



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE REIGATE AND BANSTEAD

MEREFIELD GARDENS, TADWORTH REVOCATION OF ONE-WAY WORKING ORDER 8 DECEMBER 2008

KEY ISSUE

To approve the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to legalise the two-way section of Merefield Gardens.

SUMMARY

In 1971 a One-Way Traffic Working Order was made by Banstead Urban District Council for Hatch Gardens, Merefield Gardens and Hawes Road, Tadworth.

Due to the redevelopment of the De Burgh School site (around 1991) the northern section of Merefield Gardens was made two-way on a temporary basis during the construction of De Burgh Gardens in order that construction vehicles could access Marbles Way without travelling the full length of Merefield Gardens.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to agree that:

- (i) subject to the Legal Procedure and consultation the Banstead Urban District (Hatch Gardens, Merefield Gardens and Hawes Road, Tadworth) One-Way Traffic Working Order, 1971 should be revoked from the junction of De Burgh Gardens north-westwards to the junction with Marbles Way **See Annex 1**.
- (ii) Consideration and resolution of any objections received are delegated to the East Area Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Elected Member(s).

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In 1971 several of the roads on the Preston Estate were made one-way to aid access. These roads were all relatively narrow and only took local residential traffic.
- 1.2 In 1991 the final phase of the merger of De Burgh School and the Beacon School took place and the old school was finally closed. A new development, De Burgh Gardens, was to be built on the site.
- 1.3 Due to the narrow width of Merefield Gardens it was proposed that a section of the road from the access to the new road north-westwards to Marbles Way should be made two-way to allow easier access to the development site. This would mean that HGV's etc would not have to proceed along the full length of the residential part of Merefield Gardens. **See Annex 1**
- 1.4 A temporary Traffic Regulation Order revoking the one-way working for this section of the road was made.
- 1.5 The new development consisted of approximately 40 new houses and following its construction it was felt that it would be more sensible to retain this short section of Merefield Gardens two-way rather than reverting back to the original one-way working which would mean that all the additional traffic from the new development would have to travel the full length of Merefield Gardens to exit their estate. Unfortunately, however, the Traffic Order was never revoked.
- 1.6 In 2004 a public consultation was undertaken to obtain the views of the local residents, they were overwhelmingly in favour of keeping the two-way working for this section of Merefield Gardens.

2. OPTIONS

- 2.1 The One-Way Working Traffic Regulation Order could be revoked for this section of Merefield Gardens , as recommended.
- 3.2 The Local Committee could decide that the revocation is not progressed. However, this is not recommended as local residents have become accustomed to the two-way section and additional consultation would be required if it was to revert back to one-way working. Also all the current signs would have to be changed at additional cost.

4. CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 A consultation was carried out in 2004. The majority of residents were in favour of the two-way section of road.
- 4.2 Surrey Police are in favour of revoking the one way order in favour of retaining the short section of two-way working within the road.
- 4.3 Local Councillors are also in favour of retaining the two-way section of road.

5. VALUE FOR MONEY AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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5.1 The cost of making the Revocation Order would be approximately £1000. All the signs required are already in place.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS.

6.1 There are no equalities and diversity implications.

7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The section of Merefield Gardens from Marbles Way to De Burgh Gardens was made two-way in 1991. This has worked very successfully and the residents do not wish to see this section of road reverted back to one-way working.

8.2 To make a Revocation Order for this section of the Merefield Gardens One-Way working would legalise what has already been in place for many years. To revert back to a one-way working could cause a safety problem if residents attempted to continue to travel against the traffic flow.

10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

10.1 If the Local Committee approves the recommendation, Surrey County Council's Legal Department will be asked to revoke the existing Traffic Regulation Order. This will include a consultation with the emergency services.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	The report presented to the Local Committee on 8 th December 2008.

ANNEX 1 – LOCATION PLAN

