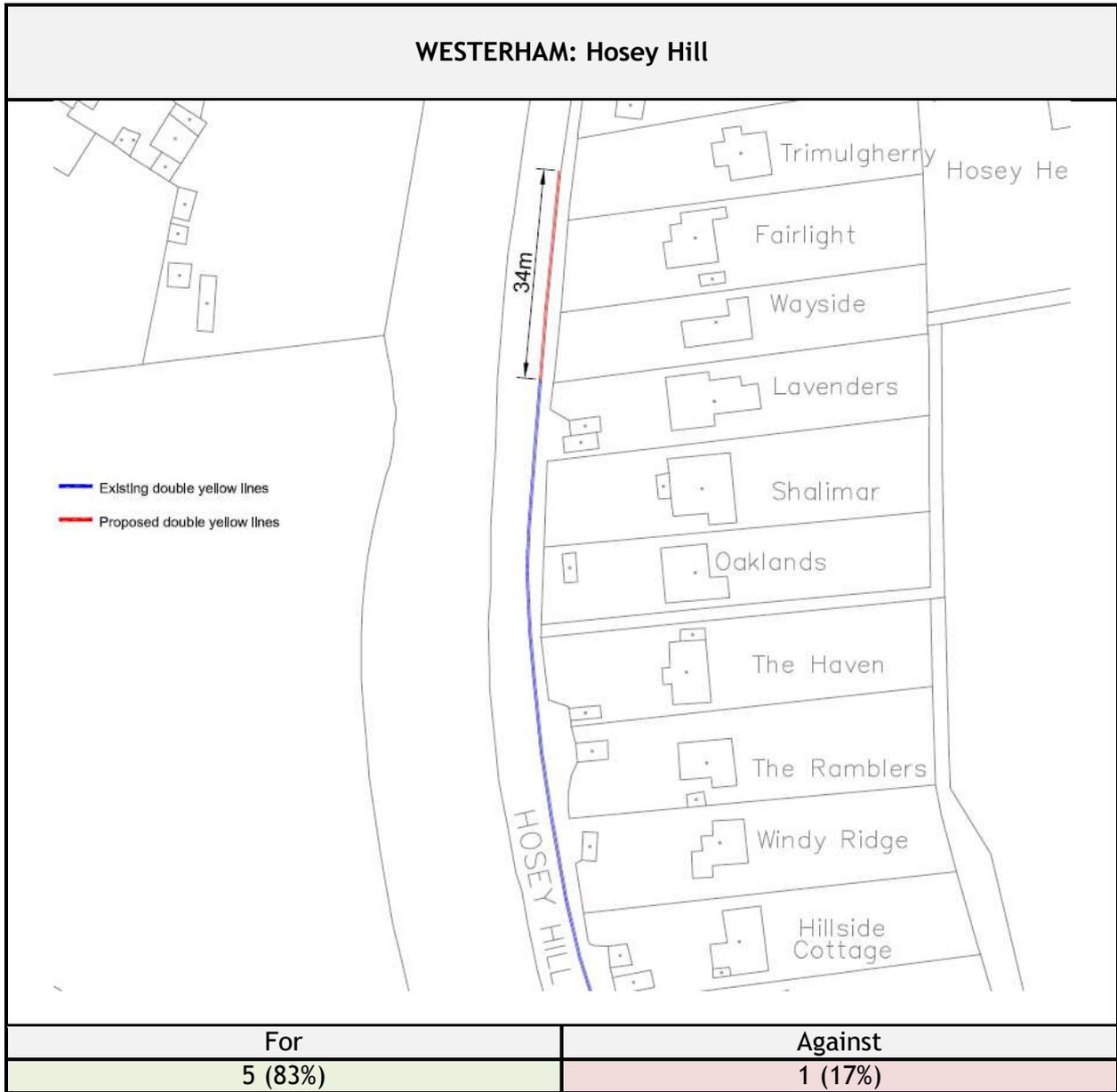


APPENDIX 5 - WESTERHAM PARKING PROPOSAL
 Statutory Consultation Responses and Officers' Comments/Recommendations



STATUTORY CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
1	Westerham Town Council - Westerham Town Council wishes to support the Hosey Hill Parking Proposal.
2	Councillor D Esler -Delighted with the proposition and look forward to its implementation.
3	This change has the potential to make the road safer and therefore reduce accidents and deaths. However unless other measures are taken alongside this, it will definitely increase traffic speeds (the fact that there are parked cars at this point currently reduces traffic speeds) and therefore make the road more dangerous.

