

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee – 13 June 2012

PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – NEWHOUSE ROAD, PERTH**Report by the Executive Director (Environment)**

This report outlines the problems experienced by the residents of Newhouse Road, and users of the Seven Acres playing fields due to inconsiderate parking, and recommends a variation to the Perth Traffic Management Order to introduce further 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on a section of Newhouse Road, Perth.

1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to agree to the commencement of the legal procedure to promote a variation to the relevant Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on a section of Newhouse Road in Perth.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Newhouse Road is situated in a largely residential area and is located to the west of the city centre between the A85 Crieff Road and Rannoch Road. It is an extremely busy thoroughfare and is used by local motorists heading to and from the nearby Tesco superstore, B&Q store and McDiarmid Park football stadium. It is also served by a frequent bus service.
- 2.2 A section of Newhouse Road is adjacent to the extremely popular Seven Acres playing fields. The playing fields and facilities host several football teams and over the last few years many developments in sport have taken place in the area as part of a regeneration project. This has resulted in a considerable increase in usage of the facilities.
- 2.3 In 2009 traffic signals, incorporating pedestrian facilities, were installed at the junction of Newhouse Road and Struan Road. The signals work particularly well and provide a safe crossing point for pedestrians accessing the playing fields. However, the signals reduce the availability of on-street parking.
- 2.4 Over the years the Council has introduced waiting restrictions and road markings at various locations to ease traffic flows and maintain clear access to driveways. Although these have addressed some of the parking problems, the increased usage of the playing fields has led to continued complaints about indiscriminate parking and road safety in the area.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 As a result of the continuing problems, the residents, with the support of the local Elected Members, have requested that more stringent measures be put in place to control parking.

3.2 A Draft proposal to introduce further 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on several sections of Newhouse Road has been prepared and a consultation exercise with the residents who live in the vicinity has been carried out. The proposal is shown on the plan at Appendix 1.

3.3 The responses to the consultation are given below.

Name on File	Comment or Objection	Response
Note 1	Fully supports measures, as indiscriminate parking is getting worse every week.	
Note 2	Objection - Resident has no private driveway and additional restrictions would cause inconvenience. Wants Council to provide off street parking if additional restrictions are applied.	Residents have no legal right to park in front of homes. Measures are necessary to alleviate indiscriminate parking and in the interests of road safety.
Note 3	Objection - Resident has no private drive and feels the Council is privatising the road for residents who have installed their own drives.	As Above.
Note 4	Objection - Parking problems only when football matches are on. This could be resolved by placing cones on site.	Cones are only a short term solution and difficult to enforce as motorists move them or discard them when parking.
Note 5	Support – Letters from the residents of 74 – 86.	

3.4 Due to the differing views of the residents the views of the local Elected Members were sought to determine how to proceed. It was agreed that the proposals should be revised to only include a restriction which would cover the extent of Newhouse Road between Nos 74 and 86. The drawing is shown at Appendix 2.

3.5 A second consultation was then carried with the response below.

Name on File	Comment or Objection	Response
Note 6	Support – Letters from the residents of 74 – 86 were received.	
Note 7	Objection – Supported the original proposals for waiting restrictions on the sections 59-69 and 124-136., and wants these areas retained	These areas did not receive majority support.

3.6 Having considered the responses from the second consultation, it is proposed to proceed with the introduction of waiting restrictions for the section between 74 - 86 Newhouse Road only.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Head of Legal Services, the Head of Democratic Services and the Acting Head of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report. The Police and local Elected Members for the area have also been consulted and support the proposals.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Capital

- 5.1.1 There are no Capital resource implications arising directly from the recommendations in this report.

5.2 Revenue

- 5.2.1 There will be costs involved in promoting the variation to the Traffic Regulation Order and providing the road markings. The indicative cost of £500 for advertising the TRO will be met from the Road Safety and Design Budget in 2012/13. The estimated cost of £400 for the road markings will be funded from the Parking Account in 2012/13.

6. COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN OBJECTIVES 2009-2012

- 6.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2009-2012 lays out five Objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. This report impacts on the following:
- a. A Safe, Secure and Welcoming Environment
 - b. Healthy, Caring Communities

7. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)

- 7.1 An equality impact assessment needs to be carried out for functions, policies, procedures or strategies in relation to race, gender and disability and other relevant protected characteristics. This supports the Council's legal requirement to comply with the duty to assess and consult on relevant new and existing policies.
- 7.2 The function, policy, procedure or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
- i) Assessed as relevant but no further actions are required as the proposals summarised in the committee report do not require further assessment as they do not have an impact on people's wellbeing or equality protected characteristics, other than improving the general safety of the road network and all the benefits this brings to everyone.

8. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS).
- 8.2 However, no further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 This report outlines the problems associated with access problems for residents of Newhouse Road. It is proposed to promote a variation to the Perth Traffic Management Order to introduce a further section of 'no waiting at any time' restriction.
- 9.2 Approval will allow a start to be made to the formal procedure to vary the Traffic Regulation Order. This procedure will involve statutory consultation, preparation of a Draft TRO and advertising in the press. This will provide an opportunity for additional comments to be made or objections to be raised. Should objections be raised, these will be reported back to Committee, with appropriate recommendations.

**JIM VALENTINE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (ENVIRONMENT)**

NOTE

No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

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