

Minutes



PETITION HEARING - CABINET MEMBER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORT

6 October 2021

Meeting held at Committee Room 5 - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge

	<p>Cabinet Member Present: Councillors John Riley (Chairman)</p> <p>Ward Councillors Present: Councillor Stuart Mathers, West Drayton Councillor Keith Burrows, Uxbridge South Councillor Farhad Choubedar, Uxbridge South Councillor Lynne Allen, Townfield</p> <p>Officers Present: Anisha Teji (Democratic Services Officer) and David Knowles (Head of Transport and Town Centre Projects)</p>
27.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING <i>(Agenda Item 1)</i></p> <p>None.</p>
28.	<p>TO CONFIRM THAT THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN PUBLIC <i>(Agenda Item 2)</i></p> <p>It was confirmed that all items of business would be considered in public.</p>
29.	<p>TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE OFFICERS ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS RECEIVED: <i>(Agenda Item 3)</i></p>
30.	<p>CHURCH CLOSE, WEST DRAYTON - PETITION REQUESTING THE INTRODUCTION OF YELLOW LINES OR A RESIDENTS' PERMIT PARKING SCHEME <i>(Agenda Item 4)</i></p> <p>The Cabinet Member considered a petition from residents requesting the introduction of yellow lines or a residents permit parking scheme. A representative from the petition was in attendance and made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Church Close was a narrow road with a one-sided pavement.</i>• <i>Residents from nearby roads often used Church Close as parking for long periods.</i>• <i>Church Close was a popular location to park due to its close proximity to a local park.</i>

- *There had recently been an incident where the ambulance service had difficulty accessing the road due to its narrowness and obstructive parking.*
- *Residents had difficulties parking their vehicles due to the lack of space on the narrow road and driveways were often difficult to access due to inconsiderate parking.*
- *The situation had become worse due to ongoing building work and the increase of larger vehicles on the road. This reduced the already limited amount of space available.*
- *Church Close was also used as commuter parking and people travelling to and from Heathrow Airport.*
- *There had been a knock-on effect on the residents of Church Close as a result of parking management schemes in other nearby roads.*

Councillor Stuart Mathers attended the meeting as Ward Councillor and supported the petition and comments made by the petitioners. He added that that there was increased parking pressure on the road as result of nearby roads that had parking management schemes in place. Councillor Mathers noted that that there was a car park in close vicinity of Church Close which was cost effective and secured.

The Head of Transport and Town Centre Projects considered that it would be sensible to progress a bespoke parking management scheme for this road alone, which would include signage making it clear that Church Close was only available for resident parking. Placing parking bays within the road would be impractical as they would take up too much space and cause a further reduction to the footway.

Councillor Riley listened to the concerns of the petitioners and responded to the points raised. Councillor Riley acknowledged that Church Close was a narrow road and noted the knock-on effect neighbouring parking management schemes had had. The new developments in the area had also impacted the amount of available parking and Cllr Riley confirmed that Church Close would be added to the future parking scheme programme for informal consultation. The present financial constraints involved with funding from Transport for London (TFL) were noted, although the Council has sought alternative funding to mitigate the delays that would otherwise ensue.

In considering the matters, Councillor Riley made the following decisions.

RESOLVED:

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member for Public Safety and Transport:

- 1. met with petitioners and listened to their concerns over non-residential parking in Church Close, West Drayton.**
- 2. asked officers to add this request to the Council's extensive Parking Management Scheme Programme for a possible informal consultation.**

Reasons for decisions

The petition hearing provided a valuable opportunity to hear directly from the petitioners on their concerns and suggestions.

Alternative options considered / risk management

None at this stage.

31. ROCKINGHAM BRIDGE CONSERVATION AREA, UXBRIDGE - PETITION REQUESTING AN EXTENSION TO THE OPERATING TIMES OF 'ZONE U4' RESIDENTS' PERMIT PARKING SCHEME AND ADDITIONAL SPACES (Agenda Item 5)

The Cabinet Member considered a petition from residents requesting that the Council reformed the operation of the U4 parking permit area. A representative from the petition was in attendance and made the following points:

- *Concerns were raised about safety of pedestrians given the heavy traffic flow, narrow road and non-residents parking in resident parking areas.*
- *Rockingham Bridge was a beauty spot that attracted many visitors, and this added to the parking issue.*
- *There were five unallocated parking bays, and the Council was asked to investigate bay ownership and whether they could be made available for resident use. People had been known to park their cars there for long periods and leave.*
- *The road was a thoroughway to the town and there had been an increase in local burglaries.*
- *Often key workers such as teachers, doctors and nurses were unable to find parking near their homes when they came home from late shifts.*
- *A request was made to extend the parking permit arrangements for seven days a week from 6am to 10pm.*
- *The new development in the area had also impacted the amount of available parking for residents.*

Councillor Farhad Choubedar attended the meeting as Ward Councillor and supported the petition. He attested to the concerns raised by the petitioners and requested that the hours of operation for the parking management be extended as this would help the situation.

Councillor Judith Cooper, Ward Councillor, submitted her support by email for the petition and considered that it was a reasonable and measured request that would help to improve parking for residents.

Councillor Keith Burrows also attended the meeting and spoke as Ward Councillor in support of the petition. Councillor Burrows supported the points raised by the petitioners, noting that this area was also used for parking by people who visited and worked in Uxbridge town centre. It was asked whether the request to extend the hours of operation could be expediated as there was already a parking management scheme

in operation. Councillor Burrows urged officers to investigate the five unmarked parking bays alongside the commencement of the informal consultation to avoid any delay to residents.

