



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 3
21 MARCH 2007

ITEM 6b

Report of the Cabinet Member, Planning and Transportation

PARKING ON CHURCH STREET, NORMANTON

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Receipt of a petition was reported to the Area Panel on 17 January 2007. The petition is endorsed by 16 signatories and a summary of the contents states:
"...Derby City Council have decided to paint new double yellow lines in a previously unmarked area, of which was regularly used by us to park our cars over many years. Consequently within the last week, two residents have been fined as early as 8am, for parking in their spaces. One resident has been using this space for over fifteen years... Furthermore, after so many years of having a more secure and safer option of parking, this new change is highly distressing... This change has also not taken into account the fact that some car owners here, who are registered disabled will face further problems... May we suggest the option of parking permits for residents of Church Street, to eliminate all the problems that this change is causing." A copy of the petition is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.2 Church Street is one of a number of streets in the city where the Council has renewed the existing waiting restriction carriageway markings. The yellow lines here are not new and were still visible before being renewed. Limited enforcement of parking in the past meant that many motorists throughout the city chose to park where it was most convenient for them, without particular regard for waiting restrictions. Although this has always been illegal, and potentially compromising to the safety of others, it is something that motorists have got used to over the years. This appears to have been the situation on Church Street as no new restrictions have been introduced here since 1984.
- 1.3 When considering the need for waiting restrictions, a fine balance needs to be struck between the competing demands for roadside space, as well as considering accessibility needs and any road safety implications. Following examination of Derbyshire Constabulary's accident database and consultation with Sure Start about their access and parking requirements, it is considered that it will be possible to help the petitioners by providing the residents of Church Street with further parking opportunities. Therefore, it is proposed to remove all the yellow lines in front of the residential properties. This will mean that around 9 additional parking spaces will become available without compromising turning manoeuvres unduly in the turning head. Appendix 2 shows a plan of the proposal.

- 1.4 In order to remove these waiting restrictions, the Council will need to make a Traffic Regulation Order revoking the existing restrictions. This involves a lengthy legal procedure which includes consulting bodies such as the Emergency Services, before proceeding to a public advertisement period for members of the public to register their comments or objections. Although proposals have been drawn up, it is important to stress that these can change should any valid objections be received. Due to the workload involved in this exercise, this project will be included in the Parking Services Business Plan for 2007/08. In the meantime, it is important that residents continue to park in a responsible and conscientious manner until proposals are approved. Although Church Street will not be considered an enforcement priority, the Council may still have to take enforcement action should complaints be received.
- 1.5 Residents who have a blue badge are exempt from the yellow line restriction for a maximum time of 3 hours provided a valid blue badge and clock are clearly displayed.
- 1.6 With regard to the petitioners' request for permit holder parking, such a scheme would provide no benefit in this situation. Residents' parking schemes are often misunderstood; the intentions of such schemes are to provide residents with priority to park, in areas where a high level of non-residential parking takes places. This is not the case on Church Street.

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Area Panel approves the revocation of waiting restrictions on Church Street as shown in drawing TMD/28/07
- 2.2 That a Residents Parking Scheme is not considered on Church Street.
- 2.3 That the petitioners be informed accordingly.

For more information contact: Rizwana Shaheen 01332 715049 e-mail rizwana.shaheen@derby.gov.uk

Background papers:

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Incoming letter

Appendix 2 - Plan proposed waiting restrictions on Church Street