

ELMBRIDGE PARKING CONSULTATIONS ANALYSIS AND OUTCOME

SUMMARY

In summer/autumn 2011, we carried out a review of parking in Elmbridge, and wrote a report of recommendations, which was presented to Surrey County Council's local committee for Elmbridge on 28 November 2011 for approval.

The report suggested that we should undertake a number of consultations before progressing recommendations in those areas any further.

In addition to this, at its meeting of 27 February 2012, the local committee gave approval to carry out a consultation with residents of Hurst Grove, Walton on Thames in order to review the performance of the permit scheme in the road which was introduced towards the end of 2010.

This report presents a summary and analysis of the responses received to the consultation, and explains what we plan to do at each location.

The consultations ran from 9 March until 23 March 2012.

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GENERAL

In all the proposed new or extended resident permit schemes, we will advertise the cost and allocation of permits as described in the frequently asked questions in the consultation packs. These are as follows:

Residents' permits, valid for one year, would cost £50 for the first permit issued to a household and £75 for any additional permits and the number of resident permits that can be issued to a household is limited to a maximum that is calculated by the number of vehicles registered to the household minus the number of off street parking spaces for that property. For example, a household with three registered vehicles and access to one off street parking space would be able to apply for up to 2 resident permits.

All households within the area covered by the scheme, whether they have residents permits or not, would be eligible to apply for up to 120 visitors permits per year, which are valid for one day and cost £2.

FERRY ROAD, LONG DITTON

Responses

Correspondence	
Letters sent:	40
Responses	10
Response rate	25.0%

Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road?	N°	%
Yes	3	30%
No	6	60%
Don't know	1	10%

• Some common comments, some with responses:

- Problems with finding a parking space are more of an issue during the evenings and at weekends.
- The proposals will reduce the amount of available parking space.
 - o We try and avoid this happening and only restrict parking where we fell it is absolutely necessary to do so.

Analysis and outcome

We received a low response rate to this consultation, and the majority of those that did respond opposed the permit scheme.

Although we had been asked to consider including Ferry Road in the scheme that operates in Windmill Lane, it is clear that the issues in the road are different, so that would not be suitable.

We are therefore not proceeding with any proposals in Ferry Road.

