

**SUMMARY OF OBJECTIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED IN RELATION TO THE REVIEW OF
MERE TOWN CENTRE PARKING REVIEW AND OFFICER RESPONSE**

Comment Ref. No.	Comment	Officer Response
1	<p>Dear Sir</p> <p>We are writing to object to the new parking restrictions outlined for Mere. As a resident of the Square we have no back entrance or indeed parking space and rely on being able to park in and around the Square. The proposed changes which extend the parking restrictions in parking bays until 6pm and remove extended parking from the area outside the George will seriously compromise the enjoyment of our property. Other residents both in the Square and those living close by will notice a considerable change to their ability to park near their residence too.</p> <p>In towns and cities residents have priority parking and are offered parking permits and shoppers and visitors encouraged to park in designated car parks. Why is this not the case in Mere? There are after all two car parks in town.</p> <p>Residents have not been consulted about these proposals or any thought given to the knock on effects of the changes. I would like to ask that before these plans are put into practise residents are given the chance to discuss the implications.</p> <p>I would like Wiltshire County Council to offer resident Parking Permits.</p> <p>I would also request that the parking restrictions expire at 5pm as they are currently to enable residents returning after work to find somewhere to park.</p> <p>Additional comments;</p> <p>Dear Sirs</p> <p>We felt it was appropriate to make some final observations about the proposed changes to the parking restrictions in Mere.</p> <p>We have spoken to our County Councillor as well as other users of the Square.</p> <p>Shop owners and residents have issues with the new restrictions. Café owners, antique shops and hairdressers are concerned that half an hour restricted parking will in fact be detrimental to their businesses. The main car parks are already pretty full during the daytime.</p> <p>As residents without off road parking we are going to be forced to park away from our properties, most likely anywhere that there aren't yellow lines. Other local residents are going to feel aggrieved at this. It is going to have a big</p>	<p>The proposals around The Square have been requested by the Town Council in order to assist the local businesses. There have been frequent discussions about the restrictions at several Town Council meetings, including their last AGM.</p> <p>Residents' parking schemes are indeed introduced in towns and cities; however, it is rare that they are introduced within the main commercial area. Taking Salisbury City Centre as an example the roads within the main shopping district do not contain any provision for residents.</p> <p>If the objector feels that a Residents' Parking Scheme is necessary then this is something that should be discussed in the first instance with Mere Town Council.</p> <p>The report recommends that the parking bays are restricted to Waiting Limited to 1 hour, Monday to Saturday, 9am to 6pm. This means that residents will be able to park from 5pm until 10am the following day.</p>

	<p>impact on community relations. Keeping the parking bay outside the George as unrestricted parking would in part alleviate these problems as well as ending the parking restrictions earlier in the day. The George has its own car park. If these restrictions do come into force we as residents will be making applications to WCC for residents parking permits as are offered in other Wiltshire towns.</p> <p>Our County Councillor has done his best to try and represent the feelings of local people to such an extent that he feels in one location an exception should be made for an elderly gentleman to park his car outside his property as it would affect his quality of life and that of subsequent owners of the property. Surely the same is true for us and other residents as the enjoyment and values of our properties will be affected.</p> <p>There are certainly some very woolly minded ideas floating around wholly constructed without any meaningful consultation with the occupants in the town, it is difficult to see what or who benefits from these changes.</p> <p>Please will you give this proposal some very serious consideration? In fact in light of monetary restrictions on Wiltshire County Council I would suggest that this whole plan is turned down at least until some more effective consultations have taken place.</p>	
2	<p>As a long term resident of the Square in Mere Wilts I am totally against the Wiltshire Council proposal which will change the current parking restrictions in an adverse way. The current No waiting restriction outside of my property in the Square is from Monday to Saturday 9.30am to 4pm. This already seriously restricts myself and the other residents of the Square parking outside our own properties. What is the rationale behind this thinking that you can increase an already outdated parking restriction? This is not a bustling town centre full of shops indeed we have less shops in Mere now than we did when the busy 303 ran through it and there were no parking restrictions in the Square then! I have spoken to our local Cllr George Jeans about these proposals and he has reservations about the adverse affect it will have on parking in the Square Mere. Listen to the people and the residents that actually have first-hand knowledge of the Square and please let common sense prevail by not increasing the parking restrictions. Thankyou.</p>	Response as above.
3	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I have read and digested the recent Order regarding LJB/TRO/MERE. And in particular items on:</p> <p>(Water Street – south west side – from a point 66 metres north of its junction with Ivy Mead to a point 8 metres east of the boundary of properties known as ‘Knoll View’ and ‘Stone Cottage’, Salisbury Street)</p> <p>Firstly point of order for your records in that Stone Cottage is actually named</p>	<p>The correction in property name is noted and the Order will be amended accordingly.</p> <p>The point of introducing the restrictions is to change the status quo. It is a popular misconception that there is a right to park in the vicinity or directly outside of one’s property. The junction has been checked using vehicle tracking software and the minimum amount of restriction proposed. If the resident in question has mobility difficulties that result in the need for a Blue Badge then an advisory disabled parking bay can be requested via the Adult Social Care Team at Wiltshire Council.</p>

