

**Report for Chippenham Pilot Area Board
Stanton St Quintin Parking Issue
22nd December 2008**

On 22nd September 2008 Wiltshire Highways attended a Pilot Area Board meeting at Chippenham Town Hall to discuss options to resolve parking issues at Stanton St Quintin.

Notes were submitted prior to the meeting as options for discussion (Appendix A)

The options were discussed at the meeting and points minuted from the meeting were as follows:

Inappropriate Parking – Stanton St Quintin

- *It was noted that there were problems with lorries parking overnight in the lane adjacent to the Murco Garage in Stanton St Quintin.*
- *Local residents had complained that engines were often left running all night and that drivers were using the verge as a toilet.*
- *Requests had been made for double yellow lines to be provided in this area.*
- *Representatives from the County, District and Parish Councils and the Police had met to discuss the problem.*
- *Environmental Health were not able to take any action relating to traffic noise. If a refrigeration unit on a particular vehicle was giving rise to problems then an abatement notice could be issued. However this would only relate to that individual vehicle.*
- *The Police reported that the Leigh Delamere services now charged lorry drivers to park overnight which had led to some drivers finding alternative locations.*
- *Enforcement in respect of the anti-social behaviour by some drivers was difficult.*
- *No formal request for double yellow lines had been received from residents. This could also simply move the problem elsewhere.*

It was noted that Wiltshire County Council planning officers had been looking at the possibility of using laybys for overnight lorry parking.

Action points arising from this were:-

- (1) Wiltshire County Council to provide information regarding the process for requesting the provision of double yellow lines.*
- (2) To receive an update on this matter at the next Area Board meeting.*

In response to the action point the following information was provided on **25th September 2008**

Further to Monday night's meeting we have been investigating the associated costs and timescale of implementing parking restrictions at Stanton St Quintin and have sought the advice of the Principal Traffic Engineer at County Hall.

The approximate cost for this scheme is £3,500. If there are a large number of objections which require resolution the cost may rise accordingly. There is potential that this can be funded from the County Council's current budget if it is agreed that this measure is the best way forward.

I have been informed that the process can take at least 6 months, due to the legal processes involved and the staff time required in preparing the relevant paperwork. There are statutory advertisement times for the legal orders that must be adhered to.

There is an argument that legitimate parking at this location by cars and vans less than 3.5tonne could be allowed. Parking measures which may be considered would be a mixture of double yellow lines and parking bays. The enforcement of these by our Parking team colleagues would also have to be considered.

At Mondays' meeting the monitoring forms were supplied to Cllr Meadows and this will help to give the Area Board a good picture of the extent of the current problem and a general consensus from the Parish Council and local residents that it is actually parking restrictions that they require.

Further questions were raised by the Area Board Project Manager on **25th September 2008**.

I will contact to Cllr Sherry Meadows (as you are aware Sherry is the Chair of the Parish Council and a District Cllr) and confirm that the monitoring forms have been distributed for residents to complete, to provide evidence of the scale of this problem.

As regards the consultation to identify whether there is any objection to double yellow lines, can you confirm the following please:

- 1. Is there a standard Highways consultation process that must be undertaken?*
- 2. Is there a standard consultation form available from Highways/WCC ?*
- 3. How many people would need to be consulted, just the residents in the lane or other villagers too?*
- 4. You mentioned the statutory legal advertisements required for the legal orders. What is the period of time that these must be issued/displayed for?*

I'm just wondering whether we can move the process along by getting the consultation underway? I'm sure the Parish Council would be happy to assist with the consultation in any way they can.

The following response was provided on **1st October 2008**.

The Divisional Maintenance office does not usually deal with parking restriction requests so some answers I provide may require clarification.

Information on parking controls can be found on the following County Council web pages.

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/transport/parking-controls.htm>

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parking-and-waiting-restrictions>

In answer to your questions I can respond accordingly.