WINTERS ROAD AND SOUTHBANK, LONG DITTON

Responses

Correspondence	
Letters sent:	75
Responses	32
Response rate	42.7%

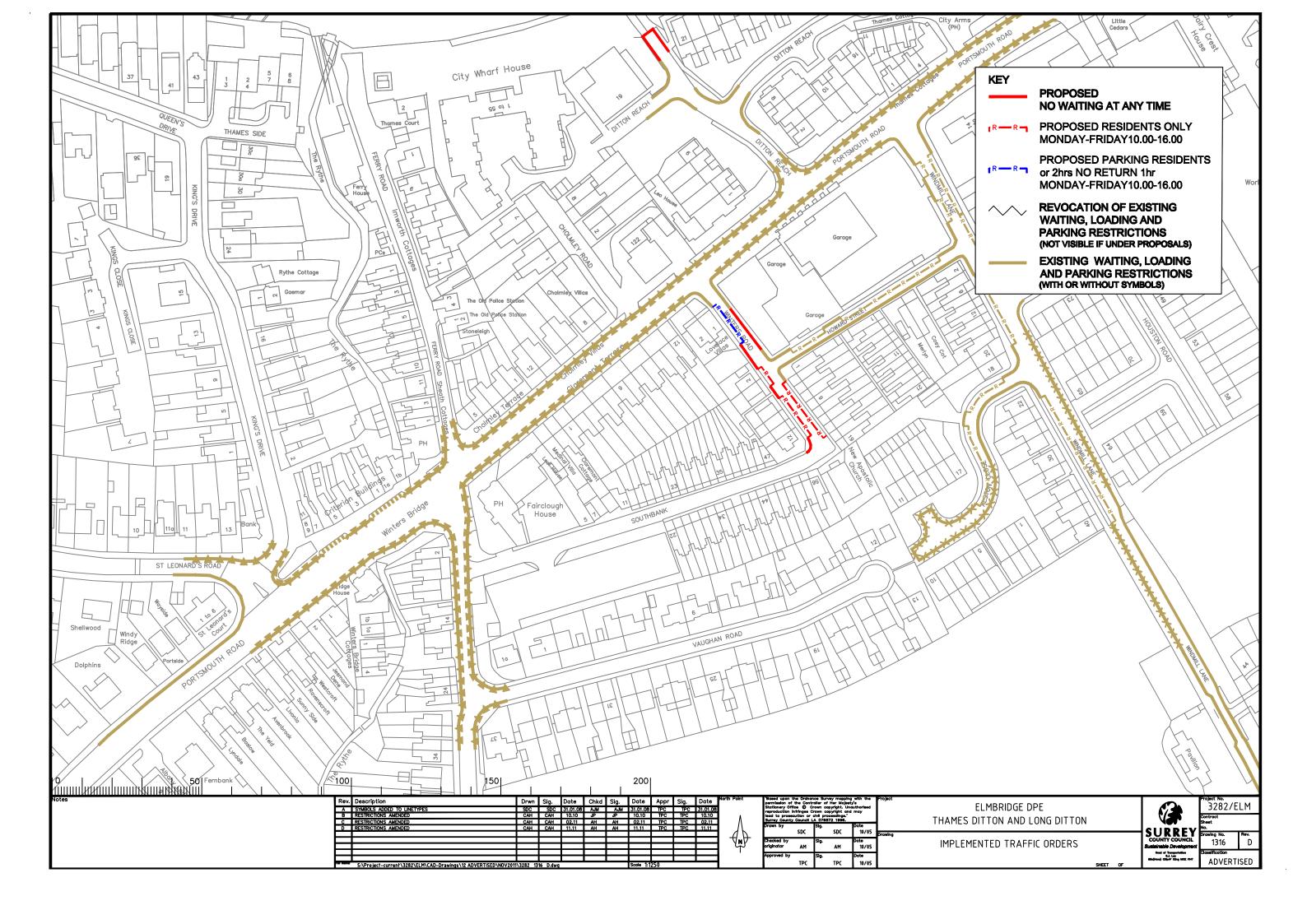
Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road (overall)?	N°	%
Yes	15	47%
No	14	44%
Don't know	3	10%

Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road (by road)?				
Road	Don't know	No	Yes	Total
Southbank	3	11	6	20
Winters Road		1	9	10
Portsmouth Road		2		2
Total	3	14	15	32

- The proposals will reduce the amount of available space.
 - o In order to minimise this, we only restrict parking where we fell it is absolutely necessary to do so.
- Removing parking on the southern side of the road is likely to increase traffic speed and the use of the road as a cut through.
- Permits should enable parking in the Southbank car park too.
 - o There are currently no permits that allow parking both on and off street but we could look into the idea in future.
- People working in local businesses reduce the space available for residents.
 - o This is why we have proposed introducing a permit scheme.
- Permits should enable parking in Windmill Lane and Howard Street.
 - This would be the intention.

We received a reasonable level of feedback to the consultation, which suggests that residents of Winters Road are very much in favour of the scheme (90%), whereas residents of Southbank are less keen on the proposals (70% against or unsure).

We will therefore advertise a proposal to extend the Windmill Lane permit scheme to include Winters Road, but not Southbank, which we will leave as it is.



THAMES STREET, DALE ROAD, HARVEY ROAD, MAYO ROAD, WALTON ON THAMES

Responses

Correspondence	
Letters sent:	148
Responses	86
Response rate	58.1%

Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road (overall)?	N°	%
Yes	44	51%
No	39	45%
Don't know	2	2%
N/A	1	1%

Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road (by road)?					
Road	Don't know	No	Yes	Total	
Dale Road	2	11	11	24	
Harvey Road		1	14	15	
Mayo Road		16	5	21	
Thames Street		11	12	23	
Total	2	39	42	83	

If a scheme were introduced, what days and times do you think it should operate? ("Yes" responses from table above only)						
	10am –	10am –	8am –	9am –		
Days	11am	4pm	6pm	5pm	Other	Total
Monday – Friday			2			2
Monday - Saturday		3	9	1		13
Monday – Sunday	1		14	5	7	27
Total	1	3	25	6	7	42

• Some common comments, some with responses:

