

13 October 2015

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 depositions from members of the public. Each deposition may be heard for a maximum of five minutes.

Depositions received:

(ii) Deputation: Surrenden & Fiveways area resident parking scheme consultation

We welcome and support the recommendation to move forward with a parking scheme in the Fiveways area where is a clear majority (nearly 80%) in favour of a new, full residents' parking zone

We urge the Council to proceed as quickly as possible, and would like a timeline for delivery of the scheme. We have previously been told it would be March 2016.

Background

- The area north of Preston Drove, particularly near Fiveways, has been badly affected by displacement parking for the last year, since the extension of Zone J to Preston Drove
- The displacement parking is by people who live in Zone J who won't pay for permits, commuters, large trade vehicles and weekend visitors
- This has led to residents having to park a long way from their homes, dangerous and antisocial parking on corners and loss of trade to local businesses (see photos)
- The problems are worse in the evenings and at weekends
- I started a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/prestonparktriangleparking) to highlight parking issues and it you can see more of the problems on there
- An epetition to the Council earlier this year asking for the consultation process to be expedited was signed by 366 local people
- We supported the principle of consulting a wider area than that affected by current displacement parking as this was a chance for people who might be affected by displacement parking to have their voices heard
- The current parking pressures are mainly found in the Fiveways area which is characterised by terraced houses with on no off-street parking, compared with the houses with off-street parking in the Surrenden area
- The effect of displacement parking should be less in the Surrenden area as many residents have their own off street spaces.

Deputation by:

Andrew Coleman (lead spokesperson)

Samina Khan

Jan Furness

Mike Furness

Danielle Dodd,

Simon Peters

Sally Clarke

Clifford Munn

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Some examples of anti-social and dangerous parking in the Fiveways area in the last year



(iii) Deputation: Parking situation in West Hove

Subject of the Deputation

To request that residents of our area are consulted on the option of an extension of the adjoining 'light touch' parking scheme westward from Saxon Road to Boundary Road within the area bounded by New Church Road and Kingsway.

Summary of reasons for the request

The extension of the light-touch parking scheme earlier this year into the Wish Park area severely aggravated an already-difficult parking situation for those residents to the west as a result of parking displacement. The problems will worsen in the near future because of expected local developments.

Local residents were explicitly informed by council representatives at a KAWHRA meeting in 2012 that a light touch scheme would not be offered and the formal council consultation undertaken in 2013 did not cite it as an option. Our residents were therefore surprised to find that earlier this year the light touch scheme was extended into the adjoining Wish Park area despite not being offered as an option for that area and no further consultation with our residents taking place.

Through the established local residents' association (KAWHRA) extensive discussions have taken place with residents about the local parking situation. The concerns of our residents over current parking arrangements are serious, widespread, strongly-felt and expressed increasingly frequently. An overwhelming majority of those expressing a view strongly supported seeking a consultation on the extension of the adjoining light touch scheme as the best way of satisfactorily addressing the problems. A sense of unfairness and injustice prevails amongst many residents over the current situation.

A consultation on the option of extension of the adjoining light touch is therefore sought as a matter of urgency. KAWHRA will be glad to work with council officers on the detail of a scheme for formal consultation which offers the best solution for the majority of local residents.

Deputation by:

Peter Reeves (lead spokesman)

Susan Moffatt

Dr Mike Sharman

Jane Galvin

Jackie Corbett

David Jones

(all acting on behalf of the Kingsway and West Hove Residents' Association ('KAWHRA') and on their own behalf)

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. KAWHRA was established in 2011 and membership is open to all adult residents within the area bounded by Kingsway, New Church Road, Roman Road and Boundary Road. The membership has met regularly since then and operates under a formal constitution through which, amongst other matters, members of the committee are elected annually.

2.1. In 2012 we became aware that the traffic engineers were preparing a report on the local parking situation so we invited them to talk to members at one of our regular meetings. At that meeting opposition was expressed to full parking controls. However, it is salient that the traffic engineer made it clear that light touch parking was not on offer.

2.2. An official consultation was undertaken by the council in 2013 in which, as anticipated, a light touch scheme was not cited as an option. The majority of our residents' responses were against the introduction on most streets of the parking restrictions offered at that time (i.e. 'full' not 'light touch').

3. The extension of the light touch scheme earlier this year into the adjoining Wish Park area – to whom such a scheme had not been offered as a formal option - therefore came as a considerable and unwelcome surprise. The difficult parking situation in our area became severely aggravated because of resultant parking displacement. This has involved not only an increase in short term parking of cars of residents now in the extended light touch scheme but also of business-owned cars and commuters bussing into the city centre and long-term parking including caravans, commercial and hired vans.

4. These local parking problems are expected to worsen because:

- The council has accepted that the PortZED development (on Kingsway adjoining our area) which was granted planning approval in 2013 will result in an overspill of 50 vehicles into our streets when built.
- Britannia House (next to the foregoing area of development) now has permission to convert its offices to flats and build 15 flats above with no parking
- offices have been permitted with limited parking on the vacant site in Roman Road adjoining Vega
- There are proposals to build eight flats and a retail showroom at the Hire Station on the Kingsway/Erroll Road junction with no parking provision.
- the new building on the corner of Station Road/Wellington Road (comprising 8 flats and 2 commercial units) has no parking provision for vehicles
- in the council's draft new parking requirements for new developments less parking space will be required in our area than to the north of New Church Road.

5. At a KAWHRA meeting of held on 23rd June 2015 residents considered the situation in detail - including the options and their likely costs and other potential disadvantages to residents. Residents also recognised that the situation in the KAWHRA area differs from that of Wish Park's because our area contains a few shops and a pub for which reasonable free time-limited parking arrangements would continue to be needed.

6. Residents proceeded to vote overwhelmingly to seek a consultation on an extension of the light touch parking scheme and to authorise the committee to make a formal approach to the council accordingly. The views were sought of residents on our email list who were unable to attend the meeting and the responses received mostly replicated the views expressed at the meeting.

7. Residents hold strong views on the issue based upon their practical experiences, a sense of unfairness about their predicament and its expected worsening as the planned new developments take effect. Our present local councillors and former councillor Anne Pissaridou are all in a position to corroborate the strength, nature and extent of residents' feelings on the matter.

8. The draconian controls proposed by the council in 2013 were considered inappropriate to our area by the majority of residents. However many residents are telling us now that they consider that a light touch scheme is the appropriate mechanism to control the growing problems in our area, largely created by the nearby extension of the light touch scheme. We have heard only a few disagreements but obviously an official and comprehensive survey is now necessary. We therefore request, as a matter of urgency, that action is taken to consult residents on the option of introducing a light touch parking scheme in the KAWHRA area.