

## Minutes

### PETITION HEARING - CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND RECYCLING

16 April 2014



Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,  
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

	<p><b>Committee Members Present:</b> Councillors Keith Burrows</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b> Councillor Judy Kelly</p> <p><b>LBH Officers Present:</b> David Knowles, Transport and Projects Senior Manager Nadia Williams, Democratic Services Officer</p>
40.	<p><b>TO CONFIRM THAT THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN PUBLIC.</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>It was confirmed that this item would be considered in public.</p>
41.	<p><b>PETITION REQUESTING AN EXTENSION TO THE RUISLIP GARDENS PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>Concerns, comments and suggestions raised by the petition organiser at the meeting included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The petition organiser stated that he was a member of the Ruislip Gardens Residents' Association (RGRA) and was attending the meeting as a representative of the RGRA. It was noted that the RGRA was in support of the petition</li><li>• The petition organiser advised that this issue had been listed as a standard item on the RGRA's agenda in the last two years</li><li>• Had raised the petition in order to request a residents' parking scheme at the bottom ends of Clifford Road and Bedford Road</li><li>• A residents parking scheme had been introduced at the top end of Clifford Road and Bedford Road, which were nearest to the tube station</li><li>• At the time the petitioner himself had moved into his property six years ago, parking was not an issue. However, since the introduction of the 'Pay and Display' parking scheme around the area, it had become a problem</li><li>• The parking problems could be associated to the restrictions around the tube station, as commuters were being forced to find parking further afield in the surrounding areas</li><li>• From a small survey conducted of vehicles parked in a stretch in Clifford Road over several days, the petitioner had found that 63% of the cars and commercial vehicles parked in the roads belonged to commuters</li><li>• The petition organiser no longer had a vested interest, as he had now sold his property but was present at the meeting to represent residents who had signed the petition</li><li>• At the top end of the roads close to the parking zone, all side parking spaces</li></ul>

were regularly occupied and compounded by 89-90% of homes with off-road parking. This meant that people visiting these properties inevitably parked at the far end of the roads

- There had been an on-going problem with commercial vans, where up to three vans could be parked at any one time on the road. The petitioner had lodged a complaint to the company operating the vans
- The issue of parking outside the flats was relentless and further compounded by long term parking in the area and suggested that people living in the flats were at a disadvantage because they did not have the benefit of driveways or off-road parking
- Daily commuters had been noted to park vehicles on a 30 metres stretch along Clifford Road. The petition organiser reported that last weekend, he had observed a convoy of three to four cars that had parked on the road, with the drivers of the other three cars then boarding and being driven off in one car
- Advised that an abandoned vehicle which had been reported seven days ago had still not been removed
- The proximity of the tube station also attracted other commuters such as QPR fans and Westfield shoppers/staff
- Nos. 102 to 112 Clifford Road was the first place where kerb side parking was available with parking restriction ending at 6pm, this however had resulted in residents not even being able to park in the evenings
- Requested some protection for residents living near Ruislip Gardens tube Station
- The issue of parking was also highlighted as a concern for school children, as parked vans could hamper the visibility of children and could potentially be a hazard
- Neighbours with young children and people working shifts until 11pm often found parking problem to be a detriment, as they often experienced the impact of not being able to move freely, due to cars being parked too closely, preventing the manoeuvring of vehicles in and out of a spaces easily
- Suggested that alley-gating had also contributed to the problem, as residents were not so keen to open their alley-gates in order to park in the areas available for parking at the rear of their homes
- Stressed that parts of Clifford Road and Bedford Road had particularly been affected with the parking problems.

The petitioner showed pictures/map of the area to the Cabinet Member and the Road Traffic Officer to highlight the areas that were particularly affected.

Councillor (Cllr) Judy Kelly attended as a Ward Councillor in support of the petition and stated that she totally supported the petitioners and their concerns and hoped that some sort of parking restriction could be introduced.

Cllr Keith Burrows listened to the issues and concerns raised by the petition organiser (on behalf of the petitioners) and responded to the points raised. The Cabinet Member thanked the petition organiser for his compelling argument in support of an extension to the Ruislip Gardens Parking Management Scheme in order to manage parking in the roads concerned. Cllr Burrows advised however, that this petition presented real difficulties for the Council, as recent consultations undertaken with residents in the area had indicated (from the responses received), that the majority of residents preferred not to have any change to the current parking arrangements in the area.

The Cabinet Member explained that the Council would legally be required to carry out a

further detailed consultation in the area and officers would need to also liaise with Ward Councillors in order to look at the wider picture and implications of any proposal. It was stressed to the petitioner that again, residents would ultimately have the final say, (through consultation) as to whether or not they would support an extension to the current parking scheme.

Councillor Burrows acknowledged that the reality of residents in an area opting out of a Parking Management Scheme, whilst other areas accept the scheme, often led to parking problems for other residents in the area. He highlighted that consultation for Parking Management Scheme in the areas had already been undertaken in early 2013.

Officers expressed their sympathy to the concerns raised but advised that the Council had already carried out an informal consultation with all roads within Ruislip Gardens' estate and the fringes of the existing scheme. The results of the consultation had subsequently shown that the majority of residents in all roads, including Clifford Road and Bedford Road had indicated their preference for no change to the current scheme.

In response to the comment that the concerns of the petition were mainly from those residents that did not have driveways. Officers highlighted that some of the residents that had initially opted for no change must have changed their minds, as it was noted that they had also signed this petition.

The petitioner added that in his view, the wording of the consultation had caused some confusion. Officers explained that the wording needed to take account of preventing parking across driveways (although most people did not do this in practice).

In response to the petitioner's request for parking permits, officers highlighted that the difficulty with this option was that any proposal would have to be a viable option and an alternative option to a Parking Management Scheme involving yellow lines (which was the most viable option and easier to implement and manage than a Parking Management Scheme) had been rejected in the consultation.

In conclusion, Councillor Burrows informed the petitioner that in addition to having carried out the officer recommendations, he would attached a third recommendation instructing officers to undertake a Parking Stress Survey in the roads indicated within the petition and ask officers to report the results back to the Cabinet Member and Ward Councillors for possible solutions to be discussed, if found to be problematic.

**Resolved: That the Cabinet Member:**

- 1. Discussed and listened to the petitioner and their request for an extension to the Ruislip Gardens Parking Management Scheme across the entire Ruislip Gardens estate.**
- 2. Explained to petitioner that recent consultations with residents had indicated that the majority of residents in all roads had a preference for no change to the current parking arrangements.**
- 3. Instructed officers to undertake a Parking Stress Survey in the roads indicated within the petition and asked officers to report the results back to the Cabinet Member and Ward Councillors for possible solutions to be discussed, if found to be problematic.**

	<p><b>REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION</b> To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss with the petitioner their concerns.</p> <p><b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED</b></p> <p>These were discussed with the petitioner.</p>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.00 pm, closed at 7.30 pm.</p>

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Nadia Williams on 01895 277655. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.