

30 APRIL 2013

Brighton & Hove City Council

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes.

Two Deputations received:

(ii) Deputation: CPZ Extension

Dear councillors;

I am making this representation on behalf of Downs Infants School and Downs Junior School, both of which fall within the proposed CPZ extension.

The schools are not opposed to the extension of the CPZ in principle, and recognise the difficulties that some local residents have in being able to park close to their home. However, we also believe that any decision should take account of those who attend the schools, either as a child, a parent or a member of staff, and it is a requirement that the final proposals should be a **balance between the needs of all groups**, not an imposition of the views of one group over another.

We believe that the legitimate wishes of the residents can be met without having a negative impact on the functioning of the schools, and a negative financial impact on the staff.

The schools both have active travel plans, and seek to minimise the use of cars for travel to school. Indeed the great majority of children walk to both schools. We will continue to encourage walking to school, or using public transport, but there are some families for whom using a car is unavoidable.

We are asking that a number of minor amendments are made to the Traffic Orders to minimise any negative effect on the operation of the school. These are; that the CPZ only comes into operation at 9.15am during term time to allow parents to deliver children safely to the playground, and speak to staff if required, without fear of a parking ticket; that there is a period of free parking, (15 minutes), which will enable parents to collect children at the end of school, and from after-school clubs, particularly during dark, winter evenings; and that consideration is given to the effect of displacement into the streets beyond the CPZ, particularly around Blakers Park, where road safety will be compromised by the proposed changes.

However, our major concern relates to the financial effect on the school and staff of these proposals. School budgets are very tight, and under increasing pressure, so any permits bought would inevitably have a negative effect on funds being available for educational purposes. For staff who have to pay to park, it will mean an annual cost of **£1000!** This would be an appalling cost for the Authority to impose on its own staff, particularly at a time when salaries have not risen for several years, and are pay restraint is likely to continue no the future. Some staff, for example Teaching Assistants, are not highly paid, and they would particularly suffer. Recruitment to the schools could also be damaged as a result.

We would ask that, provided that the schools have an active travel plan, approved by the Authority, staff at the schools can be provided with free permits to use during

term time only, up to 5.00pm. This will still ensure that residents can park successfully when they return home.

If the Committee vote for the scheme unamended they will be sending a clear message to staff that the Authority is prepared to wilfully impose significant financial burdens on them, when there is no justification whatsoever in relation to addressing the parking concerns. Please ensure that an appropriate balance is struck, and that the school families can be protected from the proposed changes. Please do not let your own staff down by asking them to pay many times what the residents will have to pay.

(Spokesperson) – Martin Cross- Chair of Governors – Downs Junior School

(iii) Deputation: Disabled Bays on New Road

Dear Mr Peel,

This is to request and discuss with the Transport Committee the best way forward to allow us to have outside seating considering the two options detailed below

The difficulty it seems is finding an alternative location for the re-located disabled bay on New Road. However, after consultation it would seem that there is a very simple solution. It has been determined that the average length of a disabled bay is 5.5 metres, the existing disabled bays available on New Road are each 7 Metres, therefore, by adjusting the length to 6 Metres (the standard size in Brighton is 5.5 metres) all FOUR disabled parking Bays can be retained with the simple removal of one waste Bin. Please refer to the attached drawing which illustrates the proposal. This would allow us to have the outside seating area we need.

We would like to propose the following two options be discussed:

- Remove the waste bin and resize the four bays to 6 metres *please see attached Plan
- Re-locate one of the bays to a nearby area.

Please see our deputation below and we have been advised by Mr. Charles Field (Parking Strategy Manager Transport Brighton & Hove City Council) to contact you with regards to our re-application for the relocation, if required, of the disabled bay outside the premises at 20 New Road Brighton BN1 1UF.

For clarity would like raise the flowing points in the deputation to the Transport Committee

1) The disabled bay change should be re-advertised as it was advertised previously in July 2011 as a **removal** of the disabled parking bay rather than **relocation**. We are happy to pay for another traffic order, on the condition that you we would only pay for this if **relocation** is advertised rather than a **removal** of the disabled bay.

2) The disabled bay was not objected to when New Road was being designed, for the simple reason that in 2007 at the consultation period, our restaurant was as an office and consequently there was not consideration given for the allocation of an outside dining area, which all other eating establishments enjoy on New Road.

3) The disabled lobby (The Fed) supported our original application as is documented. This was on the basis of the re-location of the bay, rather than the removal. The Fed's objection was solely based on the removal of the bay. Please refer to the council notes.