Scone Cottage Secondly by adopting a 66 metre length will inevitably push the other residence cars further up the street if all residents on this side of the road continue to rightfully park outside their respective houses as they have done for some considerable years, and potentially create another pinch point at the bend off the same Salisbury street some 15-25 metres further up Thirdly, a slight of change proposal. if you stop at the middle of Scone cottage, or take 1-2 meters off the proposed and stop just before the steps leading up to Scone Cottage = giving ample meters of none parking to allow the continuous flow of traffic joining Salisbury street from Ivy mead, will then allow a very elderly gentleman the right to continue to park outside his residence, but more importantly continuous access without any forced hindrance/obstacles

The alternative is you continue in what's planned/proposed with no regard to the existing occupancies parking habits and all those who owned their houses and who parked there in the past and considered future, will create a potential road obstructions further up the street. I know there is the main car park on Salisbury Street, but many of us are professional people who either work from home or trade or simply reside on this side of the street finding the alternate parking arrangements, i.e. Salisbury Street car park in the main not acceptable due to

- a) The car park is normally full up during the day with visitors = higher risk to car park incidents = potential cost to ownership
- b) Surgery along with the garage cars, franchise customers, town visitors = higher than average use indicating a lottery of parking, whereas for the many many previous years, has seen no parking incidence – no obstructions to flowing traffic, plus parking outside in the designated area of proposed change has had a positive help to calm the traffic over the years for those cars that enter Salisbury Street coming down the hill off the A303
- c) Existing convenience, allowing for deliveries, car maintenance activities – safe parking environment – traffic calming – thoughtful process by council taking into account existing residents parking habits with no problems recorded or evidenced in the past etc.
- d) Weather intolerant – ie residence not having to walk some distance the rain.

I agree in the main in what's being proposed makes absolute sense and should have been applied some years past to allow for traffic to flow down water street. All I am asking you to do is re-look at the proposed, retracting the odd meter or yards so to accommodate an existing occupant and his neighbours which are all Mere Resident. To Allow Scone Cottage residents affordable room so he can continue to park outside his residence without a potential added negative effect, in that if he then parks outside Knoll Cottage towards the boundary of Knoll & Tanners cottage will see him struggle more