- Residents should be able to have a permit for a company car.
 - o We are able to issue resident permits to residents with company cars.
- Problems are due to the lack of off street parking facilities for workers/shoppers in the town, and the charges in the off street car parks in the town.
 - o We have no control over off street parking provision or pricing.
- Workers and shoppers should be made to park in car parks.
 - o We cannot do this, but can control where they can park on street by introducing parking controls.
- Permits are too expensive/permits should be free.
 - Permits prices are set at a standard minimum price across the county. The fee helps cover the administration and
 enforcement of permit schemes. It is a generally accepted principal of traffic management that residents parking permits
 should be charged for, as it is not thought appropriate for general tax payers to fund such schemes.
- There are not enough visitor permits.
 - The number of visitor permits available has been increased from 30 to 120 following our review of permits in 2011. The number of permits must be capped to prevent abuse of the scheme. Some free limited waiting parking bays are available in Thames Street for short-term visitors.
- Parking should be allowed in front of dropped kerbs.
 - o The proposed scheme would allow parking in front of dropped kerbs provided a valid permit is displayed, although residents would be expected not to park in front of someone else's driveway without the consent of that person.
- Parking will be displaced into Bridge Street and Manor Road
 - There is very little spare capacity in Bridge Street and Manor Road, so it is unlikely that any significant displacement would occur.

Analysis and outcome

We received a strong response rate to the consultation in this area. It is evident that there is a fairly even split between for and against in Dale Road and Thames Street, very strong support in Harvey Road, and strongly against in Mayo Road.

We are therefore going to advertise our intention to introduce a permit scheme in Thames Street, Dale Road and Harvey Road, but not in Mayo Road. In the revised scheme we will also propose to place parking bays, rather than a yellow line, across the front of numbers 11 -15 Thames Street (H bars will be provided across accesses), and change the time limit in the non permit parking bays in Thames Street and Bridge Street to allow up to two hours parking (rather than the current 30 minutes).

HURST GROVE, WALTON ON THAMES

Responses

Correspondence	N°
Letters sent:	15
Responses	8
Response rate	53.3%

Do you think that the scheme has made it easier for you to park near your home?	N°
Yes	4
No	4

Which days do you think the controls should apply?	N°
Monday - Friday	2
Monday - Saturday	1
Monday - Sunday	5

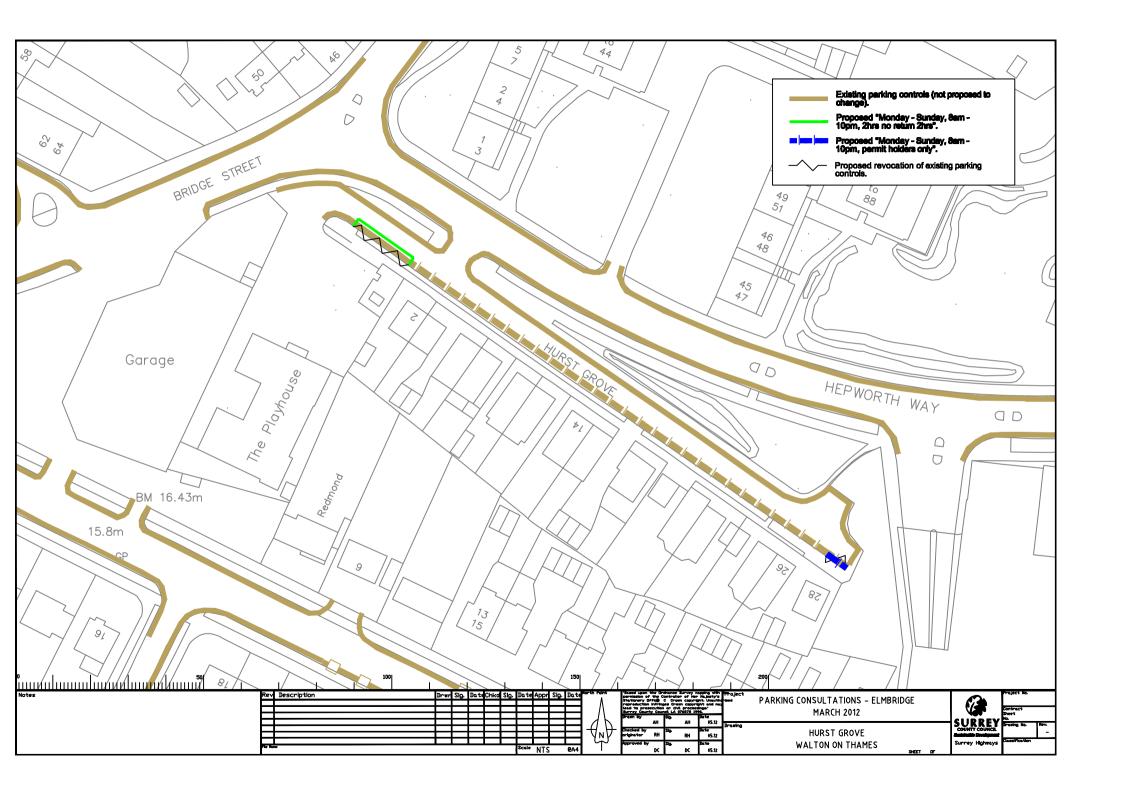
Overall, how satisfied are you with the parking scheme as it currently works?	N°
Very satisfied	1
Satisfied	2
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	0
Dissatisfied	4
Very dissatisfied	1

