

## Appendix B

### West Harrow Station/Bessborough Road Area – Possible Parking Controls

#### KEY STAKEHOLDER MEETING

1. Notes of stakeholders meeting held at St Peters Christian Centre Sumner Road Harrow on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008. The meeting commenced at 7.35pm.

2. **Attendees:**

*Chair:* Councillor Susan Hall – Environment and Road Safety Portfolio Holder

Ann Begley	Butler Road resident
Anna Charleston	Butler Road resident
N Davis	Butler Road resident
M Davis	Butler Road resident
Andrew McPhial	Vaughan Road resident
Hugh Longland	Drury Road resident
Mr Smith	Merivale Road resident
Mrs Smith	Merivale Road resident
B Kendall	The Gardens resident
T Randall	The Gardens resident
Maxine Drury	Butler Road resident
Lisa Young	Butler Road resident
Janet Young	Butler Road resident
Simon Gardiner	St Peters medical centre
Kelly Brett	Butler Road resident
Ciam Sweeney	Butler Road resident
Amon Nezandra	LUL-West Harrow Stn
J Shah	Blenheim Road resident

*Ward Councillors:*

Julia Merison

*Other Councillors*

Gerry Miles

*Officers:*

Paul Newman

HC - Senior Highways Engineer

- 2 **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from the following:

Councillor Kinnear	Harrow on the Hill ward Councillor
Councillor Anjana Patel	West Harrow ward Councillor
Councillor Brian Gate	West Harrow ward Councillor
Anthony Wood	Harrow Public Transportation Users Group (H P T U A)
Gavin Cox	Badgers Close resident
Representative	Vaughan 1 <sup>st</sup> & Middle School

### **3. Chairman's introduction:**

Each attendee introduced themselves for the benefit of others.

Councillor Susan Hall welcomed stakeholders to the meeting and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to hear what parking problems resident, business and other representative groups have in the area,

Cllr Hall explained that Harrow's review of parking in the area had been brought forward in the programme because of residents concerns over parking especially around the West Harrow Station area and Bessborough Road ends of Vaughan Road/Butler Avenue.

Copies of an agenda together with a plan showing the roads in the area of West Harrow Station/Bessborough Road were circulated.

### **4. Officer introduction:**

An officer explained the background to how the councils considers and prioritises requests for parking controls via the Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel (TARSAP). An explanation of what the Stakeholders meeting was designed to do and how it fitted into the whole process was given. It was stressed that this meeting was the very start of the process. This meeting was not to agree a scheme but to listen to resident and business's problems so that we could draw up a proposal to address the issues that was suitable for full consultation. The officer outlined what sort of issues could be solved by a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) scheme and stressed it was not a panacea to solving all parking problems. A booklet titled "Parking - Have your views heard" was circulated which contained information on a CPZ, its advantages and disadvantages along with a series of frequently asked questions.

An officer highlighted proposed CPZ reviews and proposals surrounding the current area under consideration at The County Roads, North Harrow, Rayners Lane, South Harrow and Harrow on the Hill that may proceed, subject to consultation, in the next couple of years.

An officer informed the meeting that councillors were supportive of only implementing CPZ parking controls in roads where there was a majority of support to the public consultation.

### **5. Open Discussion**

Councillor Hall opened the meeting to questions from the floor

A Drury Road resident commented that concentration of parking at the Vaughan Road end resulted in conflicting traffic movements giving rise to antisocial behaviour amongst drivers, road rage and car horns being sounded from 6.30/7am. There was frequently difficulty in parking anywhere near homes. The problem was present weekdays but not at weekends.

A Butler Road resident commented that queues of traffic formed in early weekday mornings when commuters waited for residents to move their vehicles before finding somewhere to park. This resulted in antisocial behaviour. Parking meant that some drivers

parked on corners and the general parking situation caused problems for mothers with babies who could not park near their homes.

Councillor Hall reiterated that a CPZ will not solve all parking problems, she added that the council would also be looking to introduce double yellow lines at junctions, bends and other pinch points to ensure that refuse and emergency vehicles could manoeuvre. These proposals would be taken forward across the area irrespective of whether a CPZ scheme went ahead.

