

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND WASTE–
CLLR BRIDGET WAYMAN**

HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT AND COMMISSIONING

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REFERENCE: HTW-10-21

WAITING RESTRICTIONS – MIDDLETON, WINTERSLOW

Purpose of Report

1. To consider comments received to the advertised proposals to introduce waiting restrictions outside of Winterslow Primary School, Middleton, Winterslow and to recommend implementation as advertised.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposal meets two of the priorities set out in the Council's Business Plan 2017-2027.
 - Priority 2 – Strong Communities. (Reduced road casualties, Reduced risk of floods, Healthier population, Good Countryside access and cycling and walking opportunities).
 - Priority 4 – Working with Partners as an innovative and effective Council – (Community involvement, Delivering together).
3. Priority 2 has been met through the proposed introduction of waiting restrictions that will address issues directly raised by members of the local community, Winterslow Primary School and parents and their elected representatives. Addressing issues raised by members of the local community will contribute towards the building of a stronger community.
4. Priority 4 has been met through the development of the proposals (to which this report relates) with members of the local community through the Council's formal Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process and through direct liaison with the Headteacher of Winterslow Primary School and Winterslow Parish Council.

Background

5. Many pupils at Winterslow Primary School arrive by car meaning that at school pick up and drop off times it is very busy outside of the school. In order to help alleviate this problem the Parish Council provided additional parking within the recreation ground, immediately opposite the school. This has, however, resulted in more pupils needing to cross the road in order to get from the recreation ground car park to Winterslow Primary School.
6. Wiltshire Council worked with both Winterslow Parish Council and Winterslow Primary school to develop a proposal that would provide improved crossing facilities and introduce waiting restrictions to prevent vehicles from obstructing the area immediately outside of the school entrance.

7. The proposed waiting restrictions were subject to formal advertisement through the necessary TRO process between 12 November 2020 and 7 December 2020. A plan showing the area advertised is included at **Appendix 1**.
8. During the advertisement period a total of one item of comment was received, this is classed as an objection. The comments received and officer response can be found in **Appendix 2**.

Main considerations for the Council

9. Consideration needs to be given to the comment received to the Council's advertised proposals and whether changes should be made in light of that objection. The Council has a duty to balance meeting its statutory obligations as the local highway authority against the wishes of local residents.
10. The Council has to acknowledge that even with the extension to the car park there is not enough off-street parking for the number of vehicles that will arrive at Winterslow Primary School on an average day. Given the rural location of the school there is limited opportunity to encourage a modal shift and therefore, there will continue to be a requirement for on-street parking within the vicinity of the school. Any extension to the proposed waiting restrictions is likely to move the parking to potentially unsuitable locations or risk non-compliance with the proposed restrictions. Introducing an unnecessary long length of waiting restriction also risks objections from those frontagers directly affected by the restrictions.
11. The legal process that must be followed in order to introduce a TRO prevents the Council from increasing the proposed extent of the restriction without repeating the consultation process and therefore delaying the introduction of the restrictions. There is, however, an opportunity to review the operation of the restrictions in the future and amend them as appropriate.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

12. There is none required as part of this scheme.

Safeguarding Implications

13. There are no safeguarding implications.

Public Health Implications

14. The introduction of these waiting restrictions will improve Road Safety by preventing vehicles parking outside of the school gates and obstructing the crossing point.

Procurement Implications

15. There are no procurement implications.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

16. There is no impact upon people who share protected characteristics.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

17. The installation of signs and posts, together with road markings could be considered detrimental to the visual vista and street scene.

Risk Assessment

18. Not proceeding with this scheme, given the strength of local community support and improvements to road safety, risks undermining the Council's reputation and the engagement of that community.

Financial Implications

19. The estimated cost of the scheme is £3000 which will be funded through the Integrated Transport allocation for 2021/2022.

Legal Implications

20. The implementation of the proposed restrictions requires the processing of a TRO. The process of introducing a TRO is governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and associated procedural regulations. Failure to adhere to the statutory processes could result in the TRO being successfully challenged in the High Court.

Options Considered

21. To:
- (i) Implement the advertised changes.
 - (ii) Re-advertise the proposal with extended restrictions.

Reason for Proposal

22. The proposals have been developed in conjunction with Winterslow Parish Council and Winterslow Primary School and are considered necessary to ensure the safety of the parents and pupils attending the school. Any extension of the proposals will potentially compromise compliance with the restrictions and will require re-advertising risking a delay in introduction of the restrictions and additional objections.
23. The restrictions, once installed on site, can (if appropriate) be extended at a later date.

Proposal

24. That:
- (i) The waiting restrictions be implemented as advertised.
 - (ii) Those who made comment be informed accordingly.

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None