What times do you think the controls should apply?	N°
10am - 4pm	2
24hrs	2
8am - 10pm	3
8am - 6pm	1

- Parking space in the road is lost due to unnecessary double yellow lines.
- Parking enforcement is not sufficient.
 - We will try and address this.
- Additional controls should apply/controls should only apply, when there are events on at the theatre.
 - o Parking controls that apply on event days only are normally only used for very large events such as football matches etc. In addition there would be parking issues in the road caused by other visitors to the town centre.
- There are not enough resident permits available under current policy.
 - o Permit allocation will be extended in line with the revised Parking Strategy (see page 3).

Clearly there is some discrepancy over the preferred hours of operation, but the existing arrangement represents the most popular days/times of operation.

We therefore do not plan any major changes to the permit scheme in Hurst Grove, but we will advertise the removal of a 15m stretch of double yellow lines in front of the theatre car park and its replacement with time-limited non permit parking bays allowing up to two hours parking (with no return for 2 hrs) during the operational hours. There is also an anomalous bay at the end of the road which currently only operates up to 6pm, which we will advertise changing to operate until 10pm, to match all the other bays in the road.



COLNE DRIVE AND STAMFORD ROAD, WALTON ON THAMES

Responses

Correspondence	N°
Letters sent:	65
Responses	34
Response rate	52.3%

Would you like Colne Drive and Stamford Road to be removed from the resident permit scheme in the Hersham controlled parking zone?	N°	<u> </u>
Yes	21	61.8%
No	13	38.2%

Would you like Colne Drive and Stan			ed from the
resident permit scheme in the Hersham	controlled p	arking zone?	
Road	No	Yes	Total
Colne Drive	13	9	22
Stamford Road		12	12
Total	13	21	34