A resident commented that at present they often have to go out at approximately 9pm to move their cars closer to their homes because they can not park closer due to commuters' vehicles

A resident living close to Bessborough Road commented that at the weekend parking from shoppers to town centre was not a problem. During week parking was a problem because of vehicles from shoppers, commuters, town centre workers and college students.

There were questions about increasing parking capacity for residents by leaving the park Wilson Gardens/Butler Road open at night in the winter and converting grassed areas in front of housing to car parking. Cllr Hall responded that leaving park open was not possible due to anti social issues in the past and there was no funding possible to create further parking on grass areas irrespective of planning issues.

Residents complained about dropped crossings being blocked by parked vehicles. Cllr Hall highlighted enforcement the council's civil enforcement officers (previously known as parking attendants) when they are alerted to particular problem can take. However basic issue was difficult and CPZ would only deal with issue during control hour(s).

A resident of The Gardens commented that at the last review around 9-10 years ago there were rumours that parking permits were going to be £250. An officer responded that permits were charged on a sliding scale, permit for first vehicle around £40, details were in the parking booklet circulated at the meeting. This booklet would be circulated to all residents at the time of public consultation.

In response to a question about rumours of West Harrow Station closing in the future a representative for London Underground stated that this was not true.

A representative from St Peters Medical Centre asked if dedicated parking facilities could be provided for wheelchair users and ambulances. Cllr hall stated that officers would look into possibility of disabled badge holders parking and ambulances.

In response to question from Cllr Hall to attendees most people considered a one hour CPZ restriction in the morning, say 10-11am Monday to Friday to be all that was required to deal with all day parkers although questionnaire would ask residents if they wanted an additional hour control in the afternoon given would cause more inconvenience to residents, businesses and their visitors. One resident commented that they experienced parking problems on a Sunday during parts of the summer. It was agreed that the option of a CPZ covering weekends would be asked at the public consultation.

A question was asked about introducing one way systems in the area but Councillor Hall stated that although they were able to deal with problems such as lack of passing places

they were often widely unpopular as had recently been experienced in the “county roads”. It was agreed that officers would only look at passing places when absolutely necessary for road safety and would try to maximise on street parking.

A resident commented about off street parking provision for the new development being constructed in Wilson Gardens and on proposals for land adjacent and it was agreed that officers would investigate this further.

In response to a question over the implementation of parking charges at North Harrow public car park and possible parking displacement into west Harrow area, Cllr Hall commented that parking charges were essential in making the best use of the public’s money.

One resident commented positively that a police officer had informed them that crime drops when a CPZ is introduced in an area.

A resident of The Gardens commented that if the proposed CPZ zone was large it could result in people from within the zone with permits driving and parking in The Gardens to use the station.

A resident passed a series of photographs to the officer illustrating a number of the parking and access problems in the area.

Post meeting Note-Anthony Wood representing Harrow Public Transportation Users Group and also an advisor to TARSAP gave some written comments that HPTUA view would be to support a CPZ in the area with a one hour ban (say 11am to 12 noon) This would prevent the all day parking which is the major problem. Having a one hour ban means that local businesses and residents can still “live” around the one hour but the commuters will not be able to park. He also added that he was aware of difficulties for medical staff when trying to find parking in the area to visit patients.\_

## **6 Summing Up**

Councillor Susan Hall (chair) stated that the consultation process was the residents’ and businesses’ opportunity to determine what parking controls they wanted in their area. Having reviewed the plan tabled for a proposed CPZ it was considered that in the light of comments from the meeting and matters known to local councillors that the area should be reduced.

**Officers recommend to: -**

- 1. prepare a scheme based on the consensus of this meeting to include the area bounded by the following roads and features:**

Railway Line between Harrow on the Hill and North Harrow including the section of The Gardens up to Pinner Road, Blenheim Road junction with Argyle Road, Allotments south of Dorchester Avenue, Drury Road north of Whitmore Road, Roads to north of Lascelles Avenue, Bessborough Road

**A plan of the agreed extension area for the purposes of consultation is attached.**

## **7 AOB**

There being no other business the Chair warmly thanked those attending the meeting. A vote of thanks to Councillors and Officers for holding and attending the meeting came from the floor. The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

### **Provisional Programme**

Consultation February 2009  
Results reported to TARSAP June 2009  
Advertise Traffic Orders Autumn 2009  
Consider objections (if any) Nov 2009  
Target Implementation Spring 2010