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	<p>It will make the road safer due to better sightlines round the bend. However, it might lead to more speeding, so more 30mph signs also needed.</p>
4	<p>We support your proposal for double yellow lines. However, we would request that the lines also be included in front of our property please. We have highlighted in green the boundaries of our property, Hosey Shaw, and would ask for double yellow lines to be painted where indicated in a dark red line on your plan. The reasons for this are:1. The neighbours who will have double yellow lines in front of their properties will in future park in front of our garage and drive as their own parking becomes restricted. They will also park further down the road to the right of our drive restricted our view down the hill.2. The Church as the bottom of Hosey Hill towards the A25 has recently had a lovely new building added but this has resulted in church members parking across our drive on Sundays as they have insufficient parking space at the church and people refuse to park in the car park on the A25. 3. The road to the right of our drive has no double yellow lines and as a result is often full of high sided service vehicles. When this happens we are unable to see any traffic coming up the road and have to edge out into the road and hope for the best. If the yellow lines were included as shown in front of Blue Hayes (now known as Oak Tree Cottage) this would help a little.</p>
5	<p>Many thanks for advising us of your proposal to extend the double yellow line parking restrictions in Hosey Hill. Whilst I fully support the intention of this proposal I believe it goes too far for what it aims to achieve. I suggest an alternative measure which I believe will result in the same improvement to public safety and traffic flow and at the same time will not impact so severely on the day to day activities of local residents. Let's be clear about the reasons for this parking initiative. It resulted from the unfortunate death of a cyclist earlier this year. In fact there have been many slight and serious accidents, almost solely involving cyclists, over recent years. The vast majority of these accidents have been the result of the lack of maintenance by the Highway Authority to the condition of the road. This results in cyclists being thrown from their bikes as they hit a pot hole or more frequently glancing other cyclists or cars as they swerve to suddenly avoid potholes. However, the accident that resulted in the death of the cyclist was caused regrettably in part due the rider's lack of attention to a stopped white van, which had stopped to allow vehicles coming up the hill to pass parked vehicles. I agree something should be done to avoid this happening again. The proposed extension would restrict all on site parking at all times in front of our house and the neighbouring property. In recent years Westerham has become a real centre for cyclists - which is great. As a result Hosey Hill is a popular route to and from the Town Centre to the wider countryside to the south. The vast majority of the cycling activity is at weekends, bank holidays and certainly during daylight hours. The whole reason justifying this proposal emanates from a need to respond to this increased cycling activity. Therefore I propose that instead of an extension to the existing double yellow lines, that the extension should be of single yellow lines preventing on street parking between the hours of 0800 and 1800, applicable every day including weekends and bank holidays. This would still meet the objective of removing parked vehicles from this section of Hosey Hill at the times when the vast</p>

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	<p>majority of cycling activity occurs. It also means that those residents who do not have any off street parking facility - e.g. Wayside and Grey Squirrels, have an opportunity to park their vehicles in the evening somewhere near their houses.</p> <p>Please take the above into account when making your final decision.</p>
6	<p>The proposals are too draconian for what they seek to achieve. I would support the introduction of single yellow line parking restrictions limited to between the hours of 0800 - 1800 all days of the week and at bank holidays.</p>

OFFICERS' COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS:

The parking proposal involves an extension of existing double yellow line restrictions, and is required primarily to improve the safety of traffic using this section of Hosey Hill. At present, vehicles are parked on the bend at this location, thereby reducing the available road width and forward visibility between opposing traffic flows. This has led to sudden braking and incidents, including a recent fatality involving a cyclist.

The majority of the properties on Hosey Hill have off-street parking available, and on-street parking will still be available just to the north of the proposed restrictions for those which do not.

Limited waiting, such as the single yellow line suggested as an alternative proposal by some respondents, is appropriate in some circumstances, but would be inappropriate here, as it would not reduce the risk on the bend outside of the times of operation of the suggested restriction.

RECOMMENDATION:

Since the majority of respondents were supportive of the parking proposal for Hosey Hill, it is recommended that the objection be set aside, and the proposal be implemented, as drawn.