

**COMMENTS RECEIVED IN OPPOSITION TO / COMMENTING ON THE COUNCIL'S
PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTION AMENDMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, ALDERBURY.**

Comment Ref. No.	Comment	Officer Response
1	<p>I'm writing to comment on the proposed traffic measures around Firs Road and specifically Alderbury and West Grimstead School (LJB/TRO/ALDB). I'm supportive of Order 1 and Order 3 I'm not supportive of Order 2 for planned waiting, loading and unloading.</p> <p>My reasoning is as follows: Prior to the new housing development, parents dropping their children off at school / picking them up would park either side of Firs Road - this presumably led to the road safety concerns raised by Alderbury Parish Council. In the image below, the blue line denotes where cars would typically park:</p> <p>Following the new housing development and the addition of Pinckney Lane, parents have taken to parking along the new sections of the road. This has relieved the congestion from before, with cars previously parked along Firs Road moving to parking on Pinckney Lane illustrated below:</p> <p>The upside of this is that congestion on Firs Road is significantly reduced. The downside is that insufficient provision has been to enable safe crossing at the school entrance. A simple parking restriction opposite the crossing point (where Firs Road meets Pinckney Lane) would solve this.</p> <p>The proposed new Order states that the 'restrictions will relocate parking away from the immediate vicinity of the main accesses to the school'. The plans as indicated will however inevitably lead to parents parking along both sides of Firs Road again, as before. In fact, this time, as there is reduced capacity of parking along the road (the Order reduces the net amount of parking available on this road as no new parking is provided) then it will lead to a circumstance which is worse than before the development. From my perspective, the solution that would provide:</p> <p>a) Reduced congestion b) Reduced danger to pedestrians</p> <p>Would be to:</p>	<p>The Council's proposals are in response to a request raised by Alderbury Parish Council (PC hereafter) who had received several complaints concerning parental parking that was taking place in the vicinity of Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School at the start and end of the school day. Complaints raised issues of parents parking and obscuring visibility at junctions, visibility of pedestrians crossing the road in the vicinity of the school accesses and parking half on footways causing them to be partially obstructed. The proposed waiting restrictions for Firs Road, Pinckney Lane and Woodlea Grange are intended to address the issues identified.</p> <p>It is accepted that as a result of the Council's proposals, parental parking could potentially be displaced elsewhere along Firs Road, Pickney Lane or Woodlea Grange. Should this be the case the introduction of further waiting restrictions could be considered to address any problems that arise.</p> <p>Parents of children attending the school have had an opportunity to view and put forward any comments on the Council's proposals as part of the same formal Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process, to which this correspondent has submitted comments. In addition to the Council's proposals being published on its website they were advertised via the local newspaper and site notices in the roads where restrictions have been proposed. All comments received will be considered in this report.</p> <p>The correspondent's comment about the introduction of a 20mph speed limit is noted. For information, the proposals consulted upon, to which the correspondent has responded, include the introduction of a 20mph zone covering the areas shown in Appendix 1.</p>

	<p>a) Reduce the road to 20mph b) Restrict parking opposite the crossing point (where Firs Road meets Pinckney Lane)</p> <p>Finally, I note that no consultation has taken place with parents of school children - arguably the stakeholder set affected the most by these changes. Might it be possible for the plans to be reviewed once such a consultation has taken place?</p> <p>I would be happy to meet you at the proposed location to explore the challenges in person.</p>	
2	<p>As a resident of Woodlea Grange, I am writing to object to certain aspects of the above parking and waiting restrictions on Firs Road. The two major safety issues at the school are parking on both sides of Firs Road (restricting access for emergency vehicles), and dangerous parking at junctions (this proposal addresses this). While some level of parking restrictions on Firs Road would be beneficial I feel the proposals are too restrictive in some aspects. The issues as I see it are:-</p> <p>Firs road is wide and can easily cope with vehicles parking along one side of the road. A major issue arises when people park on both sides of the road, hence rendering the road impassable to fire service or ambulance vehicles. This poses a major risk to residents and school pupils in the event of an emergency and the current proposal doesn't address this at all....parking on both sides of Firs road is still permissible along most of its length south of Woodlea Grange, and in fact will be much more prevalent under the current proposal as people look for alternative parking.</p> <p>I feel the current proposals could cause a more dangerous situation in Woodlea Grange and Pinckney Lane as people seek alternative parking for school drop off. As a school serving a semi-rural area, most people have no choice but to drive their children to school so the restrictions will not reduce the number of cars, and these cars will simply look at the next nearest parking option which could potentially cause more danger than the current parking situation.</p> <p>During weekends Firs Road is used extensively by residents of Woodlea Grange for visitor parking. Consideration should be given to removing the no waiting at anytime clause and perhaps just having single yellow line timed restrictions 8.30am - 9.30am and 2.00pm - 4.00pm Monday-Friday</p> <p>In summary I think Firs Road is actually very suitable for school drop off parking, indeed it was significantly improved and widened in 1994 for this purpose when the school was built. It's wide and straight with good sight</p>	<p>The Council's proposals are in response to a request raised by Alderbury Parish Council (PC hereafter) who had received several complaints concerning parental parking that was taking place in the vicinity of Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School at the start and end of the school day. Complaints raised issues of parents parking and obscuring visibility at junctions, visibility of pedestrians crossing the road in the vicinity of the school accesses and parking half on footways causing them to be partially obstructed. The proposed waiting restrictions for Firs Road, Pinckney Lane and Woodlea Grange are intended to address the issues identified.</p> <p>It should be noted that Rule 243 of the Highway Code, which all users of the public highway must adhere to, states that motorists should not "stop or park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space." The Council's proposals will specifically keep junctions in the vicinity of the school clear of parked vehicles, in accordance with this rule.</p> <p>In addition to the above it is important to note that highway law states that the public highway is for the passage and repassage of persons and goods. There is no legal right for motorists to park on the public highway, nor obligation upon Wiltshire Council (as the local highway authority) to provide parking. Parking within the confines of the public highway is tolerated so long as it does not impede the right of passage along it. Visitors to residents of Woodlea Grange will continue to be able to park in Firs Road at weekends even if the Council's proposals are introduced.</p> <p>It is accepted that as a result of the Council's proposals, parental parking could potentially be displaced elsewhere along Firs Road, Pinckney Lane or Woodlea Grange. Should this be the case the introduction of further waiting restrictions could be considered to address any problems that arise.</p>

	<p>lines and I don't think it's a good idea to push parking off this road which will inevitably end up in less safe and more unsuitable areas like narrow residential streets. Serious consideration should be given to having parking restrictions down one side of Firs Road only (preferably the west side) and restricting parking at junctions. If this is not possible then removing the no waiting at any time clause would at least allow residents to continue to park on Firs Road at the weekend.</p>	
3	<p>As a resident of Firs Road for many years I wholeheartedly support the proposal. Over the last few years the volume of traffic in this small area has increased hugely, much of which is related to the primary school. Parking along Firs Road has become a particular issue with vehicles at times parked on both sides of the road making access between them difficult and impossible for large/emergency vehicles. Parking opposite and very close to junctions has also become an issue especially as several of the vehicles - belonging to residents - are large and obscure visibility. At times it is not possible to see oncoming traffic without edging out into the road. Firs Road between Southampton Road and the school is very dangerous for pedestrians trying to cross between parked vehicles without being able to see properly. Surely there is an accident is waiting to happen. This proposal would greatly improve safety for all.</p>	The comments have been noted.