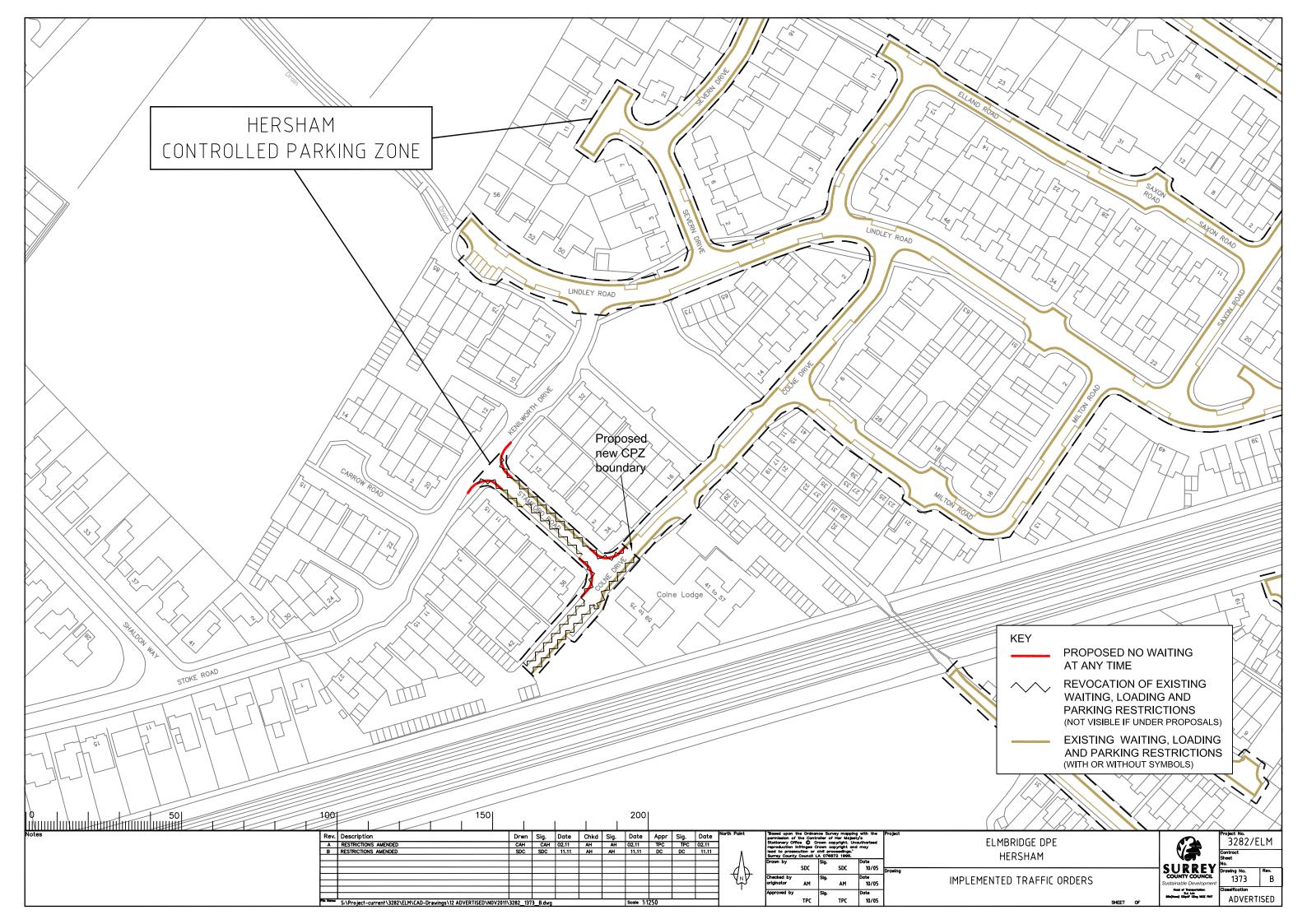
• Some common comments, some with responses:

- Stamford Road has already been removed from the CPZ
 - We understand that this is something that was agreed a number of years ago, but the traffic regulation order was never amended to formally enact this change.

Analysis and outcome

100% of respondents in Stamford Road wanted to be removed from the CPZ, whereas only 41% of respondents from Colne Drive wanted to be removed.

Closer analysis shows that broadly speaking, there is a geographical split in Colne Drive with residents toward the southern end of the road not wanting to be part of the scheme. We will therefore advertise a proposal that Stamford Road and Colne Drive (for the length south of its junction with Stamford Road) are removed from the CPZ. At the same time we will advertise introducing double yellow lines at the junctions at either end of Stamford Road to maintain sightlines and access.



