

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

INFORMAL CONSULTATION REPORT

BARBERS WALK, COBBETTS RIDE, ABSTACLE HILL &
MISWELL LANE, TRING



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context

- 1.1.1 Concerns have been raised regarding inappropriate parking by commuters on Barbers Walk, Cobbetts Ride, Abstacle Hill & Miswell Lane, Tring.
- 1.1.2 Dacorum Borough Council are therefore undertaking a review of the current parking arrangements on Barbers Walk, Cobbetts Ride, Abstacle Hill & Miswell Lane. As part of this review, a site assessment was undertaken by officers in February 2022 and, following this, a design has been produced outlining the proposed changes on the sections of road under investigation.
- 1.1.3 The Council have undertaken both a consultation with residents and businesses who would be affected by the proposals, as well as a consultation with the Statutory Consultees based upon the designed proposals.
- 1.1.4 The purpose of this report is to outline the consultation processes undertaken, the responses received and to make a recommendation on how to proceed.

1.2 Proposals

- 1.2.1 The proposed alterations to the existing parking arrangements on Barbers Walk, Cobbetts Ride, Abstacle Hill & Miswell Lane are shown in Appendix A and outlined below:
- Additional 'No Waiting at Any Time' (Double Yellow Line) restrictions on Miswell Lane opposite its junction with Cobbetts Ride.
 - Introducing 'No Waiting at Any Time' (Double Yellow Line) restrictions on Abstacle Hill at and opposite its junctions with Barbers Walk and Cobbetts Ride.
 - Introducing 'No Waiting Monday–Friday 11am–1pm' (Single Yellow Line) restrictions along both sides of Barbers Walk, Abstacle Hill & Cobbetts Ride.

- 1.2.2 The introduction of No Waiting at Any Time restrictions aims to prevent inappropriate parking on the roads around junctions, causing an obstruction or access issues.
- 1.2.3 The introduction of the No Waiting Monday–Friday 11am–1pm aims to dissuade all day commuter parking, prioritise on-street parking for residents, prevent parked vehicles blocking footways forcing pedestrians to walk on the highway and improve sight lines for pedestrians crossing the road, which are currently being obscured by parked vehicles.

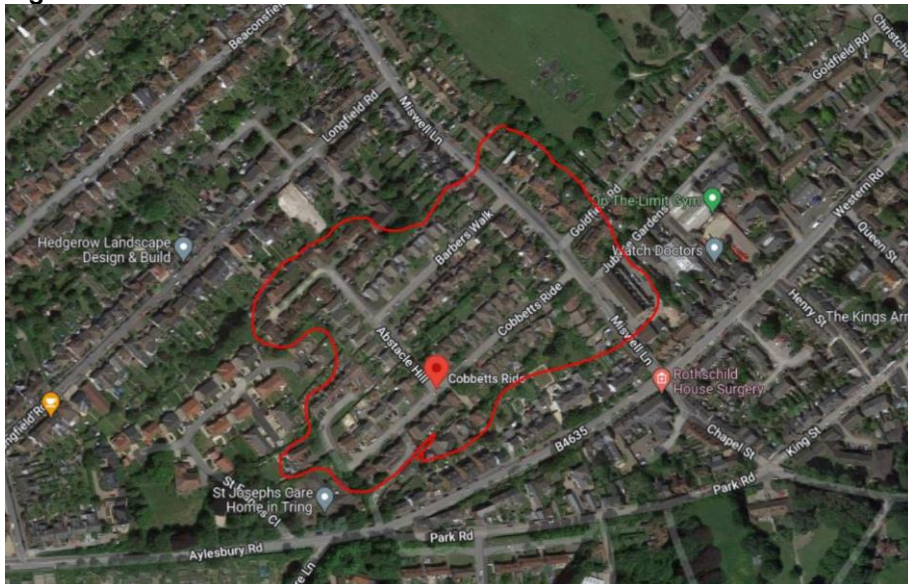
2.0 RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTATION

2.1 Methodology

2.1.1 Residents and businesses affected by the proposals were consulted over a four-week period from 15th June 2022 to 15th July 2022. A letter and plan were posted directly which explained the proposals and the reasoning behind them. Consultees were able to respond via email or post. The letter posted is included as Appendix B.

