

ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT – D.W. GRIFFITHS

13TH NOVEMBER 2014

SECTION A– MATTER FOR DECISION

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALLTWEN

PROPOSED PROHIBITION OF WAITING AT ANY TIME ORDER – ALLTWEN HILL, ALLTWEN

Purpose of Report

To consider the response received following the advertisement of the proposed no waiting at any time order as indicated in Appendix A and whether to implement the Traffic Regulation Order in the interests of Road Safety.

Background

The scheme is necessary to reduce the possibility of vehicles travelling up Alltwen Hill in a southerly direction crashing head-on with vehicles exiting Alltwen Triangle to travel down Alltwen Hill in a northerly direction.

In July 2014 the proposals were advertised at the same time a consultation exercise was undertaken to all properties affected by the scheme. Appendix B.

Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this function does not require an Equality Impact Assessment.

Financial Implications

At the start of the financial year funding of £2k was allocated for this scheme as part of the 2014-15 Capital Works Programme.

Consultation Outcome

List of Consultees

Councillor D. Lewis

Residents affected by proposal.

Following the consultation exercise 6 letters of objection were received. Letters 1 and 2 are from the same household in Alltwen and Letters 3 and 4 are from the same household in Winch Wen, Swansea. A summary of their contents are listed below.

Letters 1 and 2 stated reasons for objection:

- The parking restrictions are outside two of the neighbours properties who are both elderly. Although they do not drive they have frequent visits from carers, doctors, nurses etc. and removing the parking will cause them to be more isolated.
- The residents have four children aged four and under the eldest of which is disabled. At present they can be walked across the road one at a time but removal of the parking will endanger their lives as there is no alternative parking available. Removal would also discriminate against the needs of the disabled child and make it difficult for family and professional carers to visit.
- Removal would also have direct impact on the value of house prices for which compensation should be paid and/or money provided to adapt the property to make parking possible.
- The parking is not in the best of places but it does slow traffic down in what is a 20mph advisory zone. By removing the parking it will increase speeds and make the junction an accident hotspot.
- The parking could be moved further up the road or make The Triangle a one-way system.

Letters 3 and 4 stated reasons for objection:

- As regular visitors to our daughters house to cover school times it would be difficult for us to park and as one of is disabled and walking any distance is a problem.
- You are discriminating against the disabled and elderly. People won't be able to have carers visitor's health care as they will have nowhere to park.

- If the proposals go ahead there will be accidents. Drivers take no notice of the 20 mph sign and cars will speed up by the rugby club whereas they have to slow down for the parked cars at the moment making it easier for pedestrians to cross.
- The parking should be moved further up the road and make the junction at The Triangle a no entry thus making the traffic turn right at the top of the hill as the bus does which gives drivers clearer vision to turn right and the traffic coming down the hill can see and be seen.
- The bus bay should be converted to residents parking.

Letter 5 stated reasons for objection:

- There is no parking on Dyffryn Road in front of my house and the costs would be prohibitive to provide off-street parking.
- I applied for a residents parking permit on Alltwen Hill but was declined as I do not live on hill and if the parking is taken away I will have nowhere to park within reasonable walking distance of my house. Both my partner and I have disabilities but not severe enough to qualify for a blue badge.
- There is no problem on Alltwen Hill and parked cars slow the traffic down. The main problem is indiscriminate parking on double yellow lines forcing young mothers with buggies into the road and blocking the view of drivers coming out of Dyffryn Road.
- The parking could be moved further up the road or remove the bus bay markings on The Triangle as the bus no longer stops there.

Letters 6 stated reasons for objection:

- At the moment parked cars means that traffic coming up and going down the hill have to slow down. To remove the parking would increase speeds on the road and a bad accident will happen as drivers do not take any notice of signs.
- The parking could be moved further up the road or make The Triangle a one-way system.
- Parking for people who live on the hill such as my friend who has a disabled child will find it difficult to cope as they have frequent visits from carers, doctors, nurses etc.

Observation of Objections

At present vehicles travelling up Alltwen Hill are confronted with parked vehicles opposite the junction with The Triangle. This forces vehicles onto the wrong side of the road bringing them into direct conflict with vehicles exiting

The Triangle to drive down Alltwen Hill. To move the uncontrolled parking further up or down Alltwen Hill would be to move the problem from one area to another. The bus bay could be removed but there is currently a prohibition of waiting at any time order running through the bay which would need to be revoked. Consideration was given to this but if cars were parked where the bus bay is located it would again force vehicles onto the wrong side of the road which could potentially lead to head on collisions to those entering The Triangle from Gwyn Street. A No Entry feature was also considered at the junction although calculations proved vehicles could not make the right turn from Gwyn's Place into The Triangle. Modifications could be made to the highway but the costs would prove prohibitive. There is potential for vehicle speeds to increase with no vehicles parked at that location on Alltwen Hill to slow them down. Parking for residents will be reduced in the area.

The Local Member supports the recommendation.

Sustainability Appraisal

It is envisaged that the proposals will improve the visibility for all road users at the junction of Alltwen Hill and The Triangle with a view to improving road safety.

Recommendation

It is recommended having due regard to the Equalities Impact Assessment screening, that:

1. The objections be overruled and that the objectors be advised accordingly.
2. The bus bay markings are removed but the existing double yellow lines remain.
3. The prohibition of waiting at any time Traffic Regulations Order is implemented as legally advertised.

Reasons For Proposed Decision

The proposal to introduce a prohibition of waiting at any time order on Alltwen Hill is to improve visibility for all road users in the area in the interests of road safety. The scheme as designed achieves this objective.

List of Background Papers

TR25

Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form

Appendices

Appendix A

Appendix B

Officer Contact

Daniel Long – Senior Technician

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COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

PROPOSED PROHIBITION OF WAITING AT ANY TIME ORDER – ALLTWEN HILL, ALLTWEN

(a) **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

(b) **Sustainability Appraisal**

Community Plan Impacts

Economic Prosperity	-	No Impact
Education and Lifelong Learning	-	No Impact
Better Health and Well Being	-	No Impact
Environment and Transport	-	Positive
Crime and Disorder	-	No Impact

Other Impacts

Welsh Language	-	No Impact
Sustainable Development	-	Positive
Equalities	-	Positive
Social Inclusion	-	Positive

(c) **Consultation**

The item has been subject to external consultation.



17th July 2014
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Date Dyddiad
Direct Line Rhif Ffôn
email ebostr

Mr D L Long
TR25/DLL/SD

Contact Cyswilt
Your Ref Eich Cyf
Our Ref Ein Cyf

The Occupier

Appendix B

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: **Prohibition of Waiting at Any Time**
Alltwen Hill, Alltwen

It is the intention of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to implement the Prohibition of Waiting at Any Time Order as indicated on the attached plan.

A copy of the proposed Order, Statement of Reasons and an appropriate plan may be inspected during normal office hours at the main reception desks in the Civic Centres at Neath and Port Talbot, The Quays, Baglan and Pontardawe Library.

Any comments should be submitted in writing to reach the Head of Engineering and Transport, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, The Quays, Brunel Way, Baglan Energy Park, Neath, SA11 2GG by 12th August 2014.

Should you require any further information please contact my officer on the above telephone number.

Yours faithfully,

For Head of Engineering and Transport
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