

## Watford Fields (Zone F) – Statutory Consultation Responses

14/12/2022

Following the residents of the Watford Fields Area (Zone F) raising concerns about the parking capacity within the zone, a reduction of sections of the no waiting restrictions around existing parking bays has been proposed to increase the parking bays where feasible. An additional 5-6 spaces in the area was found.

Statutory Consultation was undertaken to formally gauge the resident's views on the proposals. This was carried out between 11<sup>th</sup> November and the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022. Letters were posted to 75 addresses (those in close proximity to the proposals), notices erected on the streets and a public notice placed in Watford Observer.

Statutory Consultees were also consulted none of which replied except Hertfordshire Police.

The following table sets out responses received verbatim, followed by officer comments. A total of 7 responses were received; 5 objected and 2 supported

ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
Hamilton Road	1		1	Whilst the proposals have been tracked using software, which shows larger vehicles can turn, concern still remains from the resident that larger vehicles cannot pass. As the road is also two way at this point there would be reduced visibility for drivers to see oncoming traffic around the bend. Therefore in the interest of safety, it is recommended that the proposal is not proceeded to allow for the safe passage of emergency vehicles at all times.
<b>Resident Comment</b>				<b>Objection/Support</b>
1) We understand that council has a plan to extend bay in the western direction by reducing the No Waiting restriction on the western side of Hamilton Street by 4m as per below. We object this based on the grounds of parking there blocking the road for emergency and delivery services. It's not restricted to park on yellow line in the evenings and on Sunday which causes massive issues already when ambulance, fire services and delivery vans cannot pass and vehicles get damaged. If No Waiting restriction will be reduced by 4 meters we as residents will experience the same problem but not just in the evenings and on Sundays but 24/7. I hope these grounds are enough for you not to proceed with the proposal. Ideally we would like a double yellow line where Cannon Road and Hamilton Road join on the western side in order to ensure the road is accessible for emergency vehicles 24/7.				Objection
				<b>Officer Comment</b>
				The resident believes the proposals to extend the parking bay will cause further obstruction and blockage with the safe passage of emergency vehicles and delivery service who already experience issues outside the restriction hours, in the evening and on Sundays. They have rather requested the implementation of double yellow lines (No waiting at any time) around the junction with Cannon Road to ensure road is accessible at all times for emergency vehicles.

ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
Lammas Road (south)	2		2	In the interest of safety, it is recommended that the proposals is not proceeded to ensure an adequate stopping area is maintained at all times for the safe passage of vehicles.

<u>Resident Comment</u>	<u>Objection/Support</u>	<u>Officer Comment</u>
<p>1) I am writing about the changes to parking bays in the Watford Field area WR22-CZF-01. My concern is relation to the bays in Lammas Road. Lammas Road experiences high traffic periods including buses operated by eagle. The areas that are proposed to be extension provide critical stopping areas for the one way flow of traffic due to double parking and enough viewership to see cars when exiting York Road. I sincerely request that this change is reviewed as these areas need to stay car free to ensure that enough visibility and stop areas are available without blocking York road and Elfrida Road and safe exits are still possible. When vans in particular are parked by the two exits it is almost impossible to see if there is an oncoming vehicle.</p>	<p>Object</p>	<p>The resident has expressed a concern about the area of extension for both proposed locations on Lammas (southern and northern end) Road which currently provide critical stopping areas for the one way traffic flow due to the double parking Lammas Road and has requested a review of the proposals. They concluded that these areas need to stay car free to ensure that enough visibility and stop areas are available without blocking York road and Elfrida Road and safe exits are still possible.</p> <p>Implementation of the proposal will leave a 4 meter space for vehicles to stop. Depending on the size of the vehicle that stops, it may cause obstruction to vehicles waiting to turn out of Elfrida Road (north).</p>
<p>2) I would like to make an objection to a proportion of the proposed minor amendments to waiting restrictions around Watford Fields. I can see that the majority of the proposed areas would be a viable amendment but I am concerned about two proposed amendments, the northern side of Lammas Road and the southern side of Lammas Road. This route is the main access through for traffic from Lower High Street Watford in a southerly direction and from Wiggshall Road in a northern direction. The points indicated for amendment are a usual point to pull in if you should see approaching vehicles to allow them to pass and I am concerned that if these points in the stretch of road were taking up with parked vehicles, it would cause gridlock should vehicles be approaching from either direction with no point to pull over. This section of road gets extremely busy during school drop times, in the morning and afternoon, and as things stand at the moment, there is some 'wriggle' room to allow passing vehicles but I fear this would cause a lot of issues if these two waiting areas were removed. I realise the surveyor will have looked at all this prior to the proposals but possibly when it was a quieter time of day. I urge them to attend during the school drop and pick up times and review any findings from that point. Thank you for your time.</p>	<p>Object</p>	<p>Same as above.</p> <p>Resident highlighted that the need to maintain the stopping areas on Lammas Road is important especially during the busy times – during school drop off and pick up, and generally in the mornings and evenings.</p>

ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
Elfrida Road South	1		1	Therefore in the interest of safety, it is recommended that the proposal is not proceeded to allow for the safe accessibility into and out of the resident's drive.
<p>Respondent wrote in on behalf of her elderly mother:  <i>" her house id directly opposite one of the locations mentioned in the proposals. The proposal there is to extend the bay by 4m and remove the no waiting at any time. I can see why this has been suggested. However, my Mum's house has a driveway which is in regular use, and extending the bay would make the drive unusable. It is rare that the drive has been blocked in the past, but it has been on occasion by delivery drivers and people dropping off children off for school and it is impossible to get the car off the drive.</i></p> <p><i>When the other bays near the house are occupied, as they usually are, there is insufficient turning room to be able to turn to exit the road.</i></p> <p><i>Reversing in to the drive to enable driving out, would be similarly restrictive if the bay were to be extended. Besides which, my car is a wheelchair accessible vehicles and needs to have rear access from the pavement, to get her wheelchair on board."</i></p>			<p><b>Objection</b></p>	<p>The respondent is concerned that extending the bay will affect accessibility into and out of her drive as it is directly opposite the proposed bay extension area.</p> <p>A site visit was undertaken to review the issue- the existing carriageway layout and to take carriageway width measurements which is approximately 6.2m. Even though the resident's drive is protected by an access protection marking, the existing parking bay runs across it which means that vehicles can park very close on either side of the drive, restricting movement out of the drive. Implementing the proposal to extend the parking bay will further obstruct/ restrict the turn out of the resident's drive into Elfrida Road (south).</p>

ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
Cannon Road	1		1	It is therefore recommended that this proposal is implemented/introduced as advertised
<p>I object to the proposal of reducing sections of No Waiting (single yellow lines) around some parking bays to increase the parking capacity. The problem with parking in Watford Fields is not to do with the lack of parking bays but due to those people who do not pay for parking permits to park once the restrictions have finished, ie after 6.30pm or on Sunday. Whilst the parking restrictions are on, there</p>			<p><b>Objection</b></p>	<p>The resident is convinced the issue with the area is not due to the lack of parking bays but due to the number of non-permit drivers that park outside the parking restriction period. They also believe that reducing the single yellow lines will create less spaces</p>

<p>is no problem with the parking. Also if you reduce the single yellow lines, you are creating less places to park when the parking bays are full as you can park outside of parking restrictions on a single yellow line; and on Lammas Road you are reducing the "pull in" places for traffic passing through.</p>		<p>to park outside the parking restriction period, when the bays are full.</p> <p>The proposal on the whole is intended to increase the parking capacity for permits holders in the area.</p>
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ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
York Road	0			It is therefore recommended that this proposal is implemented/introduced as advertised

ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
Lammas Road (north) by York Rd				It is therefore recommended that this proposal is implemented/introduced as advertised as the requirement for the 'stopping area' and forward visibility can be maintained unlike the proposed southern side of Lammas Road.
<p>1) I am writing about the changes to parking bays in the Watford Field area WR22-CZF-01. My concern is relation to the bays in Lammas Road. Lammas Road experiences high traffic periods including buses operated by eagle. The areas that are proposed to be extension provide critical stopping areas for the one way flow of traffic due to double parking and enough viewership to see cars when exiting York Road. I sincerely request that this change is reviewed as these areas need to stay car free to ensure that enough visibility and stop areas are available without blocking York road and Elfrida Road and safe exits are still possible. When vans in particular are parked by the two exits it is almost impossible to see if there is an oncoming vehicle.</p>	Object	<p>Same as Lammas Road above (southern end)</p> <p>The proposal on the northern end of Lammas Road, by York Road is on the western side, in the direction of southbound traffic. The need to have a stopping area to allow northbound traffic to pass would be before the existing parking bay, not after. Extending the bay as proposed will therefore not cause obstruction to the flow of traffic or affect the visibility of on-coming traffic.</p>		
<p>2) I would like to make an objection to a proportion of the proposed minor amendments to waiting restrictions around Watford Fields. I can see that the majority of the proposed areas would be a viable amendment but I am concerned about two proposed amendments, the northern side of Lammas Road and the southern side of Lammas Road. This route is the main access through for traffic from Lower High Street Watford in a southerly direction and from Wigenhall Road in a northern direction. The points indicated for amendment are a usual point to pull in if you should see approaching vehicles to allow them to pass and I am concerned that if these points in the stretch of road</p>	Object	<p>Same as Lammas Road above (southern end)</p> <p>Resident highlighted that the need to maintain the stopping areas on Lammas Road is important especially during the busy times – during school drop off and pick up, and generally in the mornings and evenings.</p>		

