

**Formal Objections and Comments to Traffic Regulation Order Swale
Amendment 13**

Proposed Extension to Double Yellow Lines – Lyndhurst Grove, Sittingbourne

Formal Comment 1

“There are a couple of issues to reflect on with respect to the parking in the entrance of Lyndhurst Grove. Firstly, the parking blocks access for pedestrians and I'm drawn here to highlight the difficulties for parents and children, especially those with buggies to gain access into or out of our close by means of the pavement. The manner in which the drivers park their vehicles means that parents and children are forced to walk in the middle of the road to get by. This is totally unacceptable putting these individuals in danger. And let's not forget those less abled bodied within our society!

However that stated I have come to realise that permanently restricting parking on the south side with a double yellow line will cause difficulties for the residents and their visitors. We have acute shortage of space in Lyndhurst Grove which results in cars being parked all over the tarmaced area.

I attach photos of cars causing such restriction to the pavement that I have taken today! Therefore, while I am solidly supporting the KCC Highways Department in trying to resolve the issue I believe that it would be better to put a single yellow line into Lyndhurst Grove from the corner of Gore Court Road to the corner in the close itself. However this will need to be supported with a parking restriction time zone when there is no parking allowed on the south side. I suggest 08.00hrs until 10.00hrs and then 14.00hrs until 16.00hrs. This restriction will apply to week days only.

By adopting this approach we will restrict the school brigade from using the entrance to Lyndhurst Grove for parking. I am aware that this will push the issue further into the close but we will have to manage that as best we can.”

Formal Objection 1

“We are opposed to this proposal for three reasons:

*1. We believe the problem case has been overstated. Whilst narrowing the Grove is slightly annoying, it does not prevent access of large vehicles. Lorries regularly access the Grove as have ambulances on many occasions during the more than ** years that we have lived here.*

2. We do not agree that it represents a proportionate or effective solution to the alleged problem that it is seeking to address. At peak times drivers ignore double yellow lines unless they are effectively policed, which none of existing lines in our immediate surroundings are.

3. This will adversely affect residents and their visitors who need the parking spaces that will no longer be available.”

Formal Objection 2

"I wish to object to the proposal to extend the yellow lines from Gore Court Road into Lyndhurst Grove because it unnecessary and will create more issues than it attempts to resolve.

We do not have any significant issues to warrant yellow lines permanently removing our much-needed parking spaces. We live next to a school and at twice a day for a maximum of around 20 minutes we have parents parking in the road. Which is the same for most roads with a neighbouring school. I have never seen the road blocked and even the dustman manage to access the road successfully during peak school time when behind schedule. The parents of the only child in the Grove requiring a pushchair, successfully walk down the pavements without any significant issues. There is nobody in the road using a wheelchair. Therefore there are no significant issues to warrant the yellow lines.

Furthermore, not only do we not require yellow lines, but also they will permanently remove four precious parking spaces, all to prevent parents parking there while they take and collect their children from school. All of the surrounding roads are congested and there is no available parking at The Oaks, therefore they will probably just abandon them in the road out of necessity, which really will cause upset!

As residents, we only have approx. 10 spaces for the 16 houses in the Grove. Given many properties have more than one vehicle and we all have friends and family visiting, there is a shortage of parking. We also have people parking here from neighbouring roads, because they cannot park outside their homes. Vehicle ownership is also set to increase in the future, therefore I cannot understand why anyone would propose permanently removing these spaces, other than if the petitioner has an abundance of off road parking and thus is unaffected. Unfortunately I am not in this position and need to protest against the yellow lines. We live in a nice peaceful friendly road without any major issues, why would we want to change this? We do not need any road changes whatsoever, please save your resources and kindly leave well alone."

Formal Objection 3

"I wish to object to the proposal to extend the yellow lines from Gore Court Road into Lyndhurst Grove because I believe it is unnecessary, wasteful of council resources and moreover will have a detrimental affect on those living directly within Lyndhurst Grove.

