



WOKING JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 7 DECEMBER 2016
SUBJECT: WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS
DIVISION: WOKING

1. Question from Mr Brighton

At the meeting of the Woking Joint Committee held on 2 December 2015, it was agreed that the proposal for a single yellow lines on part of Waldens Park Road would be removed from the parking review. This followed the presentation of a petition from over 70% of residents objecting to the proposal and instead requesting a CPZ. Cllr Kemp agreed that this request would be taken forward in the New Year and would not need to wait until the next parking review. A year has now passed and there appears to have been no progress. Meanwhile, the parking situation on the road has deteriorated significantly. It has become increasingly clear that a CPZ is the only way of addressing the inconvenience and danger this has created. Will the committee belatedly make good on its promise of taking forward this matter ahead of the next parking review?

Answer from Chairman on behalf of the committee:

Thank you for your question about parking in Waldens Park Road.

Since you first contacted us the Surrey Parking Team have evaluated the possibility of extending the Woking Controlled Parking Zone into Waldens Park Road, however there are a number of difficulties with this proposal.

The properties in the road generally have sufficient off street parking and so do not need resident's permit parking. This sort of scheme is really only suitable where there is a shortage of off street parking for the residents and there are commuters/shoppers competing for the same road space.

The introduction of a permit scheme could also have a knock on effect on surrounding roads by displacing cars to them when many of these already have a parking issue. The main problem in Waldens Park Road is not a lack of parking but unsociable parking (eg parking on pavements and parking on both sides of the road in narrow sections), and in these cases CPZ is not the answer.

We have therefore been looking at how best to manage the parking in Waldens Park Rd without introducing permit parking. There are two options:

www.woking.gov.uk
www.surreycc.gov.uk/woking

- A similar proposal to that previously put forward. This would be a single yellow line (0930-1130, Mon-Fri) primarily on one side of the road to prevent obstructive parking on both sides.

- A single yellow line on both sides of the road (0930-1130, Mon-Fri) but with gaps in some places between driveways and where there is enough room. This would retain some parking in the road (albeit available to anyone) in managed locations and would help to prevent displacement to surrounding roads. Allowing some parking at intervals along the road also helps reduce traffic speeds because it creates a 'chicane' effect.

The next Woking Parking Review is at committee in March 2017. We are planning to write (including plans) to all residents in Waldens Park Rd explaining these proposals in advance of this and seek their preferred solution. If there is agreement on either we can include as part of this review process.

2. Question from Geoff Howe

The newly introduced charges for taking certain household items of rubbish to recycling centres is an ill-thought-out policy .It will result in unscrupulous people dumping rubbish along country lanes and in some cases paying "travellers " to do it for them .

Alternatively people like me will make daily trips to the Martyrs lane dump which is hardly an environment- friendly habit. I am helping my son with work he is doing on weekends at the house he has newly purchased. I have also been taking stuff to the Slyfield site where the staff have to write out a ticket for me to dump 1 bucket of old bricks. Another member of staff has to open the barrier to place the bucket's contents in the skip. What a complete waste of everyone's time! Has anyone done a cost benefit analysis of the costs of having 2 members of staff each taking 3 minutes to help me dump 8 bricks!

Answer from Chairman on behalf of the committee:

Changes to our community recycling centres

Surrey County council is under serious financial pressure because of reduced government funding and increasing demand for services, particularly adult social care. This year we are projecting a budget gap of over £20 million and next year the shortfall is significantly greater.

As a consequence all service areas within Surrey County Council have been asked to make significant savings in order to address the budget deficit. In 2015, following a consultation on possible savings options, the county council's Cabinet agreed to make changes to the operation of the community recycling centres in order save £1.5 million per year. The changes included reduced opening hours and days, stronger controls over unauthorised trade waste and the introduction of charges for some non-household wastes.