1. *The making of a Traffic Regulation Order requires the posting of a legal notice at site, in the local papers and in the London Gazette to advertise the intention of the Highway Authority to place parking restrictions on the public highway. I believe the notice period is 3 weeks for any objections and representations to be submitted in response to the advertisement.*
2. *Objections/representations are requested to be made in writing to the Highway Authority. There is no form that I am aware of.*
3. *The consultation is open to every user of the public highway who would be affected by the Order.*
4. *I seem to have answered this above!*

Local consultation and support by local residents for double yellow lines could be considered by the Parish Council.

There isn't really a short cut to making a Traffic Regulation Order as these must be 'watertight' in the legal sense as they can be challenged in a Court of Law.

Confirmation of receipt of this information was received from the Area Board Project Manager on **10th October 2008** and it was noted that.

Cllr Meadows has confirmed the following:

1. *That she will be asking the Parish Council if they are willing to make a financial contribution to the work*
2. *Monitoring forms have been distributed*
3. *The Parish Council and residents would like yellow lines on both sides of the road*

Am I right in thinking that we are awaiting the results of the one month of monitoring, before going ahead with the Traffic Regulation Order and posting of legal notice at the site?

Confirmation was provided that the Area Board was satisfied that they wished to pursue the implementation of parking restrictions following the Task Group meeting of **10th December 2008**.

The Task Group met this morning, and I advised them that, The Parish Council had passed a formal resolution to request double yellow lines on both sides of the road to resolve the parking issue, and the request had been passed to you for the next steps.

Whilst no mention of the results of the monitoring survey has been made we assume that the Area Board are satisfied that there is sufficient case for the providing parking

restrictions at this location. Wiltshire Highways next step is to assess the site in detail in order to determine exactly where restrictions are to be placed and produce a plan showing this information.

This will then need to go to the County Council's Regulatory Team for them to programme the works and create a traffic regulation order for advertisement and consultation. It has already been mentioned that this process can take up to 6 months depending upon workloads.

We will now survey the site and produce a plan. This should be complete by **9th January 2009**. It will then be submitted to the Regulatory Team to carry out the necessary work.

Wiltshire Highways are in no position at this point to give an indication of the timescale of the preparation, advertisement and consultation stage of the legal order. We will endeavour to update the Area Board in the future when we are in receipt of this information but that may take a couple of months.

Appendix A

Highway issues relating to problems caused by overnight parking of Lorries at Stanton St Quinton

A number of issues have been raised relating to the parking of Lorries over night at Stanton St Quinton, we have considered these problems and looked at possible options to provide some sort of solution.

Provide Yellow lines to prohibit parking

An order can be made to provide parking restrictions, provided the enforcement team are happy to enforce the order and there are no objections to an order being placed.

Issues;

- The problem occurs at night, parking enforcement is not typically carried out at night.
- By placing restrictions on the road this restricts anyone else including local residents or visitors from parking on the road
- This action may only result in moving the problem elsewhere within the area.

Reduce road width to deter Lorries gaining access

Physical measures can be carried out to the highway to prevent lorries gaining access along this road. They would possibly involve the use of quite substantial materials to withstand any lorry that tries to ignore them.

Issues;

- Cost
- Access to properties along this road would most likely need occasional lorry access for deliveries, refuse vehicles and emergency vehicles such as fire engines. This option could potentially prevent access to these vehicles.
- This action may only result in moving the problem elsewhere within the area.

Alternative solution to deal with the overall issue of lorries needing somewhere to park.

Currently Wiltshire's transport planners are looking into the issues associated with over night lorry parking as part of the freight strategy. They are considering the use of suitable lay-bys as areas to allow over night parking. The aim is to "be able to inform drivers / hauliers of suitable parking for HGV's away from residential area if over night parking is required"

Issues;

- Currently a brief has been issued to their consultant to review possible sites.

It is unlikely however that these sites will available until 2009/10