



SURREY

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE EPSOM & EWELL
10 December 2018**

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Question 1 – Resident Abelea Green

Re: St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive parking petition

The Dorking Road Junction with St Margaret Drive and the adjacent traffic lights are already traffic accident hot-spots according to the website <http://www.crashmap.co.uk/>

Monitored nitrogen dioxide levels are high at these points. The above junction and the set of traffic lights are also within the pollution footprint of the nearby BP petrol station.

Would the committee please consider the safety and pollution implications before they relax parking restrictions on St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive?

Officer Response:

If any relaxation of the parking restrictions in St Margaret's Drive and/or St Elizabeth Drive were to be promoted to provide a "park and stride" opportunity for St Joseph's School, the impact on the junction of St Margaret's Drive and Dorking Road would be no greater, and probably substantially less, than the impact of the school community using the church car park to access St Joseph's school. Officers are not aware of any problems at the junction of St Margaret's Drive and Dorking Road arising out of the use of the church car park by the school community.

Question 2 – Mr Colin Taylor

Re: Epsom High Street

Some time ago (several years in fact) there were proposals to radically improve the junction of Epsom's High Street with East Street, Church Street and Upper High Street, which would also involve significant changes to the railings on the central reservation.

What are the current plans for this portion of the town centre? If work is still planned, what is the anticipated time scale?

Much has changed since railings were added to the central reservation, which I believe was done to discourage jay-walking between the parked cars. Nowadays parking is not permitted. After the promised re-siting of the bus stand for Redhill routes, drivers may be tempted to speed between Church Street and Ashley Road, trying to catch the traffic lights before they change.

Is it still intended to follow the Dutch model, as in Tolworth Broadway? If so, will traffic calming and 20mph limits also form part of the scheme, to keep the High Street safe for shoppers?

ITEM 3

Officer Response:

There is no proposal for any changes either to the Quadrant junction itself or to the section of High Street between the Quadrant and Spread Eagle junctions at the present time.

Question 3 – Abelea Green Resident

Re: St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive parking petition

- (a) How can your hopefully impartial Committee condone a scheme that would endanger the lives and safety of the Residents and other involved people and children in and around cars in a totally congested area, in a road that has no legal access to the School?
- (b) Why would relaxed parking be allowed on these roads that are nowhere near the main entrance to the School in a scheme that would go against all legal, safety and correct procedures. Also giving permission to hundreds of parents from all over the county to park here, as opposed to multiple road choices over the whole area.
- (c) Having paid our Council Tax-where is the justification for preventing us receiving the Service of the Council's Refuse Collection or any other necessary Services affecting safety of the Residents, such as Emergency Gas Leaks, Water Leaks, Road damage etc.

Officer Response:

- (a) The Local Committee could not implement a scheme that was considered to be unsafe by the Highways Service. The relaxation of the parking restrictions in St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive is suggested to facilitate "park and stride", whereby parents may park away from the school gate, and walk the last part of the journey, for example via Mount Hill Gardens or Whitehorse Drive. From a technical point of view it is quite possible to relax the parking restrictions in St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive, without any risk of obstruction of vehicles passing and re-passing within these roads, and without any risk to Highway users. It is also quite possible to design a relaxation in the current parking restrictions to provide an opportunity for park and stride, but without providing a parking opportunity for hospital visitors, shoppers, etc.
- (b) From a technical point of view it is quite possible to relax the parking restrictions in St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive legally, safely, and correctly. It is for the Local Committee to decide, based on technical evidence provided by officers, whether such a relaxation would provide a net benefit to the community of Epsom & Ewell, taking into account the views of supporters and opponents of the suggestion.
- (c) From a technical point of view it is quite possible to relax the parking restrictions in St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive without any risk of obstruction to refuse collection, or utility maintenance.