

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Subject: THE FALKIRK COUNCIL (WAGGON ROAD, BRIGHTONS)
(PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2013**
Meeting: PLANNING COMMITTEE
Date: 22 AUGUST 2013
Author: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Ward: Upper Braes

**Local Members: Councillor Gordon Hughes
Councillor John McLuckie
Councillor Rosie Murray**

Community Council: Brightons Community Council

Council Officer: Russell Steedman – Network Co-ordinator

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report seeks a decision on The Falkirk Council (Waggon Road, Brightons) (Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2013. In terms of the council's Scheme of Delegation, this decision requires to be made by Committee as objections have been received to the making of the order. In terms of the relevant legislation, the authority requires to consider all objections made and not withdrawn before making the order.
- 1.2 Members should be aware that it is available to them to call for a hearing on the Order should they find themselves unable to determine whether the Order should be made or not at this stage. Such a hearing would be conducted by an independent party appointed by the Council from a list of persons compiled by the Scottish Ministers for that purpose. Members would then need to consider the report and recommendation of the Reporter before making a determination.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Waggon Road is a one-way road from Maddiston Road to its junction with Crossgatehead Road, with the permitted direction of travel away from Maddiston Road.
- 2.2 Waggon Road is approximately 5.3m wide with a 1.4m wide footway located on the north side of the carriageway only. The carriageway widens to approximately 6.4m at a parking lay-by which is long enough to accommodate 4 cars.
- 2.3 There is an existing traffic regulation Order implementing waiting restrictions located on both sides of Waggon Road for a length of approximately 15 metres commencing at Maddiston Road. This restriction ends some 19 metres short of the lay-by referred to above.

- 2.4 Drivers park on the north side of the Waggon Road between Maddiston Road and the parking lay-by, habitually parking partially on the narrow footway. This can result in the footway being impassable by pedestrians pushing prams or by wheelchair users.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 Parking is resulting in the obstruction of the narrow footway. The obstruction can lead to pedestrians walking along the road to pass the parked vehicles. This gives rise to road safety concerns.
- 3.2 It is proposed to extend the existing waiting restrictions by a further 19 metres approximately. The proposed Order would prohibit parking on both sides of Waggon Road from Maddiston Road up to the parking lay-by.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 17 objectors have signed a covering objection letter publicised by the SPAR shop located on Maddiston Road. Following explanatory correspondence and at the time of writing, two objections have been withdrawn.
- 4.2 The objectors' stated grounds for objection in the covering letter were as follows:
- 4.2.1 Further extending the double yellow lines in Waggon Road is of no benefit to the public or motorists who use Waggon Road.
- 4.2.2 The Order would make no difference to the total lack of legal parking spaces in the surrounding area. Many of the surrounding houses do not have private parking and those who do have nowhere for any visitors to park. The 3/4 spaces on the right hand side of Waggon Road are often used by residents leaving no parking available for any customers or staff of any businesses operating in the area.
- 4.2.3 When the current waiting restrictions were put in place some years ago there were plans by the local council office at the time for additional car parking to be put on the grassed area at the bottom of Waggon Road. This would ease congestion and provide much needed parking for both residents and businesses alike.
- 4.3 Development Services associated responses to the above points of objection were as follows:
- 4.3.1 It was acknowledged that the introduction of waiting restrictions reduced the available parking over a length of road and that this normally resulted in parking being displaced elsewhere. Any reduction in available parking had to be set against the road safety implications of maintaining the status quo. Vehicles parking on Waggon Road between Maddiston Road and the parking lay-by habitually do so by parking on the footway. To do otherwise could potentially result in the vehicle blocking the road to larger vehicles. The width of footway at this location was particularly narrow and could be impassable by pedestrians should vehicles park on it.

4.3.2 The objectors were advised that the provision of off-street parking was not proposed as part of the traffic regulation order. The traffic regulation order simply sought to formally prohibit parking where such parking is resulting in road safety issues for pedestrians and therefore where parking should not currently be occurring. There are no proposals to provide any off-street parking places in the foreseeable future.

4.4 Objectors were asked, should they be minded to do so, to formally withdraw their objections.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 The purpose of the Order is to prevent vehicles from obstructing a narrow footway which is giving rise to road safety concerns.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 **Members are asked to consider the objections and consider whether the Order should be made.**

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Director of Development Services

Date: 2 August 2013

Contact Officer: Russell Steedman, Network Co-ordinator Tel: Ext 4830

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Falkirk Council (Waggon Road, Brightons) (Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2013.
2. Letters of objection and correspondence.