this report are:

Bottrells Lane, Chalfont St Giles

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Bowstridge Lane, Chalfont St Giles

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Churchfield Road, Chalfont St Peter

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Copthall Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Denham Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

Ellwood Rise, Chalfont St Giles

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Field Way, Chalfont St Peter

- For preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Gold Hill North, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter



- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Hampden Road, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Hither Meadow, Chalfont St Peter

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Joiners Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Lower Road, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- For preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

Misbourne Avenue, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Orchard Grove, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Penn Road, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Silver Hill, Chalfont St Giles

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Southcliffe Drive, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

Sussex Close, Chalfont St Giles

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

The Vale, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

Vale Close, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

West Hyde Lane, Chalfont St Peter

- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

3. Other options considered

3.1 Not to proceed with any of the proposed restrictions, this would not address the issues raised by members and the Neighbourhood Action Group. This should include information on the pros and cons of each option.

3.2 To partially implement the proposed restrictions, this would only partly address the issues raised by members and the Neighbourhood Action Group which may lead to parking displacement issues.

4 Legal and financial implications

4.1 Section 122 of the Road Traffic Act 1984 places a duty on Buckinghamshire Council to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

Regulation 14 of the TRO Regulations state that an Order making authority may modify an Order. Whether in receipt of any objections or otherwise, before it is made.

4.2 When the decision is taken and recommendations agreed, the Traffic Regulation Order will be made and signed. The responders to the consultation and persons likely to be affected will be informed of the decisions made and representations considered. The Traffic Regulation Order will be signed and re-advertised by Buckinghamshire Council.

4.3 Any further reviews or any other waiting restrictions TRO would require a Project Initiation Document and further agreed funding streams.

4.4 Any income from the Parking Permits and Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) will be retained by Buckinghamshire Council and will contribute to the running cost of parking enforcement and activities across the County.

5 Corporate implications

5.1 Equality and Diversity Issues – Equality Act 2010. This proposal will not have any disproportionate effect upon people with protected characteristics. Appendix ... contains the Equality Impact Assessment completed on the proposals and recommendations for this Statutory Consultation.

6 Consultation with local Councillors & Community Boards

6.1 This Statutory Consultation was undertaken with insight initially from the Local Councillors, David Martin and Timothy Butcher, as well as the Neighbourhood Action Group in order to obtain a scope for the proposals. The Councillors and Neighbourhood Action Group have been communicated with throughout the entire consultation process.

7 Communication, engagement & further consultation

7.1 The Statutory Consultation was undertaken between Friday 29th May 2020 and Friday 26th June 2020 a summary of the number of objections received are contained within Appendix A and a total of 171 responses were received altogether, the full written responses to the Statutory Consultation are contained in Appendix B these have been reviewed and considered against the Statement of Reasons and the overview of the responses fell into a number of categories.

7.2 A summary of the objections, comments and responses (if required) to the comments are detailed below:

No Waiting At Any Time

Several concerns were raised regarding 'unsafe' parking at junctions, hill brows, corners and double parking on some of the roads. It has been claimed these issues have led to emergency services having problems getting through the parts of Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles with their vehicles.

Comments were also made against the addition of double yellow lines at some locations proposed. Any location that has No Waiting At Anytime Restrictions proposed during this consultation, would be proposed under Highway Code guidelines as per below:

- These restrictions were proposed in line with safety guidelines outlined within the Highway Code, Rule 243. This includes DO NOT stop or park *'anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services' & 'opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space', 'on a bend' **except** when forced to do so by stationary traffic.'*

Comments were received which included suggestions for limited waiting restrictions to be implemented rather than the No Waiting At Any Time restriction.

- Limiting the restriction would not fully remove the danger to persons or other traffic using the junctions for access or egress. Limiting the No Waiting restriction will not alleviate the current problem identified with the difficulty the emergency services and waste collection services encounter transporting their vehicles through the estate.

Limited Waiting Restrictions

Regarding Joiners Lane, Chalfont St Peter; there were comments both in favour and against the proposals to implement Limited Waiting Restrictions. There was the belief that an increase of restrictions on Joiners Lane would encourage an increase in speed from motorists on-street. However, with the restrictions proposed there were proposals that would have parking on one side of the carriageway so motorists should in theory have deterrents to increasing their speed on Joiners Lane.

There were also comments made that the Limited Waiting Restrictions proposed would just move the current parkers elsewhere in the town or further down the street. With regards to Joiners Lane, there were a couple of comments stating that traffic being displaced would be a real possibility further away from the restrictions being proposed. This was accompanied by a request to extend the limited waiting restrictions the entire length of Joiners Lane. An extension of the proposed restrictions is not possible without another Statutory Consultation.

Comments were also made that the road doesn't need any waiting restrictions however, it has been noted that currently cars park on both sides of the carriageway at Joiners Lane which makes it difficult for free flowing traffic. It was deemed that if the restrictions were not implemented, parking would continue on both sides of the carriageway making it difficult for the passing traffic to flow in both carriageways simultaneously.

