

SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 14TH DECEMBER 2010

PETITION FOR INVESTIGATING ROAD SAFETY ISSUES AS A RESULT OF PARKING IN COOMB FIELD, LUCILINA DRIVE AND LINGFIELD ROAD

Report of the: West Kent Divisional Manager

Status: For Consideration

Chairman Mr David Brazier

Head of Service Head of Transport & Development (KHS) - Behdad Haratbar

Recommendation:

- (a) Members note receipt of the petition.
- (b) The lead petitioner is informed of this Board's decision.

Introduction

1. A petition has been received from 46 residents of Coomb Field, Lucilina Drive and Lingfield Road in Edenbridge in relation to the inconsiderate parking that takes place on these roads on weekends. See Appendix A for petition text and signatories.
2. This is as a result of Edenbridge Rugby and Football clubs using pitches on the nearby Recreational Ground, and as a result visitors and club supporters coming to the matches.

Background

3. The clubs currently have parking facilities within the Recreational Ground, but these cannot accommodate all visitors and as a result parking overflows into the surrounding roads.
4. Last season, new procedures were put in place by the Rugby club, including informing members and visiting teams of the parking difficulties in advance, advising where free parking was available, providing volunteer marshals and liaising with the local police.
5. Residents are concerned that cars are parked on kerbs, across footways and driveways, and that an emergency vehicle may not be able to access Coomb Field or Lucilina Drive. The lead petitioner has also pointed out that as cars are sometimes parked on the corners of the side roads, driver's sight-lines are blocked and it can be very difficult to turn of the side streets here.

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6. On Sunday 24th October 2010, the lead petitioner contacted the police to deal with the cars parked inappropriately and causing obstruction of footways thus causing pedestrians to walk in the road.
7. In response to the events of the 24th October, Edenbridge Town Council has liaised with the Sports Association. Police and local residents to establish what went wrong in an effort to ensure the problems are not repeated.
8. The Council have also received letters of objections to the petition. See Appendix C.

Discussion

There is no doubt that the system of marshalling failed on 24th October. Police Community Support Officers issued three warning notices to drivers who had parked their cars inconsiderately. Those responsible for monitoring and marshalling were informed of the problems and asked to ensure it did not happen again. No problems were reported on the following weekends of 30/31 October and 6/7 November.

A full meeting of the Town Council discussed residents' concern on 8th November and agreed a number of actions, including giving consideration to a small extension to the existing to the existing car park. A full list of agreed actions is listed in Appendix B.

It is the view of Kent Highway Services that the Town Council have dealt with the matter and is taking appropriate steps to relieve the situation as agreed in its meeting of 8th November 2010. The Town Council has sent out its response to the residents detailing the plan of action.

Appendices

- A Petition and residents signatories.
- B Response from Edenbridge Town Council outlining plan of action.
- C Objections raised by local residents to the petition.

Sources of Information: Edenbridge Town Council

Contact Officer(s): Aziz Jiwaji, Kent Highway Services 08458 247 800

DIRECTOR OF KENT HIGHWAY SERVICES John Burr