

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS****SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE
(REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)****4TH JUNE 2007**

NOTE: Standing Orders only allows for 6 questions at each meeting.

One Public Question has been received

- 1. Cllr R S Mantle, Member for Chipstead, Woodmansterne and Hooley, asks the following question:**

Parking – Manor Way, Hempshaw Avenue and Prestbury Crescent, Woodmansterne

“Surrey County Council have recently reviewed parking restrictions in the north of the county and I am concerned that there is an anomaly which should be addressed and I welcome the Committee's comments.

The problem relates to the difficult parking conditions in Manor Way, Hempshaw Avenue and Prestbury Crescent in Woodmansterne. There is no dispute that there should be restrictions on the corner of these roads albeit it will reduce overall parking capacity for residents.

However, at present it would be very difficult during the day and impossible at night for emergency vehicles to deal with incidents in Hempshaw and Prestbury should they need to because of current parking practices on these narrow roads.

Can the County Council highways officers give urgent attention to overcome this issue, which could lead to loss of life in this No Go area for emergency services.

A solution could revolve around local residents having a Parking Understanding to reduce the increasing problem; greater width of the available parking area with grassed/concrete verges and then if necessary, as a final resort, some general parking yellow line restriction.”

The Local Transport Manager Responds:

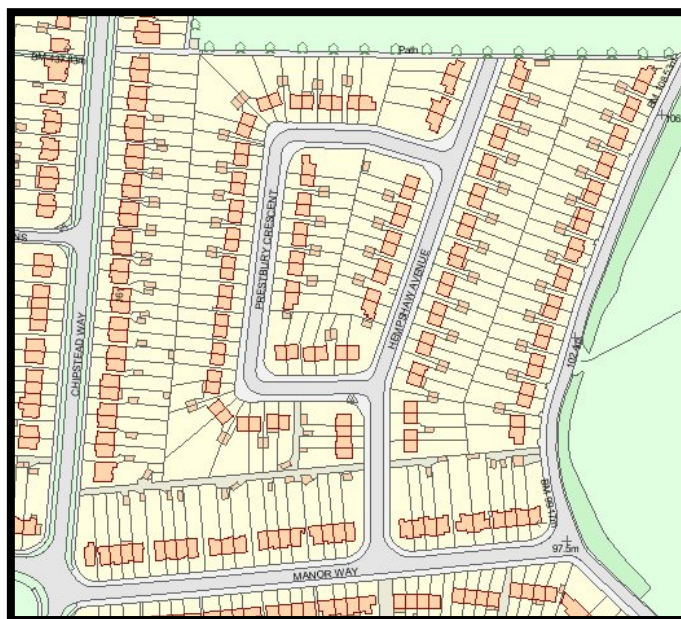
"Hempshaw Avenue and Prestbury Crescent are narrow roads with minimal or no off street parking and footways with grass verges adjacent to the road. Most of the houses have shared driveways, that leads to the majority of residents parking in the road causing congestion, which is of concern not only to the residents but the emergency services.

One solution has been suggested that local residents could have a parking understanding to reduce the increasing problem. This is assumed to be that local residents agree among themselves to park on one-side of the road rather than another. It is believed that this may not be possible as cars currently park on both sides of the road and there is insufficient space to accommodate all cars on one side.

Similarly if a parking yellow line restriction were to be implemented, for example restricting parking on one side of the road, there is insufficient space available to accommodate the displaced cars in the road. This would lead to cars being displaced onto surrounding roads. In addition the consultation for the recently proposed amendments to the parking restrictions in Prestbury Crescent and Hempshaw Avenue resulted in objections to the parking restrictions around the junctions. It would be anticipated that there would be substantial objections to parking restrictions along the length of these roads.

A solution to the parking problem would be to replace the grass verges with "grasscrete" to allow residents to park with two wheels on the footway. Due to the number of trees planted in the roads this would have to be carefully planned but could be achieved. An estimated cost for the work would be in the region of £10,000. Funding towards this work has not previously been allocated and as such a funding source would need to be identified.

It is suggested that officers progress the currently approved parking restriction amendments and meet with local Councillors to discuss this issue further, including identifying potential sources of funding."



LOCATION PLAN