

OFFICER DECISION REPORT - TRO OBJECTION REPORT

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ADDRESSED TO: Group Manager, Highways & Traffic
PREPARED BY: Traffic Regulation Order Team

TITLE OF REPORT : CENTRAL BATH
PROPOSAL : Various Parking / Waiting Restrictions
SCHEME REF No : 19-006

1. STATEMENT

The delegation to be exercised in this report is contained within **Section 4** of the Constitution under the **Delegation of Functions to Officers**, as follows:

Section A	The Chief Executive, Strategic Directors, Divisional Directors and Heads of Service have delegated power to take any decision falling within their area of responsibility....”
Section B	Without prejudice to the generality of this, Officers are authorised to: serve any notices and make, amend or revoke any orders falling within his/her area of responsibility.
Section D9	An Officer to whom a power, duty or function is delegated may nominate or authorise another Officer to exercise that power, duty or function, provided that Officer reports to or is responsible to the delegator.

For the purpose of this report, in January 2016, the Divisional Director Environmental Services delegated the power to make, amend or revoke any Orders to the Group Manager, Highways and Traffic.

2. BACKGROUND

A number of proposals for No Parking At Any Time markings, No Parking Between Times stated, Permit Holders Only Parking, No Loading / Unloading At Any Time, No Loading / Unloading Between Times stated, School Keep Clear marking, Loading Only Bays, and Motorcycle Parking Bay at various locations around Central Bath was submitted to the Council by local residents, Ward Members and Bath & North East Somerset Council Traffic Management Engineers. The reason behind these requests was to improve visibility and access for emergency and refuse vehicles, to allow for the safe passage and re-passage of vehicles and to control and manage the available on-street parking stock within Central Bath.

3. ISSUES

The grounds for objection to the TRO have been summarised below with the technical responses in blue italics underneath each one:

Tile – G10 – Broad Street, Bath (No Loading / Unloading At Any Time)

Objections – 2

- I writing in objection to the proposal of a no stopping zone being introduced on Broad Street at any time. Mandarin Stone has been at the premises on 15-16 Broad Street for over 20 years and introducing a no stopping zone would severely hinder the viability of this premises and I can safely say other businesses along the street will be in the same predicament as us. I am led to believe that the only loading bay is in front of St Michaels Church which is situated some 500-600 metres downhill from our premises so this would mean that we would have to pull a pallet weighing in excess of 500-600 kg up hill on an uneven path with various bollards in the way and of course pedestrians as the alternative is that our drivers pull the pallet along a busy road in the path of all sorts of traffic, I think you may agree that this is neither practical and contravenes most Health & Safety regulations that I am aware of. We also have our rubbish collected by a private firm on a weekly basis from the rear of our premises that cannot be accessed so the collection is made directly outside our shop front same predicament how does he collect safely.
- As a long standing business of Broad Street, the loading and unloading of vehicles has never appeared to cause an issue to the flow of traffic. The high presence of traffic wardens in the area is enough of a deterrent to prevent any vehicles from prolonged visits. If the proposed plans are to stop loading and unloading across the full length of Broad Street, Fired Earth fully expect a solution to made and offer an alternative area for loading that is a suitable distance from the showroom reducing breakages and damage to goods. Please accept this letter as Fired Earth's objection to the above traffic proposal.

Response:

The proposed No Loading / Unloading At Any Time restrictions on Broad Street, were raised by our Enforcement Team as the current signs and lines on-site state a 24/7 ban on loading in this location. Our current Traffic Regulation Order states that loading is banned only between certain times of the day and therefore the Order is being updated to match what is on the ground to allow our Enforcement Officers the necessary legal powers to enforce these existing signs and lines. It is therefore recommended that the proposed No Loading / Unloading At Any Time restrictions included within this Order for Broad Street are sealed.

Tile – F8 – Northampton Street, Bath (School Keep Clear Marking)

Objections – 14

- The main points of objection are:
 - 1) Parking for residents is already extremely difficult due to lack of available spaces.
 - 2) The proposed restrictions are to be marked for school use but the school is closed over the summer, Easter, Xmas and half terms so perhaps a 1/4 of the year and yet no recognition is made of this for residents who then lose their spaces for no reason at all.
 - 3) If there was a genuine need, it could be addressed by having no parking at all for 30 mins at drop off (845am to 915am) and the same from 3pm to 330pm. Outside these hours there is really no one entering or exiting the school so it's a totally disproportionate move for the apparent "need".

- 4) Residents at the lower part have to use the upper part of Northampton Street to park frequently or even use the roads above. It is impossible to park in St James square as it is already over parked, St James square residents use Northampton Street too.
- 5) The cars at the very base of the road form an excellent barrier to speeding white vans and cars. There is no speed limit zone here and the cars parked at the bottom force all traffic entering to slow right down to around 5 mph. With this removed it is almost a guarantee that children will be knocked down when parents swing into the road at full speed. There have been several accidents at the junction to Julian road which evidences this.