I understand from the Engineering team that this is a request from one resident centred around "parked vehicles obstructing access for emergency vehicles into the close and some vehicles parking on the footway blocking the use of the pavement for disabled wheelchair users and parent with buggies".

We do have an influx of cars into the Grove, twice a day for approx. 20 minutes owing to the neighbouring Oaks Infant School. However the dustcart has successfully manoeuvred the Grove

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during school time, which questions the validity of the emergency vehicle comment. We do not have any residents using wheelchairs and there is only one child within the Grove using a buggy, (not that of the petitioner's) and the parents are able to successfully push it along the pavement without too many concerns. As this is a "no through road" these issues are unlikely to affect anyone else. Therefore I fail to understand why this has any direct impact to the petitioner.

The school has been here for almost 50 years and thus predates all but one of the residents. Therefore, like most of my neighbours when I bought my house, I was aware it was by a school and therefore knew to expect a minor inconvenience, however given that it is of such short duration, I fail to see this issue warrants the council's intervention and use of resources. Furthermore, the current Head Teacher has taken steps that have seen a reduction in issues that we encountered many years ago.

I am more concerned that this proposal will have a detrimental effect by actually creating issues.

1. If double yellow lines are installed, all that will happen is parents will simply abandon their cars in middle of the Grove, obstruct access ways and driveways, thus blocking resident's cars and access for emergency vehicles/the dustcart. Simply because they have nowhere else to park because the school has no onsite parking and all neighbouring roads are congested.
2. My biggest concern is that double yellow lines will permanently remove four parking spaces for residents and their visitor's use. One of these spaces in particular is in constant use by residents, particularly in the evenings/weekends. The others are required for visitors. (There are currently two cars parked in the proposed yellow line area, hence the spaces are required and they are not causing any obstruction on the road or pavement)
3. There is already a shortage of available spaces owing to it being such a small cul-de-sac; 12 of the 16 houses do not have driveways and many households have more than one vehicle. The houses that have driveways are only small and their visitors have to park on the road adding additional burden. There is only one parking space in front of the five terraced houses numbered 3-7 and one in front of the houses numbered 9-12. This is more problematic at weekends when all residents are home and have visitors. Additionally people from neighbouring roads (Ufton Lane and Park Road) who are unable to park in their own roads, park here, as do patrons of the Gore Court Public House. Which is currently bearable because we have these additional spaces, but removing them will undoubtedly create a significant problem.
4. As car ownership is set to increase, the problem will become worse in the future. Given this, why would anybody want to decrease current available parking spaces? (i.e. create an issue, where there is not one?)
5. In the future, parking availability could have a negative impact on our house prices / ability to sell.

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If all my fellow neighbours living directly within Lyndhurst Grove are adamant and can prove that there is now a sudden necessity for intervention, I would be slightly more supportive of restrictive parking during school times to appease them, but I am bitterly opposed to permanently losing or restricting parking spaces. Particularly permit parking as it is completely unnecessary, inconvenient and a cost that we do not need. We would have insufficient spaces for allocated parking in any case, which means we would not be guaranteed a parking space and as I understand it, other people in other roads with the same-zoned permits could park here, therefore it could cause us more issues.

To summarise, please do not make any changes to our road.”

Formal Objection 4

“With regard to the above, i do not see any benefit to our small community by the proposed extension of the double yellow lines.

Although we are only sixteen houses in total, parking is often already at a premium particularly at weekends and holidays, when family and friends visit.

Some of the families here now have grown up children of driving age, and have a car of their own, the loss of four parking spaces will be very noticeable, and make life more difficult.

I would therefore ask you to consider very carefully about whether it is in anyone's interest who lives in Lyndhurst Grove to carry out these proposals.”

