

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION

RECORD OF DECISIONS taken by the Cabinet Member for Traffic & Transportation, Councillor Ken Ellcome, at his meeting held on Thursday, 17 December 2015 at 4.00 pm in the The Executive Meeting Room - Third Floor, The Guildhall

Present

Councillor Ken Ellcome, Cabinet Member

Councillor Lynne Stagg, Spokesperson

46. Apologies (AI 1)

Apologies for absence had been received from Opposition Spokespersons Councillor Potter (who was at work) and Councillor Chowdhury (who was unwell),

47. Declarations of Members' Interests (AI 2)

There were no declarations of members' interests. Mr Alan Cufley, Director Transport, Environment and Business Support did declare that his wife is a higher level teaching assistant, during discussion of permits for teaching staff.

48. Proposed reduction and amendment of 3 parking zones (GA Fratton, FD Bevis Road area and FG Stamshaw South) (AI 3)

After Alan Cufley, the Director of Transport, Environment & Business Support had introduced his report, deputations were made whose points are summarised:

- i) Ms L Davies - wishing to retain FD & FG zones as a shift worker she found it difficult to park at night without the residents parking restrictions, with personal safety concerns.
- ii) Mr Craig - wishing to retain GA zone as it is. The G1 zone did not make sense. The GA zone worked well by the station, and he agreed to the introduction of fees for the first permit and the limiting of large commercial vehicles.
- iii) Ms K Ackerman - spoke of the work of the Fratton Steering Group to get the Fratton parking zone due to football parking and commercial vans in the area and so wanted this to be retained. There were also problems caused by HMOs in the area, the loss of parking with the new Tesco store and the need for enforcing the use of the permits.

- iv) Mr M Philpott - spoke regarding the FD zone which he wished to be retained but felt the 2 hour restriction would not be workable for the residents.
- v) Mr D Kinnaird - spoke for the retention of FD which had made Bevis Road an attractive place to have a property, and he was concerned that the proposed 2 hour restriction would not help those working 9am - 5pm.
- vi) Ms K Newton - spoke as a resident of Angerstein Road, both she and her partner welcomed the RPZ and would like to keep the 2 hour restriction which worked well.

(Mr Duncliffe and Mr Fazackarley had registered to speak but were not present)

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson then spoke (as Councillors Dave Ashmore and David Fuller had been given legal advice that as they lived in the Fratton RPZ area they were not able to participate) He wished to know what consultation had taken place in the two areas regarding reducing the 2 hour to a 1 hour restriction? He wanted the RPZs to be retained and was surprised that there had been consideration of their removal.

Councillor Ellcome responded that the residents had initially been consulted regarding the £30 for their first parking permit and when the majority of people responded that they did not want their zone there had been consultation via the Traffic Regulation Order at which time there was support for retaining the zone.

Councillor Julie Swan, ward councillor for Fratton, then spoke and outlined her concerns as outlined in her letter to Cllr Ellcome which had been summarised within the report but she wished to read in full which covered her objections to the reduction of the GA parking zone. She was worried that the commuter parking would only be prevented in a small area and there would be displacement to other roads. The cost of enforcement should be met by the permit charges. By lifting the restrictions after 1pm there would be increased problems with match-day parking. She asked Cllr Ellcome to give consideration to 10am-4pm free parking so the Fratton Road shops would benefit from visitors and teaching assistants would be able to park for free.

In response to some of the points raised in the deputations Councillor Ellcome asked officers to explain the rationale behind the 1 or 2 hour restrictions; it was reported that this was to help prevent long term visiting vehicles such as commuters or those using the port, and would minimise displacement in the evenings. He was concerned that the Traffic Regulation Order had not been clear as it had not proposed to reduce the free parking period and it would be harder for the more vulnerable to have visitors so he did not wish to reduce the 2 hour free period to 1 hour. It was not known what profit was being made in the GA zone.

Alan Cufley as the Director of Transport, Environment & Business Support, responded that a 1 hour free parking period would be the most efficient timing for enforcement purposes and whilst the scheme currently operates a 2 hour free parking period, some of those responding had suggested that this be reduced to 1 hour (one response requested reduction to a 15 minute period).

Councillor Ellcome asked the transport officers what the response to the TRO had been for a 24 hour zone? It was reported that the majority had wanted to keep to 24 hours (140 out of 178 responses).

Councillor Lynne Stagg as an opposition spokesperson then spoke; she was not personally in favour of charging for the first permit but for the 2nd and 3rd, and asked if some of the permit fee would be used for enforcement of the zones? Councillor Ellcome reported that he had previously authorised the recruitment of more enforcement officers. Councillor Stagg also queried the likely displacement parking.

With regard to Councillor Swan's suggestion that teaching assistants be exempted for permits (in the same way as for teachers) Alan Cufley as Director of Transport, Environment & Business Support, reported that if this was to be considered it should be on a city-wide basis. It was noted that there were other support staff in the schools.

Councillor Ellcome thanked everyone who had spoken for expressing their views and he had also read the 7 written representations and taken these into account. He wished to support the current 24 hour systems, with the 2 hour free periods remaining and not reducing these to 1 hour. Should there later be general support for a reduction to 1 hour he would look at this again.

DECISION:

- (1) That GA Fratton remains in place unchanged.**
- (2) That FD Bevis Road remains in place unchanged.**
- (3) That FG Stamshaw South remains in place unchanged.**

49. Wymering Road and Portchester Road One Way System - Results of Public Consultation (AI 4)

Alan Cufley and Tracey Shepherd introduced this report; there had been a 48% response to the voting slips and the result had been very close on the direction of the one-way. The Director of Transport, Environment and Business Support had been contacted by a ward councillor regarding the access problems for a disabled resident, so he had been mindful of this in making his recommendation, which was supported by Councillor Ellcome as the Cabinet Member for Traffic & Transportation.

DECISION:

(1) That a Traffic Regulation Order is raised and advertised to seek comments from residents within the City regarding the proposals;

(2) That provided the public consultation does not yield any objections to the proposals that Option 2, i.e, Wymering Road to be made one-way eastbound and Portchester Road to be made one-way westbound, be implemented within the area.

50. Arundel Street Traffic Calming Scheme - Results of Public Consultation (AI 5)

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson made a deputation; he was happy with the report although disappointed by the 3% response rate to the consultation. He wished to query what had happened to the scheme allocated within 2014/15 for traffic lights at Arundel Street/Fratton Road which was a dangerous crossing, with no pedestrian phase and which was used by schoolchildren from 3 schools?

Alan Cufley as the Director of Transport, Environment & Business Support undertook to look into the status of this scheme, including the confirmed funding, and he undertook to write to Councillor Vernon-Jackson, the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation and Opposition Spokespersons for the Portfolio with that information.

Councillor Stagg asked regarding installing a pedestrian phase at the lights but it was reported that equipment was in need of updated software. She also felt that in the meantime there should be consultation with the road users and the community in this area. Councillor Ellcome reported that the Motorists Group was being set up via the Traffic Liaison Group, and should meet early in the New Year

DECISION:

(1) That the Cabinet Member for Traffic & Transportation, Opposition Councillors and Ward Councillors note the responses to the consultation;

(2) That a Traffic Regulation Order is raised and advertised to seek support and comments from residents within the City regarding the proposals;

(3) That provided the public consultation in relation to the Traffic Regulation Order does not yield any objections to the proposals, the proposed traffic calming be implemented within the area.

The meeting concluded at 4.50 pm.

Councillor Ken Ellcome
Cabinet Member for Traffic & Transportation