Response:

The proposed No Stopping On School Entrance markings At Any Time restrictions on Northampton Street, were requested by the St Andrews Church School and supported by the local Ward Member Cllr Sue Craig. The request was made to remove these 2 Resident Parking spaces adjacent to the school entrance and replace with School Entrance markings to improve the air quality for students and improve safety by providing a clear line of sight for the children entering and exiting the school rather than passing between parked vehicles. On safety grounds it is therefore recommended that the proposed School Entrance Markings are implemented on-site. It is also recommended however that due to the objections raised above regarding the lack of available on-street parking provision for local residents that additional residents parking spaces be considered within the next area Traffic Regulation Order review.

Tile – H11 – South Parade, Bath (No Parking At Any Time)

Objections – 1

- I am writing as a resident of Duke Street to object to the proposal of a “No Parking At Any Time” section of road on South Parade. South Parade is currently over half blocked by building works and parking spaces reserved for construction. Parking as a resident is hard enough as it is and removing this section of parking would hugely inconvenience a large number of people for whom this is the nearest parking to their homes. Even when the parking restrictions on the road across from the construction are removed, the disruption caused by building work is already an issue which causes residents a lot of hassle.

Response:

The proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions on South Parade were requested by the previous Ward Member Cllr Turner. As we have received an objection regarding the lack of available on-street parking provision for local residents on South Parade and as parking in this location in the evening and on Sunday does not cause an obstruction to the free flow of traffic on the highway it is therefore recommended that the proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions are not implemented at this time.

Tile – G9 – The Circus, Bath (No Parking At Any Time)

Objections – 8, Support – 1, Support in part - 3

- The main points of objection are:
 - 1) Lack of available parking in the Central Zone for residents in the evening.
 - 2) Lack of available parking for visitors of the City in the evening and on Sundays.

Response:

The proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions around the inner circle of The Circus were requested by a local resident and supported by the previous Executive Member for Transport to improve air quality within Central Bath. Due to the lack of available on-street parking provision within the City centre for local residents and as they are only entitled to 1 permit per household it is recommended that due to the 8 objections we received the proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions are not implemented at this time as the current restrictions prevent parking during peak transport periods but allow residents and visitors of the City the opportunity to park within the evenings and on Sunday. Before removal of such a large amount of evening and weekend on-street parking capacity within the Central Zone a larger area review must be carried out to consider the impacts on local residents and on the commercial viability of the area.

Tile – G8 – Upper Hedgemoad Road, Bath (No Parking At Any Time and Zone 15 Permit Holders Only 8am – 7pm)

Objections – 9

- The main points of objection are:
 - 1) Zone 15 has enough on-street parking capacity to accommodate its residents the Central Zone does not. This area should be designated to Central Zone residents.
 - 2) Central Zone residents are only entitled to 1 permit whereas Zone 15 residents are entitled to 2, its not fair to take away free available on-street parking from Central residents who already struggle.
 - 3) This area provides free available parking for local traders and for visitors of the park.
 - 4) The free on-street parking along Upper Hedgemoad Road provides available parking for carers of local homes.

Response:

The proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions and Zone 15 Permit Holder Only bays on Upper Hedgemoad Road were requested by the previous two local Lansdown Ward Members. Despite the objections received above regarding the limited available on-street parking stock for Central Zone residents it is recommended that the proposed Zone 15 Permit Holder Only bays are implemented as advertised and the matter regarding Zone boundaries is addressed within the pending Resident Parking Zone review. It is also recommended that the two sections of No Parking At Any Time restrictions are implemented to prevent obstruction of the highway and pinch points being created where the Upper Hedgemoad Road narrows, as the primary purpose of the highway is for the safe passage and re-passage of vehicles.

No objections:

Tile – G9 – Catherine Place (Motorcycle Bay)

Tile – F11 – Lower Bristol Road (No Parking Between 7am – 7pm)

Tile – G8 – Lansdown Road (No Parking At Any Time)

Tile – G10 – Monmouth Place (Loading Bay)

Tile – G11 – Kingsmead North (No Loading / Unloading At Any Time)

Tile – G11 – Monmouth Street (Loading Bay)

Tile – H9 – Sutton Street (Loading Bay, Mon – Sat, 8am – 7pm)

Tile – H9 – Sunderland Street (Zone 1 Permit Holders Only, Mon – Sat, 8am – 7pm)

Tile – H10 – Bridge Street (No Parking Between, Mon – Sat, 8am – 6pm)

Tile – H10 – Great Pulteney Street and William Street (Zone 1 Permit Holders Only, Mon – Sat, 8am – 7pm)

Tile – H11 – Henry Street (Goods Vehicles Loading Only 6am – 10am, Taxis Only 10am – 6am)

Tile – I9 – Sydney Place (No Loading / Unloading At Any Time and No Loading / Unloading Between 7.30am – 10am and 4pm – 7pm)

Tile – I9 – Sutton Street (Loading Bay, Mon – Sat, 8am – 7pm)

4. SOURCE OF FINANCE

This proposal is being funded by the capital Parking budget, project code TC8302.

5. MEMBERS' COMMENTS (to be inserted when received)

Ward Members:

Kingsmead:

Cllr Andrew Furse – No comment.