OLD AVENUE, EGERTON ROAD, GOWER ROAD, WEYBRIDGE

Responses

Correspondence	N°
Letters sent:	105
Responses	20
Response rate	19.0%

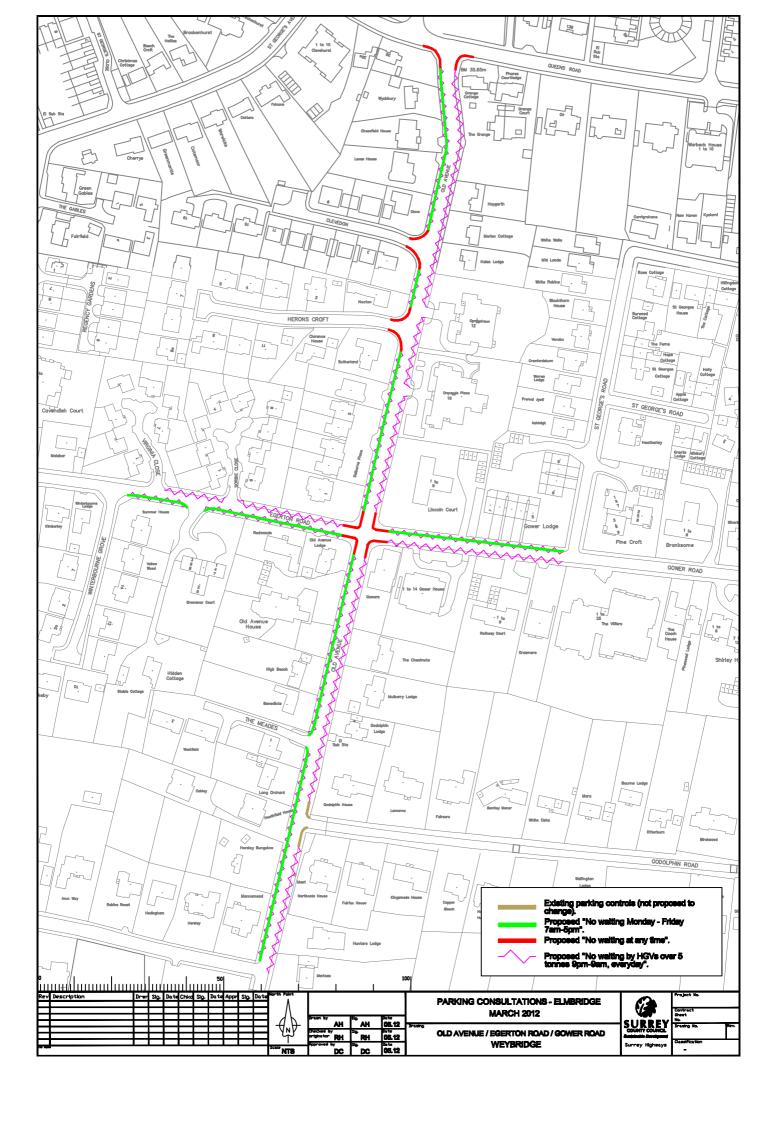
Do you agree with the proposed restriction on waiting by heavy goods vehicles (over 5 tonnes)		
between 9pm and 9am every night of the week?	N°	%
Yes	17	85.0%
No	3	15.0%

Are you in favour of introducing a restriction on waiting (single yellow line) on one side of the road like the one shown on the plan?	N°	%
Yes*	12	60.0%
No	3	35.0%
Don't know	1	5.0%

Includes responses that supported some other kind of waiting restriction as well as the 9am-5pm Monday - Friday that was recommended.

- Problems are caused by vehicles queuing to enter St Georges Hill.
 - We are not able to implement restrictions to prevent vehicles queuing in the road. This problem would have to be looked into by the police.
- Parking should be restricted on the eastern side of the road at the northern end of Old Avenue rather than of the western side.
 - By changing the restriction in this way parking would be encouraged on the western side of the road, which would be undesirable as that is on the inside of a bend in the road.
- Traffic calming measures should be introduced in Old Avenue
 - o We have passed this observation to the local highways team to investigate.
- The hours of the single yellow lines need to be increase to operate before the gates open at 8am.
- The management of St Georges Hill Estate should open the gates earlier in the morning.

Although the response rate was not high for this consultation, there was a strongly expressed view that there is a serious issue in this road. We will therefore write to the management company of the St Georges Hill Estate to see if they are able to reduce the parking problems by amending their current access policy. In case this does not work, we will also advertise the introduction of the overnight (9pm to 9am) waiting restriction for HGVs in Old Avenue and parts of Egerton and Gower Roads, and the introduction of a single yellow line waiting restriction from 7am to 5pm on Monday to Friday along the western side of Old Avenue for its entire length, and on one side of the road in the same parts of Egerton and Gower Roads. (The consultation proposal would have moved vehicles to the opposite side of the road in part of Old Avenue, which would have encouraged vehicles to park facing the wrong direction).