<p>were taking up with parked vehicles, it would cause gridlock should vehicles be approaching from either direction with no point to pull over. This section of road gets extremely busy during school drop times, in the morning and afternoon, and as things stand at the moment, there is some 'wriggle' room to allow passing vehicles but I fear this would cause a lot of issues if these two waiting areas were removed. I realise the surveyor will have looked at all this prior to the proposals but possibly when it was a quieter time of day. I urge them to attend during the school drop and pick up times and review any findings from that point. Thank you for your time.</p>		
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ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
<b>Tucker Street</b>	1	1		<b>It is therefore recommended that this proposal is implemented/introduced as advertised</b>

<u>Resident Comment</u>	<u>Objection/Support</u>	<u>Officer Comment</u>
1) I am in support of these changes due to the fact we have seen a rise in spaces for electric vehicles and also disabled spaces meaning there is less parking space for the majority. This will only become a larger issue in the future so it's great to see the council being proactive here. Whilst I am in support, I hope these are planned correctly to allow cars sufficient space to turn safely around the bends as this could cause accidents.	Support	Resident is in support of proposals in terms of creating more space for parking

ROAD	No. of responses	Support	Objection	Final Officer Comment
<b>Roberts Road</b>	1	1		<b>It is therefore recommended that this proposal is implemented/introduced as advertised</b>

<u>Resident Comment</u>	<u>Objection/Support</u>	<u>Officer Comment</u>
1) In response to your letter regarding the above I am strongly in favour of the above as this is how Roberts Road was before you resurfaced the road and took the parking bays away without consultation in the first place. I contacted the council about this at the time but nothing was done, also spoke to the Mayor when he came round door knocking & he e-mailed to say that it was going to be looked at but suddenly the lines they had put when resurfaced were actually reinforced with more white paint. & no consultation. On a	Support	Resident is in support of proposals in terms of creating more space for parking. They however raise issues associated with parents dropping off and picking their kids up from school. These include the residents being blocked in, engines being left on while parents access the school, litter being left on pavement etc. They

separate but similar ilk something needs to be done about the four times a day invasion of the cars of the parents taking their children to school which is a complete and utter nightmare, car regularly blocked in whilst they go to the school. Engines left running to either keep warm or cool down, my home is filled with dreadful fumes more than a garage forecourt. When asked politely to turn them off, abuse. Their radios are on full blast so you can't hear the television or hear yourself think again if asked to politely turn it off a mouthful of abuse. They leave their litter & facemasks on the pavement, coffee cups, chip boxes etc. while they sit there waiting to go in to the school for about half an hour before the children are due to come out. They park in the bays (4 times a day at varying times) due to nursery & infants, I am disabled & my partner is also disabled with serious breathing problems so we have windows open for air & the fumes are absolutely dreadful. Could signs be put up on the posts for 'Engines to be turned off'? This also involves constant delivery vehicles parked outside our home also left with the engines & radios left on whilst they go and do all their deliveries around and about. Most of the traffic wardens, if they come, do absolutely nothing but stand there & watch, the odd few that do also get abuse or threats. There should be clear notices stopping them from driving & parking in the bays and on the lines causing us all grief every day. I go out to get my shopping then can't get near my own home to get my shopping from the car to indoors because of the school parents being on the lines, I have a Disabled Badge, not much use as they are there on the yellow lines or they are parked in the permit bays anyway. Something should be done as we as Residents are fed up to the back teeth with this harassment all day long. We would all be very grateful if something can be done or looked into to prevent all the above constant upset. Thanks for any assistance that could be offered.

would like the Council to consider measures to help deal with the issues raised.

The issue of school travel should be raised with Hertfordshire County Council Councillors. It should also be raised with the active travel teams at Hertfordshire County Council and dialogue should be undertaken with the school travel plan team.