Cllr Sue Craig – **G10 – Broad Street – no loading or unloading at any time**

Please can we take another look at this? Businesses in the city centre are struggling already and I don't want to make life more difficult for them. Deliveries for Mandarin Stone and Fired Earth are very heavy which makes it difficult for them to use the loading bay at the bottom of Broad Street. Please could we consider providing an additional loading bay on the right just above Saracen Street where there is currently a single yellow line?

Response:

The proposed No Loading / Unloading At Any Time restrictions on Broad Street, were raised by our Enforcement Team as the current signs and lines on-site state a 24/7 ban on loading in this location. Our current Traffic Regulation Order states that loading is banned only between certain times of the day and therefore the Order is being updated to match what is already on the ground.

Regarding the request for a new Loading Bay on Broad Street, this will be added to the next Central area TRO for consultation.

Additionally, I agree with these amendments:

Tile – H11 – South Parade, Bath (No Parking At Any Time)

It is recommended that the proposed No Parking. At Any Time restrictions are not implemented at this time.

Tile – G9 – The Circus, Bath (No Parking At Any Time)

It is recommended that the proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions are not implemented at this time.

Lansdown:

Cllr Lucy Hodge – No comment.

Cllr Mark Elliot – No comment.

Bathwick:

Cllr Yuktेशwar Kumar – No comment.

Cllr Manda Rigby – I was happy for these proposals to be consulted on, and sent them on to all relevant residents associations to ensure the widest reach possible.

Walcot:

Cllr Tom Davies – I am in agreement with the proposals as set out in the report.

Cllr Richard Samuel – I would like the free parking removed and the layout proposed in the TRO implemented

Oldfield Park:

Cllr Shaun McGall – I am still not convinced by the proposed changes outside 130 to 138 Lower Bristol Road and beyond to opposite 49 Lower Bristol Road.

I am concerned about the loss of residents parking in this location on a Sunday. I do not believe the parking problems and traffic levels on this section of the road are sufficient to warrant these additional parking restrictions.

Response:

The Traffic Management Team will remove the proposal to extend the operating hours of the current SYL in front of properties 130 to 138 Lower Bristol Road and beyond to opposite 49 Lower Bristol Road from the TRO.

Parking:

No comment.

Cabinet Members:

Cllr Neil Butters – No comment.

Cllr Joanna Wright – Please proceed with TRO-19-006 Central Bath

Please can you implement the following decision on the inner half of the Circus. My comments are below:

As Joint Cabinet Member for Transport Services at B&NES, I would like to see the advertised proposal “No Parking at any time in the inner half of the Circus” implemented

I have made this decision for the following reasons:

Presently the Inner half of the Circus has a single yellow line which prohibit vehicles parking from 8.00 am – 7.00 pm Monday to Saturday.

The present arrangement allows vehicles to be parked from 7.00pm to 8.00 am Monday to Saturday and all day Sunday.

Bath was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its unique architecture. UNESCO Sites are “places of outstanding universal value to the whole of humanity.” The Circus forms a major part of Bath’s reason to have this award. It is a historic street of large townhouses that form a circle on three entrances, the Circus was built between 1754 and 1768 and is regarded as pre-eminent example of Georgian architecture.

Visitors from around the world come to Bath to see this unique piece of architecture and are meet by not only this wonder, but also by parked vehicles, congested traffic, predatory driving and air pollution. When many other cities around the world have identified unique cultural sites they also realise the value that these places are to people and make them car free.

It is understood that residents live in this unique setting, so parking on the outer part of the Circus will be given to this section of the community.

However, it is not necessary for other vehicles to be parked or to look for parking in this street at any other time.

Bath and North East Somerset Council declared a Climate Emergency in March 2019 and as part of this Climate Emergency it is recognised that business as usual is not an option that the Council can take: that commitment to the Climate Emergency is about major system change and that a major shift in transportation is required. To continue to allow parking in the inner zone of the Circus, which removes in total 35 vehicles spaces is not just a symbolic gesture that “we can no longer conduct business as usual” but is also a moral issue. We must find new ways to travel and encouraging parking in one of the World’s pre-eminent cultural sites is no longer appropriate.

Response:

The Traffic Management Team will retain the proposal to place No Parking At Any Time restrictions around the inner circle of The Circus within this Order as per Cllr Wright's request.

6 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the objections:

		Place "X" below.
a)	Be not acceded to and the Order as advertised be made.	
b)	Be acceded to in full and the proposal be withdrawn.	
c)	<p>Be acceded to in part and the following adjustments, being of minor significance; be included in the Order to be sealed.</p> <p><i>specify minor amendment to Order here:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Tile – H11 – South Parade, Bath (No Parking At Any Time)</u> <i>It is recommended that the proposed No Parking At Any Time restrictions are not implemented at this time.</i> • <u>Tile – F11 – Lower Bristol Road (No Parking Between 7am – 7pm)</u> <i>It is recommended that the proposed No Parking Between 7am – 7pm restrictions are not implemented at this time.</i> 	X

Signature: 
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Report Reference: **19-006**

Date: *29/08/2019*