Most responses to this consultation were received with regards to Lower Road and the Limited Waiting Restrictions that were proposed there. The majority of responses were in favour of the implementation of restrictions, as there was a belief that the parking at parts of Lower Road had become inconsiderate. A lot of respondents also made comments regarding commuters parking on Lower Road, double parking or parking over residential drive ways and drop kerbs.

Some respondents were concerned that the implementation of the restrictions on Lower Road would increase the speed of the traffic as there would be less parked cars to deter the road users. The proposals, if implemented, will have strategically placed parking bays on both sides of the road, this should stop the double parking but also provide 'chicanes' that the traffic will have to negotiate and therefore keep speeds to an acceptable level.

Commuters from local businesses also commented on the consultation, the general consensus from those who commuted into Chalfont St Peter was to be against the proposals for Lower Road, as this was where they or their colleagues park. The number of responses in favour of the proposals far outweighed those against the Lower Road proposed restrictions.

Resident Parking Permit Restrictions

The majority of responses where the Parking Permit Restrictions were proposed were positive and embraced the proposals. At Ellwood Rise, Chalfont St Giles; the majority of responses requested a slight amendment in the prescribed hours for the Parking Permits. The original proposal had the prescribed hours for Permit Parking as Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. However, the majority requested the amendment to prescribed hours of Monday to Friday between 8am and 6pm as well as Saturdays between 8am and 12 noon.

As this is what the vast majority requested and since the request is a viable one it is recommended that the amendment to the permit parking hours at Ellwood Rise is implemented.

The two other locations of Hither Meadow and Lower Road were in agreement with the proposal of Permit Parking. They did not, however, propose any other prescribed hours for the permits to be in effect. The general reasons given for agreeing with the Permit Parking proposals is to protect their ability to park on their road due to an increase in commuter parking. There was also an element of future proofing as a few noted that an increase of restrictions could possibly move more cars to their road/area if it remained unrestricted.

Permit Parking restrictions for residents were also proposed at a large layby location off Gravel Hill, Chalfont St Peter. However, during the Informal and Statutory Consultations, there was insufficient support for the proposal from respondents. Therefore, without support, we could not recommend the implementation of the permit parking proposals at Gravel Hill.

General

There was some concern that the existing and new restrictions will not be enforced.

- The current restrictions are enforced on a daily basis, once the new restrictions have been formalised on the Traffic Regulation Order increased enforcement activities of the new restrictions can be commence.

There were objections from commuters from a specific office who wished to continue parking in the locations they were already using. They debated that their presence helped support the local economy with many having lunch in town or using local stores.

- To allow areas of unrestricted parking in Chalfont St Peter would not solve the current parking problem. There are other areas within Chalfont St Peter where the commuters can park. Also, one of the larger companies provide a 'Park and Ride' service for employees, so it may be a case that if the proposals are implemented then those who are eligible to use the 'Park and Ride' service start to take advantage of the opportunity. This will hopefully reduce the amount of commuter parking within Chalfont St Peter, whilst still allowing workers to get to work and use the local stores.

Suggestions were made during the Statutory Consultation that were out of scope for what was proposed in terms of area and implementation. For example, there were requests to add speed bumps or to extend proposed restrictions further than initially advertised.

- It is not possible to implement more restrictions than initially advertised or proposed without going through another Statutory Consultation. The same would be true in the case of adding speed bumps or other traffic calming measures. Where possible, decisions and recommendations have been made with traffic speed in mind. The scope for this consultation was to review and propose measures to improve the parking conditions; traffic calming via construction would come outside of this remit.

Concerns were raised by residents that non-residents will distort the residents' responses to the waiting restriction proposals.

Those who partook in the online survey had to input their post code. This helped ascertain whether any particular respondent was a resident or not. The online survey had by far the highest number of responses and those who were not residents of Chalfont St Peter or Chalfont St Giles did not have a big influence on the overall outcome of the Statutory Consultation's result.

- 7.3 All consultees and responders to the consultation will be contacted by either email or letter, will be informed of the decision and where they can find the details of the Statutory Consultation and the decision taken. This report will be published on the council's web page.

8 Next steps and review

- 8.1 If implemented, the enforcement of the restrictions would provide ongoing monitoring of the scheme.

No further reviews of Waiting Restrictions in Chalfont St Giles or Chalfont St Peter are proposed at present, but if implemented, the restrictions will be monitored via enforcement. Initially monitoring will be conducted for the first year after the proposed implementation of restrictions.

9 Background papers

The waiting restrictions proposed for Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles were advertised and promoted locally through the Statutory Consultation process, carried out between Friday 29th May 2020 and Friday 26th June 2020 in accordance with the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 ("the TRO Regulations") Copies of the Statutory Consultation Documents can be found here:

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/roads-parking/chalfonts2020/>.

10. Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number and email address are given at the top of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Member Services Team by 5pm onth October 2020. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382434) or by email to democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Appendices to this Report

Appendix A: Written and Emailed Responses to Statutory Consultation

Appendix B: Online Responses to Statutory Consultation

Appendix C: Schedule

Appendix D: Plans of Richings Park Proposed Waiting Restrictions (Parking Traffic Regulation Order Tiles)

Appendix E: Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles Waiting Restrictions,
Notices and Traffic Regulation Order

Appendix F: Equality Impact Assessment