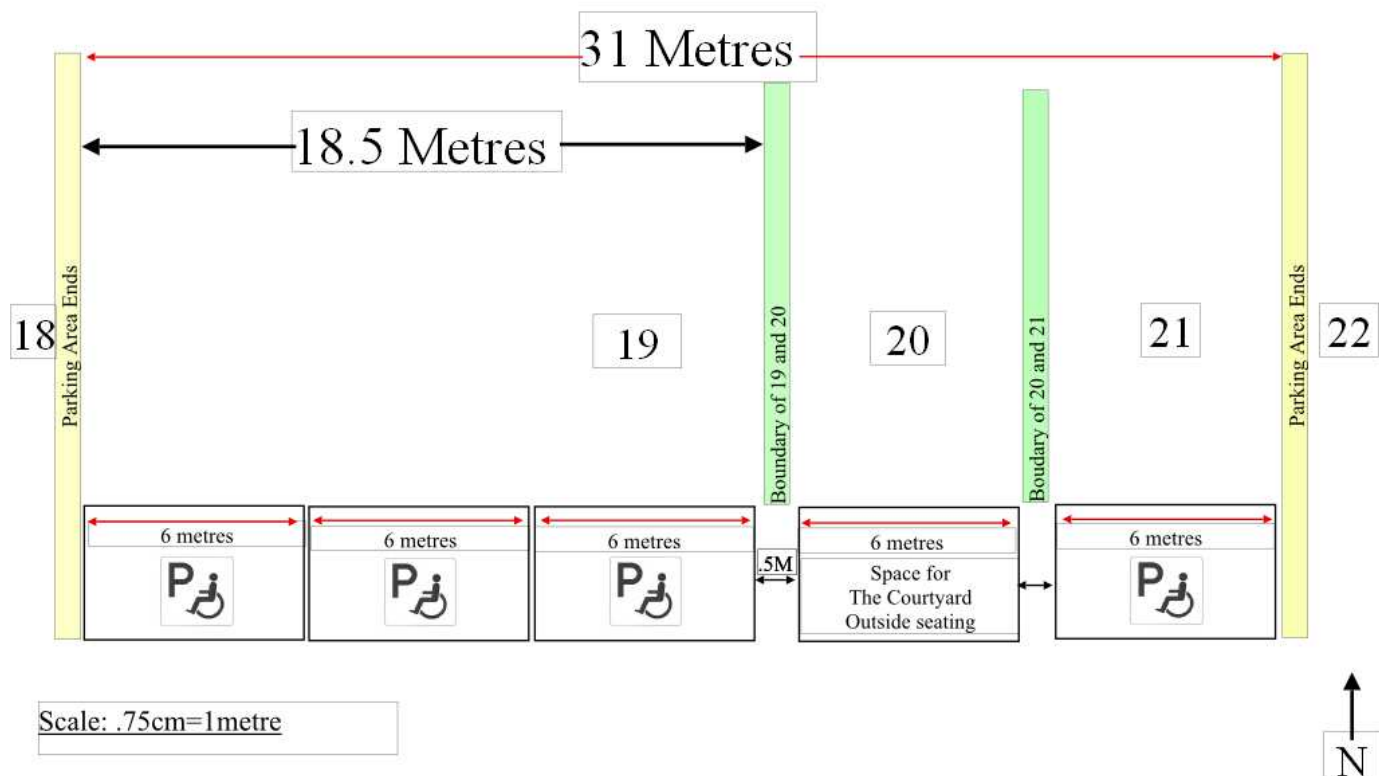
4) We are willing to pay for any works on the highway and have been quoted a price by an officer a couple of years ago. For the purposes of clarification I believe cost was also an issue, however, we confirm that we would pay for all costs involved.

5) We are requesting this is investigated and a meeting occurs with the relevant officers who deal with TRO's and works on the highway. (Next meeting April 30th 21013)

6) We confirm that we would like to pay for a TRO to be advertised at the earliest convenience rather than waiting until October.

To summarize we request that the Transport committee at the meeting on April 30th take into account the above points and allow for our application to be looked at in further detail, and we are happy to offer any assistance and attend the meeting on April 30th if required. As discussed with Charles Field it would be beneficial for the representative of the Transport Committee to visit the site.

* Proposed new layout of Disabled Parking Bays on New Road



(Spokesperson) – Mr Paul Sutherland – The Courtyard Restaurant

(iv) Deputation: Proposed bus stop on Ditchling Road

The lack of equity for one property to have 2 communal facilities in front it (and one over, the telegraph wires) when others have none; and the lack of green rigour of the council in not persevering with the placement of a bus stop outside a business when this is in keeping with their own green mission statement.

(Spokesperson) – Caroline Drijver