The additional photographs submitted were noted.

Councillor Riley informed petitioners that an update regarding the area at the top end of Victoria Road had been provided to him, and on the basis of the Land Registry information obtained it was evident that ownership was a complicated matter that required further investigation. This area, including the parking bays there that petitioners had referred to, did not belong to the Council and Councillor Riley explained that the matters relating to this would be looked at separately from the wider work to review the hours of operation of the parking management scheme so as to avoid any delays in addressing the other issues raised in the petition. The present financial constraints involved with funding from TFL were noted, although the Council has sought alternative funding to mitigate the delays that would otherwise ensue. Councillor Riley requested that officers consider the points raised and encouraged residents to respond to the consultation.

In considering the matters, Councillor Riley made the following decisions.

RESOLVED:

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member for Public Safety and Transport:

- 1. met with petitioners and listened to their request to extend the operational hours of the Uxbridge South Parking Management Scheme 'Zone U4' and to include five spaces in Victoria Road within the scheme.**
- 2. Asked officers to add this request to the Council's extensive Parking Management Scheme Programme for a possible informal consultation.**
- 3. noted the request to include five bays on Victoria Road to be included in 'Zone U4' Parking Management Scheme and asked officers in the Council's Legal Services Team to investigate the ownership and liability status of this area of highway and to report back to him.**

Reasons for decisions

The petition hearing provided a valuable opportunity to hear directly from the petitioners on their concerns and suggestions.

Alternative options considered / risk management

None at this stage.

32. FREEMAN'S LANE, HAYES - PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC CALMING AND INCREASED STREET CLEANSING (*Agenda Item 6*)

The Cabinet Member considered a petition from residents requesting traffic calming measures and increased street cleansing. A representative from the petition was in attendance and made the following points:

- *Concerns were raised about the safety of pedestrians and residents given the excessive speeding on Freemans Lane. It was requested that the speed limit on the road be reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph.*
- *There were serious concerns raised for children and adults who visited the park when crossing roads as there was no zebra crossing and drivers regularly sped.*
- *The entrances to the park were narrow and it was enquired whether the number of entrances could be reduced.*
- *There was a constant screeching of cars due to excessive speeding and many residents could not have their windows open due to the noise.*
- *There had been many near incidents due to speed of vehicle travel and concerns were raised about emergency vehicles being able to access the road.*
- *There had been incidents where people had removed the bollards to allow large vehicles to travel through the road. The bollards were also damaged, unlocked and widened no longer serving their purpose.*
- *Double yellow lines were requested at turning points.*
- *There was concern at the perceived lack of formal pedestrian crossing points, especially near some of the entrances into Barra Hall Park.*
- *Concerns were also raised about the level of cleaning on the road. Although cleaning took place weekly there was still an excessive amount of litter especially near the park.*

Councillor Lynne Allen attended the meeting and spoke as Ward Councillor in support of the petition. Councillor Allen supported the points raised by the petitioner and added that the level of speeding was a concern for all adults and children. The Council was urged to implement a 20-mph speed limit to avoid any fatalities. It was also asked that yellow lines be added at the turning points and for the shrubbery at Barra Hall Park to be cut more frequently. Cllr Allen added that she felt that the streetlighting in sections of Freeman's Lane was, in her view, inadequate.

The Head of Transport and Town Centre Projects considered that it would be sensible to assess the complete layout of Freemans Lane to see how the road as a whole could be improved. Options such as lorry bans and the need or otherwise for retention of the existing width restriction could be considered.

Councillor Riley listened to the concerns of the petitioners and responded to the points raised. Councillor Riley accepted that speeding was considered by the petitioners and Cllr Allen to be an issue in the area and noted this from the petition and statements submitted. It was clearly a busy road that was amongst other purposes used by many residents to access the park.

Councillor Riley advised that independent traffic surveys would be commissioned through a specialist company in the normal manner, and to assist this process, the lead petitioner and Cllr Allen examined a plan of Freeman's Lane and marked four locations for such surveys to take place. He explained that that the request would be added to the Council's Road Safety Programme. The results from the surveys would be shared

with Ward Councillors. The present financial constraints involved with funding from TFL were noted, although the Council will continue to seek alternative funding in anticipation of a possible government settlement with TfL.

In considering the matters, Councillor Riley made the following decisions.

RESOLVED:

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member for Public Safety and Transport:

- 1) met with petitioners and listened to their concerns in regard to speeding and street cleansing on Freeman's Lane, Hayes;
- 2) asked officers to undertake 24/7 automated traffic counts at locations along Freeman's Lane agreed with petitioners, and to report back to the Cabinet Member on the outcome;
- 3) asked officers to liaise with the Highways team to investigate the current width restriction on Freeman's Lane, Hayes, and to explore potential options to improve or replace it with alternative traffic calming;
- 4) asked officers within the Street Cleansing team to investigate issues raised by the petitioners and report back to the relevant Cabinet Member, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing and Regeneration;
- 5) asked officers in the street lighting team to look at the state of lighting on Freemans Lane; and
- 6) asked officers to explore double yellow lines where the turning points were, as suggested by the petitioners.

Reasons for decisions

The petition hearing provided a valuable opportunity to hear directly from the petitioners on their concerns and suggestions.

Alternative options considered / risk management

None at this stage.

The meeting, which commenced at 7.00 pm, closed at 8.40 pm.

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