Formal Objection 5

“I am writing with regards the proposed double yellow lines being installed in Lyndhurst Grove. I understand you have had 1 resident asking for these and I know there is at least 1 other resident opposed to them. My feeling is that yes something does need to be done about the parking but double yellow lines being installed would just mean that the people who park in the proposed area (predominantly park road residents) would just park outside our houses and so have a detrimental affect on us that actually live here. I would much rather be in favour of restrictive parking or even parking permits in Lyndhurst Grove. I don't really see too much of an issue with school parents, the school could do more to speak to parents about parking with more consideration and once collecting their children then leave in a timely manner rather than having the cars parked there for considerable time whilst they "chat". If that was to happen and restrictive parking put in place so non residents didn't abandon their cars for days on end in Lyndhurst Grove then I feel the situation would greatly improve.

I gather the complainant was concerned about turning into Gore court road and access for emergency vehicles coming into Lyndhurst Grove. restrictive parking would solve this as there is enough parking for the residents here not to block that side of the road but park on the bend which is what we currently do. It's the non residents who park up on the curb there and the school parents.

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To clarify I am opposed to double yellow lines being installed but greatly in favour of restrictive parking or parking permits here. Our quiet road is being turned into a car park by residents of Park road!!”

Formal Objection 6

“Regarding the proposal for double yellow lines to be put into Lyndhurst grove Sittingbourne Kent I am strongly against the proposal as there is limited parking available in this tiny grove as it is without the loss of 4 or 5 cars spaces. As it stands many cars that belong to park road residents park in the grove so we find it sometimes impossible to park our own cars where we live so without the 4 or 5 spaces taken where do people suggest we park? I really don’t think taking useable parking space away would help the parking situation.”

Formal Support 1

“As a resident of Lyndhurst Grove Sittingbourne I support the proposal of double yellow lines into the Grove.”

Proposed Formalisation of Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay, 37 Imperial Drive, Warden

Formal Objection 1

(See Attached Letter)

Formal Objection 2

“I am writing again as per the letter that has been place on the lamppost at the above address, to object to the disabled that is outside 37 Imperial Drive to become an official bay.

My reasons for this objection are:

- the space has been there since July and has been only used 5 times in this time even though the space has been clear. Number ** still park outside there house to load and unload the car then park around the back of their house*
- they have a space on their property therefore are not entitled to bay as per your own set criteria*
- the disabled bay has already devalued the sale value of home due to its location*
- [comment removed to maintain anonymity]*
- [comment removed to maintain anonymity]*

I know these objections will fall on deaf ears yet again and the official bay has no doubt already been agreed however this is causing myself my family and my neighbours no end of stress and a lot of friction has been caused in the area

Thank you for your time”

Proposed Double Yellow Lines – High Street, Sittingbourne (Comments for Information Only as no objections received)

Formal Support 1

“Thank you for meeting with Terry yesterday with regards to your proposals to add a double yellow line in front of the access to the rear of 51 High Street.

We are delighted to read about the Councils initiative and are 100% behind your proposals.

*Ocean Property Investments have always encouraged positive local collaboration. We have allowed parking when and where necessary and always supported builders in their efforts to repair/renew adjacent buildings. However with the exception of the Jewellers and the Landlords and owners of number ** (who have always been a pleasure to discuss matters with) it seems our good nature is generally abused by either selfish parking in front of the access point (High Street) to the plot or some of them feel that dumping on our land of their waste is their right!*

Terry also met with Sergeant Jason Hedges yesterday who was also very supportive and will be making a visit to a few of the local vendors who are currently causing the issues with regards to the insensitive parking and unnecessary confrontation.

So in summary, thank you for your initiative and hope it gains support where required. It will make life just that little bit easier.”

Formal Support 2

*“***** came into the Station a week ago and mentioned he was having issues with access to the access road off the High Street, Sittingbourne, and that SBC had put out a consultation on having yellow lines to discourage parking over that clearway and two others. Having being based in Sittingbourne for 15 years now and some of that being the High Street Beat Officer, I would like to add my support to this course of action as I have seen a marked increase in irresponsible and inconsiderate parking throughout the High Street area, causing both anxiety to those trying to use the legal accesses and encouraging other to follow suit, compounding the problem. I am happy for you to share my comments if this assists.” Kent Police*