	<p>in getting from car to his house due to some incapacities.</p> <p>The knock on potential effect being the residence of Knoll Cottage park at the end of Tanners Cottage then Tanners residence will then park at the pinch point of Salisbury Street – this will be legal but of course now creates another potential issue in having vehicles encroach more into the flow of passing traffic. This I feel can be avoided by a slight adjustment to your calculations thus keeping the status quo without any adverse effect in the main to the elderly residence of Scone Cottage. Plus completing your set order as 99% proposed</p> <p>Thanking you in advance for taking the above points into consideration</p>	
4	<p>I have waited well into the consultation to hear local reaction as Wiltshire Councillor. After hearing more comments from local people, I have the following comments. Car parking spaces will in effect be lost to local residence, this may lead to further parking problems being introduced nearby, therefore please consider the following:-</p> <p>Salisbury Street North, some possible parking on west side of proposal in Salisbury Street could be left unlined.</p> <p>It is felt leaving the Salisbury Street car park in a westerly direction, on the south side, yellow lines in the form proposed will enable better visibility and less motorist frustration as happens now therefore as wanted. The proposed Prohibition & Restriction of Waiting Order 2016 states in 7 Salisbury District Council, they do not exist, I would think insert Wiltshire Council. Your advert in The Western Gazette States Stone Cottage it should be Scone Cottage.</p> <p>For the sake of clarity The site notice map refers to except unloading, the orders I hope will qualify this as unloading, loading being delivering and collecting in your orders. Where stated The Island (the link road between Salisbury Street and Water Street)</p> <p>I do not see it necessary to cut off all the parking in front of Scone Cottage, a elderly citizen lives there, he cannot walk to the car park nearby, he has a very small car, even if the lines were reduced just a little this would allow him and his neighbours space to park, plus future owners of Scone Cottage. Several trades people live around this area and need their vans with tools in near their houses, trades vans are often broken into, where the lines are definitely required is where there is a "pinch point" in Water Street and the school buses on occasion cannot access the school and that must be rectified. An observation, Ivy Mead junction with Water Street much better for motorist unimpeded movement however this needs balancing against traffic calming which parked cars can provide, high numbers of parents, children and motor vehicles at this junction when school opens and closes.</p>	<p>No further representations have been received with regards to this section of No Waiting At Any Time, therefore it is not proposed to reduce the length.</p> <p>Noted – the Order has been amended.</p> <p>The signs are as per that laid out in statute via the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.</p> <p>See previous comments above.</p>

	<p>The extension of no parking hours in the square, this will cause several residents problems. Many dwellings here rely on, on street parking, it is unrealistic to expect these residence to park a distance when some have always parked nearby. It now materialises to me perhaps some of the spaces outside The George Hotel, should be as now unrestricted, not just for residence but The Cafe opposite will be impacted on.</p> <p>I do not want to slow up the introduction of yellow lines west of Salisbury Street Car Park on the south side, or yellow lines for the "pinch point" in Water Street, however beyond this I have had many conversations that represent what I have stated above. What is proposed is very good however I consider it needs a little fine tuning after the comments I have received.</p> <p>Additional comments; I was reminded yesterday that any changes need to fit with access of large vehicles through The Mere Town Square to The Woodlands Industrial area, if you are still able to pass this extra comment on, I would be pleased.</p>	<p>See previous comments above.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
5	<p>I have noted Councillor Jeans comments on the TROs various roads proposed Mere and disagree with him on a number of points he has made.</p> <p>Wiltshire Cllr George Jeans Comment</p> <p><i>I do not see it necessary to cut off all the parking in front of Scone Cottage, an elderly citizen lives there, he cannot walk to the car park nearby, he has a very small car, even if the lines were reduced just a little this would allow him and his neighbours space to park, plus future owners of Scone Cottage. Several trades people live around this area and need their vans with tools in near their houses, trades vans are often broken into, where the lines are definitely required is where there is a "pinch point" in Water Street and the school busses on occasion cannot access the school and that must be rectified.</i></p> <p>Response</p> <p>The elderly citizen that lives at Scone Cottage has a usable garage in his curtilage, so he has an alternative to parking on the road. Vehicles parking in this area restrict large vehicles i.e. School buses from accessing Salisbury street from Water Street. I have witnessed on numerous occasions where buses and cars have gone right of the keep left bollard. I feel that this is a safety issue that can no longer be ignored. Restricting parking in this area will</p>	

solve the problem.

Wiltshire Cllr George Jeans Comment

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Response

The extension of no parking hours in the square for an extra 2 hours per day Monday till Saturday will have a negligible effect on the residents. If the parking places outside the George Hotel were to be left unrestricted, the parking places would be taken up by the residents parking. This would have a detrimental effect on businesses in the Town rather than a positive one.

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Mere Town Councillors have been working on improving the chaotic parking that impedes the movement of traffic in Mere for the last two and a half years. The plan to date has the support of the Town Council through the democratic process. Councillor Jeans has attended all the meetings concerning the alterations put forward. Any changes now would slow up the introduction of the proposed traffic scheme. The plan does not need any more fine tuning, it has been tuned enough. The Councillors of Mere Town Council would like to see the traffic scheme implemented as soon as possible.