

CABINET – 17 July 2018

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Public Questions

Question 1: Mr Graham Fletcher

I live in the Woodham Ward of Runnymede Borough Council and like to enjoy a daily walk after knee and hip replacement operations. My path is often obstructed by vehicles parked, in the evening or early morning, halfway across the public footpath in Woodham Park Road between the junction of Queen Mary's Drive and Woodham Lane also along Kingston Rise. Many people also use the grass verges as overspill parking spaces for their cars, in the area.

I have noticed people in disabled pavement buggies, have to drive into the road to be able to get past the obstructed footpath.

This is a general problem in the area, I have only quoted the roads that affect me. Is there any form of legislation that could be introduced to stop this inconsiderate parking?

Reply:

Cars parking on pavements and verges has become a growing issue in recent years as the level of car ownership has increased. To tackle this we manage on street parking in each Surrey borough through a parking review process. In response to requests from the public in your area we have recently installed double yellow lines on the junction of Woodham Park Road and Queen Mary's Drive together with additional DYL on the junction of King George's Drive and Kingston Rise.

Where vehicles block a pavement so that pedestrians, or people in wheelchairs or pushing baby buggies cannot pass without going into the road, it is considered to be an obstruction of the highway, which is an offence that only the police have powers to take action on. If this occurs, it should be reported to the police on the non-emergency number (101) and they can take action, subject to availability of resources.

There are some options available but these are site specific and there are factors to be considered before introducing these, such as the layout of the road or roads and the practicalities and implications of doing so. I will therefore ask the County Council's parking team to investigate suitable and appropriate options in this area when they conduct their next review of parking in Runnymede.

Mr Colin Kemp
Cabinet Lead Member for Place
17 July 2018

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