

SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD	Agenda Item:
---	---------------------

Meeting Date	Monday 24 th June 2019
Report Title	Update Report – Petition – Capel Road, Sittingbourne
Cabinet Member	Cllr Tim Valentine
SMT Lead	Martyn Cassell
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell
Lead Officer	Mike Knowles (SBC)
Classification	Open

Recommendations	Members are asked to note the contents of this report and recommend that considering the previous high number of consultations undertaken in Capel Road, recommend that no further action is taken at the present time.
------------------------	---

1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the e-petition requested by residents of Capel Road in Sittingbourne, and comments received by two residents at the Public Session of the March 2019 Swale Joint Transportation Board meeting.

2. Background

- 2.1 A request for an e-petition was submitted to the Swale Borough Council website in February 2019, and a copy of the statement and justification for the petition can be found in Annex A.

3. Issue for Decision

- 3.1 The issue of parking in Capel Road has been the subject of substantial previous consultation, with considerable resource committed to reach the current parking arrangements, which consist of a combination of double yellow lines, single yellow lines, time limited waiting bays and restriction free areas of carriageway. A timeline of the previous consultations and Joint Transportation Board recommendations can be found in Annex B, and a plan of the current parking restrictions can be found in Annex C.
- 3.2 Whilst there is sympathy with the residents of Capel Road and the issues associated with the on-street parking, it is felt that the present arrangements are the most favourable option based on previous consultations with residents. It was also noted that one of the public speakers at the previous Swale Joint Transportation Board

meeting stated that they had recently moved to Capel Road, and as such may not be aware of the previous extensive consultations undertaken to reach the current arrangements.

- 3.3 Following receipt of the e-petition request, discussions have taken place with Swale's Parking Manager regarding the request for the existing time limited waiting bays to be amended to permit only bays for residents. The ratio of properties to potential parking spaces within the parking bays were examined following a site survey, and it was determined that there were around 15 spaces for an average sized vehicle in the current time limited bays, and around 17 properties fronting this section of Capel Road. This would suggest that a possible Residents Parking Scheme could be viable, as ordinarily not all vehicles will require parking at the same time.
- 3.4 However, previous experience has shown that containing a Residents Parking Scheme to a single location is very unlikely, as during the consultation period requests are invariably received to extend the scheme into other locations due to a perception that this will reduce parking availability or cause vehicle displacement issues. As stated in the timeline in Annex B, the perception from residents in the western end of Capel Road was that the parking restrictions further along the road had caused a problem with displaced vehicles parking near their properties, and there is the risk that any further restrictions or amendments to the current parking restrictions will result in further perceived parking issues at the western end of Capel Road, and a demand for further consultation in this section of road.
- 3.5 During the discussions with the Parking Manager, concern was expressed at the narrow width of available carriageway between the two parking bays in Capel Road. Whilst no concerns were raised at the time of the implementation of these bays, the statutory consultation to change the restrictions within these bays may result in objections from the emergency services, which could result in the current on-street parking capacity being reduced to ensure an adequate width of available carriageway for emergency vehicles.
- 3.6 An alternative parking arrangement could be the use of single yellow lines on both sides of Capel Road, with a morning restriction on one side of the road and an afternoon restriction on the other side. This would disrupt any all-day parking by commuters/visitors, whilst allow residents to park on one side of the road. The disadvantage of such an arrangement is that residents would need to move their vehicles at least once during the day, and this may be deemed more of an inconvenience than the current parking arrangements.
- 3.7 Ultimately, any revisions to the current parking arrangements will require the support from the majority of residents to enable the Traffic Regulation Order to progress, and in light of the previous extensive number of consultations undertaken this could be difficult to achieve.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and recommend that considering the previous high number of consultations undertaken in Capel Road, recommend that no further action is taken at the present time.

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.
Financial, Resource and Property	Extensive resource required to undertake further consultation(s)
Legal and Statutory	Traffic Regulation Order to be progressed, requiring a majority support from residents.
Crime and Disorder	None at this stage.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified at this stage.
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage.
Sustainability	None identified at this stage.

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Statement and Justification of e-Petition
Annex B – Timeline of Previous Consultations and JTB Recommendations
Annex C – Plan of Current Waiting Restrictions

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None