2.1.2 The consultation area is outlined in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Resident & Business Consultation Area



2.1.3 This area comprised a total of approximately 122 addresses.

2.2 Consultation Responses

2.2.1 Following the completion of the consultation process, a total of 45 responses were received. Of these responses 9 were in support, 1 was non-committal and 35 were Objections.

2.2.2 The majority of the Objections were from residents in objection to the No Waiting Monday-Friday 11am-1pm restrictions.

- 2.2.3 The concerns largely centred around the impact of the proposals. Objectors suggested that they do not have off-street parking available and the inconvenience that moving their vehicle during the restricted hours would cause.
- 2.2.4 Additional comments were also received stating that commuter parking was not an issue in this area, and that the streets were generally quiet with only a few non-residents vehicles parking in spaces that residents did not use during the day, whilst out at work.
- 2.2.5 Many residents stated that the proposal was unworkable and unfair, and that they had strong objections to it.

2.3 Officers Response

- 2.3.1 It is apparent from the comments detailed above, garnered during the informal consultation with residents and businesses, that many residents are utilising on-street parking and that the proposed waiting restrictions on Barbers Walk, Cobbetts Ride, Abstacle Hill & Miswell Lane are not well supported.
- 2.3.2 It has also been documented through the consultation that commuter parking is limited in these roads and that there are questions about this reasoning for the proposals.

2.4 Conclusion

- 2.4.1 The receipt of 35 Objections from a total of 122 consultees represents 29% of consultees objecting to the scheme. This demonstrates that a significant proportion of residents and businesses consulted consider the proposals to be unacceptable.

3.0 STATUTORY CONSULTATION

3.1 Methodology

3.1.1 The Statutory Consultees were consulted over the period from 20th June 2022 to 15th July 2022. A letter and plan were emailed directly, and consultees were invited to submit any comments via email. There was a total of 19 consultees. The letter sent is included as Appendix C.

3.2 Consultation Responses

3.2.1 A total of 5 responses were received from the Statutory Consultees. Three objections were raised.

3.2.2 The Parish Council stated an objection to the proposed restrictions. They stated that commuter parking was not an issue in the area and that it would be residents and visitors vehicles parking in the area. They had concerns that residents and visitors would not be able to park outside their properties and that it would push parking into other areas of the town if the proposal went ahead.

3.2.3 Both Ward Councillors objected to the scheme. One stated that there have not been any significant parking problems in this area and that the proposals should be discontinued. The other stated that there was much disquiet about the proposal, but something should be done that does stop commuter parking without disadvantaging residents.

3.2.4 A generic response was received from Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service raising no objections. A response was also received from the Traffic Management Officer stating that there was no objection to the proposed scheme.

3.3 Officers Response

3.3.1 It is apparent from the comments detailed above, that the Statutory Consultees who responded are majority against the proposals.

3.4 Conclusion

- 3.4.1 In light of the responses received, it is clear that the Parish Council and Ward Members have issues with the scheme in its present form and do not support it.

4.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Dacorum Borough Council have undertaken an extensive consultation process with 122 potentially affected residents and businesses in the area surrounding the proposals on Barbers Walk, Cobbetts Ride, Abstacle Hill & Miswell Lane. 35 Objections (29%) were raised, suggesting that a significant proportion of those consulted consider the scheme to be unacceptable.
- 4.2 The Objections received have been analysed and responded to in sections 2 and 3 of this report.
- 4.3 A Statutory Consultation process has also been undertaken with a total of 19 Statutory Consultees. Five responses were received, three of which were Objections to the proposed scheme including the Parish Council and Ward Members.
- 4.4 In light of the above, it is recommended that the scheme is ceased at this stage and no alternative proposal is investigated.