SOUTH ROAD, WEYBRIDGE

Responses

Correspondence	N°
Letters sent:	24
Responses	13
Response rate	54.2%

Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road?	N°	%
Yes	9	81.8%
No	2	18.2%

If a scheme were to be introduced, which days do you think it should operate on?	N°
Monday - Friday	2
Monday - Saturday	2
Monday - Sunday	7

If a scheme were to be introduced, what times do	
you think it should operate?	N°
9am - 6pm	1
8am - 6pm	7
10am - 4pm	1
24 hrs	2

• Some common comments, some with responses:

- Visitor permits should be free.
 - Permits prices are set at a standard minimum price across the county. The fee helps cover the administration and enforcement of permit schemes. It is a generally accepted principal of traffic management that residents parking permits should be charged for, as it is not thought appropriate for general tax payers to fund such schemes.

Analysis and outcome

We received a good number of responses to this consultation, which showed quite strong support for a permit scheme. We will therefore advertise the introduction of a scheme, which would operate on Monday to Saturday from 8am to 6pm. Although a majority of respondents suggested that the scheme should operate from Monday to Sunday, a significant number also expressed concerns about difficulties receiving visitors; we therefore chose not to introduce controls on Sundays, so that visitors can park freely. This will also mean that the operational hours match those of existing parking controls in the area.

ELMGROVE ROAD, OAKDALE ROAD, THE CRESCENT, DORCHESTER ROAD, GASCOIGNE ROAD, ST ALBANS AVENUE, WEYBRIDGE

Responses

Correspondence	N°
Letters sent:	200
Responses	133
Response rate	66.5%

If a scheme were introduced, what days and times do you think it should operate? (Responses from Elmgrove Road only)						
			10am –			
Days	None	11am	4pm	6pm	Misc	Total
Monday – Friday		1	3	3	3	10
Monday – Saturday		1	2	24		27
Monday – Sunday				6	1	7
None	2					2
Total	2	2	5	33	4	46

Are you in favour of the proposed resident permit scheme in your road?				
			Don't	
Road	Yes	No	know	Total
Elmgrove Road	31	9	7	47
Dorchester Road	5	23	1	29
Oakdale Road	11	15		26
St Albans Avenue	2	17	1	20
Gascoigne Road	1	5		6
The Crescent	1		1	2
Portmore Park Road		1		1
Thames Street			1	1
The Willows		1		1
N/A			1	1
Total	51	71	12	134

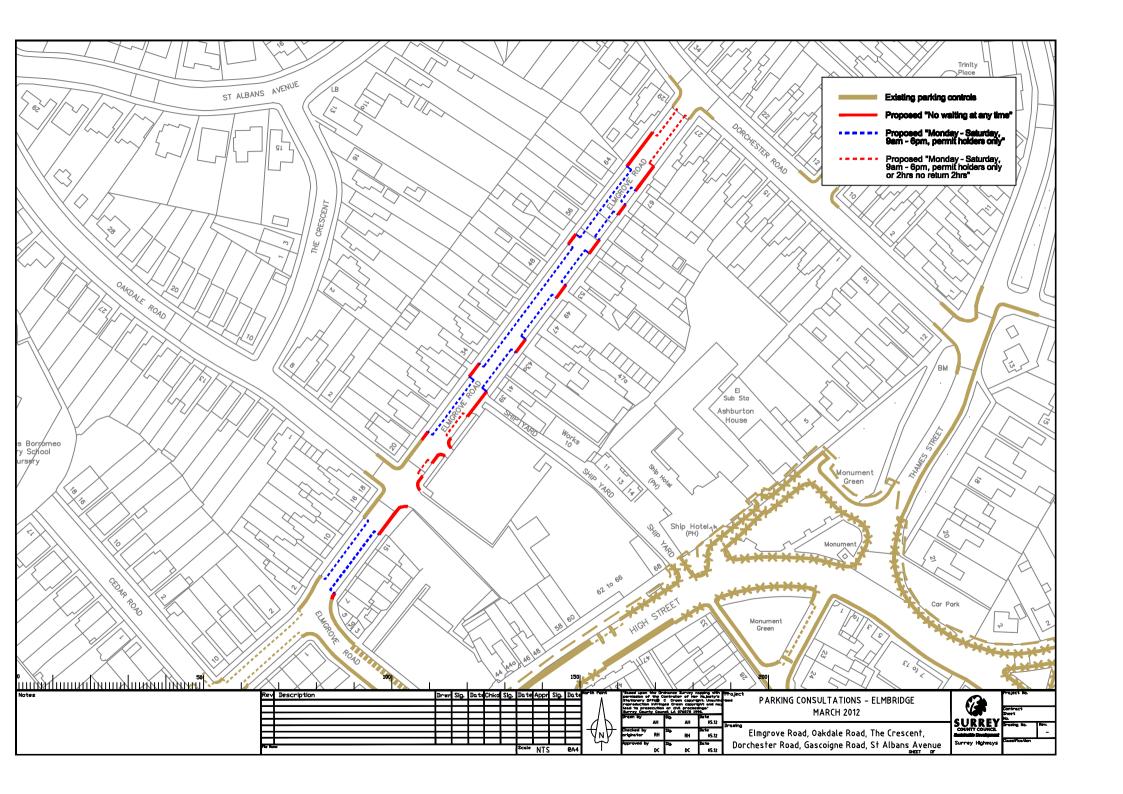
- Permit costs, particularly visitor permits are too expensive.
 - Permits prices are set at a standard minimum price across the county. The fee helps cover the administration and enforcement of permit schemes. It is a generally accepted principal of traffic management that residents parking permits should be charged for, as it is not thought appropriate for general tax payers to fund such schemes.
- Permit prices will increase and turn into a money making scheme.
 - Permit prices were reviewed in 2011 for the first time in many years and were increased in order to realistically reflect the associated costs; although they will be reviewed again in future years, there are currently no plans to increase them.
- A parking scheme would reduce the number of spaces available.
 - We would not significantly reduce the number of spaces available. We would look to introduce minimal amounts of double yellow lines at junctions to maintain sightlines and access. Parking bays would not be marked individually, thereby maximising the number of vehicles that can fit into the space.

