



**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL
COMMITTEE
PETITION – TRAFFIC ISSUES, BROX ROAD
11 MAY 2007**

KEY ISSUE

To advise the Committee that a petition has been received

SUMMARY

The petition has over 200 signatories and has been endorsed by visitors to the parade of shops.

The petition highlights concerns over the new zebra crossing, waiting restrictions, road surfacing, local vehicle crime and reduced passing trade.

ELECTORAL DIVISION AND MEMBER

Foxhills and Virginia Water – Mrs Elise Whiteley

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) **that the Committee notes the concerns of the petitioners,**
- b) **that the waiting restrictions on Brox Road are reviewed as part of the annual review**

1. Background

- 1.1 In October 2005 working with the Ottershaw Society a public consultation was held which considered various options for the Brox Road area. This was the subject of a report to the Committee in December 2005.
- 1.2 Following support from the public consultation (which was very well attended), it was agreed to proceed with the installation of a new zebra crossing and waiting restrictions. Historically there had been a number of requests to improve crossing and parking facilities along Brox Road.

2. Petition detail

- 2.1 The petition raises a number of concerns surmised below
- Drop in passing trade as vehicles can no longer park outside the shops for a few minutes due to the zebra crossing zig-zags
 - 30 minute parking restrictions are causing problems for residents, not being able to park adjacent to their properties. Issue with tools in vehicles etc and possibility of theft
 - The new crossing, next to a parking bay is an “accident waiting to happen”
 - The new bus stop causes hold-ups
 - The bollards are unattractive and keep getting knocked down
 - The two bus shelters are totally different and very unattractive
 - The non-skid surface is a different colour to the rest of the road.
- 2.2 The petition ends by stating that people will go elsewhere and that Ottershaw will decline.
- 2.3 A copy of the petition is available upon request.

3. Petitioners’ suggested improvements

- 3.1 The petition does not state any required improvements, but it is evident that they wish their concerns to be addressed.

4. Officer comment

- 4.1 The package of improvements was introduced after widespread public consultation indicated support. Unfortunately, it is apparent that whenever any works are undertaken there will always be people who feel disaffected.
- 4.2 The following comments on the specific concerns of the petition
- Prior to the scheme, vehicles should not have parked outside of the shops. There were waiting and loading restrictions. The zig-zag markings are mandatory with a zebra crossing.

- 30 minute parking bays have been introduced to encourage a turnover of vehicles, specially targeted to benefit local trade. There is the nearby Murray Road car park (which normally has sufficient capacity) if drivers wish to park for a longer period than 30 minutes. The road is public highway, and there is no automatic right to park immediately outside of a private residence.
- The zebra crossing has been built out to facilitate as much parking as possible. The zebra crossing has been safety audited by experts (including Surrey Police) who had no involvement in the design process. It is deemed to be acceptable.
- The bus stop has been built out to prevent drivers parking in front of it. This enables the bus to get close to the kerb and aid step free access. Traffic delays are minimal.
- The bollards are a maintenance concern, but are fulfilling their purpose of preventing widespread footway parking.
- Runnymede Borough Council has installed the bus shelters. Various feedback has been received and this is a subjective matter.
- The non-skid surface is a different colour to help highlight the pedestrian crossing to drivers.

4.3 Following the comments received it is recommended that the parking restrictions are reviewed as part of our annual review of markings across the Borough, with due regard given to the feedback from the previous public consultation. It will not be feasible to amend the zig-zag markings for the zebra crossing.

Report by: Richard Bolton, Local Transportation Manager

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Background Papers: None

Version: 1

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Time: 1600

Initials: RB

Annexes: 0