

MONARCH'S WAY, RUISLIP – PETITION REQUESTING A RESIDENTS ONLY PARKING SCHEME

Cabinet Member

Councillor Keith Burrows

Cabinet Portfolio

Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling

Officer Contact

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Planning, Environment, Education and Community Services

Papers with report

Appendix A

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report

To advise the Cabinet Member that residents of Monarch's Way, Ruislip have submitted a petition asking the council to determine the viability to introduce a "Residents Only" parking scheme.

Contribution to our plans and strategies

The request can be considered as part of the Council's strategy for the control of on-street parking.

Financial Cost

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report.

Relevant Policy Overview Committee

Residents' and Environmental Services

Ward(s) affected

West Ruislip

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

1. Discusses with the petitioners their concerns with parking in Monarch's Way.
2. Decides if a scheme for Monarch's Way can be added to the Council's parking scheme programme.

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

Although parking schemes are not generally considered for individual roads, due to the isolated location of Monarch's Way, the Cabinet Member may decide that a scheme could be considered in advance of one over a wider area.

Alternative options considered

These will be discussed with petitioners.

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

None at this stage

Supporting Information

1. A petition with 40 signatures has been submitted to the council with the following request:

“Monarch’s Way is a small residential cul-de-sac consisting of 30 houses all of different sizes, few of which have their own driveways. Most families have more than one car and it is becoming increasingly more difficult for residents to park in the road.

Cars owned by workers in Ruislip High Street are parked in the road from 8.15am and stay all day. As spaces become available from residents moving their cars, a local mechanic parks cars in their places, some even staying there for weeks at a time (as much as three weeks over the Christmas period.) Shoppers in Ruislip High Street also use the road for parking. Hence visitors to the residents have to park roads away.

The main access road to the cul-de-sac is very narrow; we even have the smaller refuse lorries to collect our rubbish as the larger ones found it difficult to access. The road splits into a fork and cars park on the bend making access by large delivery lorries impossible, they have to park in the main access road and carry loads up to the appropriate house, thus blocking the road.

Ambulances have struggled to access the cul-de-sac due to inconsiderate parkers. Fire engines would find it impossible to access the road. Regularly, motorists park over the lowered curbs which are for wheelchair and pram use. We have a number of elderly residents who have wheelchairs and also young families with buggies.

Some cars are driven up and down the road at high speed and at the fork in the road there have been many near accidents.

We would suggest ‘residents parking’ could be a solution to these problems but would welcome any suggestions from you. Residents parking would ensure safer parking away from dangerous bends and would also make better access for emergency and delivery vehicles”

2. Monarch’s Way is a residential road just off King Edward’s Road close to High Street, Ruislip. The road could present an attractive parking area for visitors and workers from the nearby shops who have no access to off-street parking. The location of Monarch’s Way is indicated on the plan attached as Appendix A.

3. The Cabinet Member will be aware that the Council’s strategy for the introduction of Parking Management Schemes in residential areas is in order to address concerns with non-residential parking. The intention of such schemes is to prohibit parking not associated with those living in the road in order to retain the available kerbside parking for the benefit of residents and their visitors. It is apparent from previous schemes in Hillingdon that not all households are in favour of Permit Schemes unless they are confident there will be sufficient space to accommodate residents’ parking needs. It is also usual practice to only install schemes over a wider area as opposed to individual roads.

4. As the Cabinet Member will be aware, the reason for this is that parking displacement will often transfer from one road to another nearby, and for this reason it is seldom viable to create a Parking Management Scheme in a single road. In practice the Council generally relies to

some extent on evidence of a more general local demand for a Parking Management Scheme. To date the desire evident in Monarch's Way does not appear to be echoed in adjoining roads although many near by roads have previously asked for limited waiting restrictions to deal with the problem of all day non-residential parking particularly if these households benefit from sufficient off-street parking.

5. It is recommended that the Cabinet Member meets with petitioners to discuss their request in detail for a Parking Management Scheme in Monarch's Way and subject to what residents tell him, considers the most appropriate further course of action.

Financial Implications

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report, however if the Council were to consider the introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme in Monarchs Way, funding would need to be identified. Usually this would come via an allocation from the Parking Revenue Account surplus. However, if there are underspends on other schemes within the Parking Management Schemes Programme, the required funding could be reallocated subject to Cabinet Member approval. This would be subject to the Cabinet Members decision on whether the scheme for Monarch's Way should be added to the Programme.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

To allow the Cabinet Member to decide if a scheme for Monarch's Way can be considered in isolation from the surrounding area and added to the parking programme.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

If the Council subsequently investigate the feasibility to introduce a parking scheme in Monarch's Way, consultation will be carried out with residents to establish if there is overall support.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Legal

There no are no special legal implications for the proposal, which amounts to an informal consultation. A meeting with the petitioners is perfectly legitimate as part of a listening exercise, especially where consideration of the policy, factual and engineering issues are still at a formative stage. Fairness and natural justice requires that there must be no predetermination of a decision in advance of any wider non-statutory consultation.

Should there be a decision that further measures are to be considered then the relevant statutory provisions will have to be identified and considered.

In considering any informal consultation responses, decision makers must ensure there is a full consideration of all representations arising including those which do not accord with the officer recommendation. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public are conscientiously taken into account.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received – 15th January 2011