- Giving planning permission for developments without parking facilities causes problems.
 - We have no control over this.
- Removing parking for shoppers/commuters/traders will reduce the viability of the shops on the High Street.
 - o There are a number of car parks in Weybridge operated by Elmbridge Borough Council, in addition to private car parks.
 - o There are also significant numbers of free short-term parking spaces on street for shoppers.

We received a high response rate to the consultation and overall respondents were against the implementation of a permit scheme. However, when we broke down the responses road by road, it showed that there were different views in different roads. Although in most roads there was little support for a scheme, this was not the case in Elmgrove Road where 66% of respondents were in favour of a scheme, and only 14.9% were against it.

We therefore plan to advertise extending the permit scheme in Holstein Avenue to include Elmgrove Road as well, but we will not proceed with any proposals in any of the other roads in the consultation area.

The scheme would operate on Monday to Saturday from 9am to 6pm and most of the bays in Elmgrove Road would be for permit holders only during those times, although we will propose to introduce a few bays which could be used by permit holders without time limit or by non permit holders for a maximum stay of 2 hours (with no return permitted for 2 hours).



PINE GROVE, WEYBRIDGE

Responses

Correspondence	Nº
Letters sent:	40
Responses	26
Response rate	65%

Are you in favour of introducing the restriction on waiting (single yellow line) as		
shown on the plan?	N°	%
Yes	8	32.0%
No	17	68.0%

If not, what do you think would work better?	N°
Nothing	11
No waiting at any time	1
Permit holders	1
Misc	4

• Some common comments, some with responses:

- Traffic speed, and volume will increase if yellow lines are introduced, which is of greater concern than the parking issue.
- Cars parked both sides of the road on footways causes pedestrians to walk in the road.
- Some residents need to leave their vehicles on street during the day.
- Road should be made one way as there isn't enough room for two cars to pass along some sections of the road.
 - o This would need to be looked into by the local area highway team.
- Traffic calming measures should be implemented.
 - o This would need to be looked into by the local area highway team.

Analysis and outcome

There was quite a high response rate for this consultation, with the proposal receiving a mixed response, although many respondents expressed concerns about the possibility of cars driving much faster along the road if parking was restricted completely on both sides. There are however parts of the road that are too narrow to accommodate any parking at all and so we are going to advertise an amended proposal as shown in the following drawing. This will still allow some parking in wider parts of the road, while restricting it where the carriageway is too narrow.