Both Surrey County Council's Economic Prosperity, Environment and Highways (EPEH) Board and the Cabinet were acutely aware of the high regard that members of the public have for their local community recycling centres and therefore took care

to ensure that the impact of these changes on the public was minimised as far as possible. Therefore they agreed that no charge would be made for the disposal of asbestos arising in the home and that members of the public would be allowed a reasonable free allowance of one bag of soil, rubble or plasterboard or one sheet of plasterboard per day.

Similar charges have also been brought in by our neighbouring authorities in Hampshire, Bracknell Forest, Wokingham and in West Sussex, except that there is no free allowance given at those authorities and charges are also being made for asbestos and gas bottles. Windsor and Maidenhead restrict residents to one car boot load of construction waste per month.

Residents who have larger amounts of construction waste to dispose of should consider hiring a skip or Hippo Bag. If residents have their waste collected then they must ensure that the person collecting the waste is a registered waste carrier. Passing your waste to somebody who is not a registered waste carrier is a criminal offence.

Necessary controls are in place to ensure the smooth operation of the charging system and to prevent the deposit of unauthorised trade waste at the tax-payers expense. The cost of operating the charging scheme has been factored into our savings calculations.

Fly Tipping

During the consultation on changes to our CRCs , many residents raised concerns about the possibility that changes could increase fly tipping. We recognised these concerns and have developed a fly tipping prevention strategy which is aimed at addressing this existing problem.

Between 2014/15 and 2015/16 the amount of fly tipped material collected by district and borough councils increased from 2500 tonnes to 4000 tonnes. All local authorities in Surrey have a vested interest to ensure that fly tipping is reduced because whilst district and boroughs have to meet the cost of collection, the county council has to meet the cost of disposal.

I attach for your information a spreadsheet showing the tonnages of fly tipped material collected by district and borough councils between April and October 2016, compared with the same period in 2015. You will see that the tonnages have reduced by around 1000 tonnes in 2016 compared with the previous year. This equates to a saving in disposal cost of around £100,000.

The other source of information on fly tipping is number of recorded incidents and this information is recorded by district and borough councils. Unfortunately there is quite a lag before this data is published and some of the data for the period from April to September is only just starting to come through the system. Guildford Borough Council and Reigate Borough council have published data which indicates that the number of incidents of fly tipping have risen during the period April to September but others have reported no change. We will need to look carefully at this data to see whether the increase in incidents is related to materials that we are making a charge for at our community recycling centres.

We also need to bear in mind that we have had a fly tipping awareness campaign running from July to November this year and one of the aims of this campaign was to encourage residents to report incidents of fly tipping.

	Flytip Tonnages							
	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
Elmbridge	30	30	31	25	28	30	20	194
Elmbridge	29	12	30	23	28	22	19	162
Epsom	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	3
Epsom	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	5
Guildford	39	39	38	38	34	32	28	248
Guildford	67	49	44	40	46	55	68	370
Mole Valley	1	0	2	2	1	4	2	12
Mole Valley	7	10	32	1	6	6	1	62
Reigate & Banstead	19	14	12	10	15	23	14	106
Reigate & Banstead	4	2	4	5	6	5	5	30
Runnymede	43	34	30	46	38	42	26	259
Runnymede	92	65	46	55	41	67	48	414
Spelthorne	17	47	34	78	37	26	14	252
Spelthorne	81	17	62	85	23	27	99	394
Surrey Heath	23	16	18	24	16	18	11	125
Surrey Heath	15	11	18	11	11	8	11	86
Tandridge	50	55	68	63	38	53	32	359
Tandridge	64	45	74	43	52	63	72	412
Waverley	49	41	35	47	45	42	46	306
Waverley	43	106	113	130	163	228	130	913
Woking	7	15	12	21	10	12	10	88
Woking	12	8	16	21	22	18	16	113
16-17 Total	279	292	278	354	261	283	206	1953
15-16 Total	414	327	439	413	398	500	469	2960
% Change	-33%	-11%	-37%	-14%	-35%	-43%	-56%	-34%

2016-17
2015-16