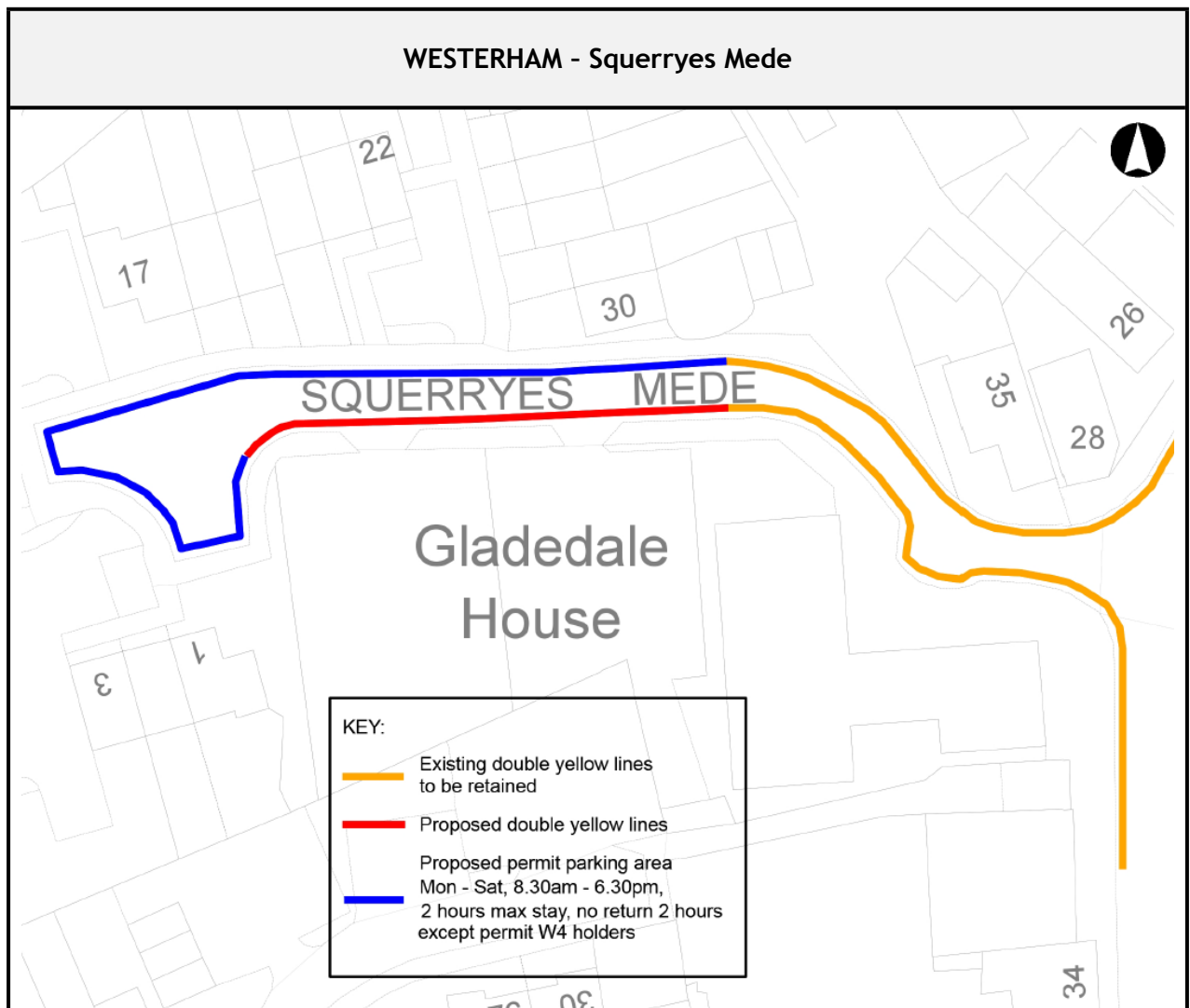


APPENDIX 11 - FOR DECISION
WESTERHAM - SQUERRYES MEDE - PARKING PROPOSAL
Description and plan of parking proposal, objections and other comments received
and Officers' comments/recommendation



DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGES
North and east sides, outside nos.16-22 & 30	New Permit Parking Area (Monday to Saturday, 8.30am - 6.30pm, 2 hours maximum stay, no return within 2 hours, except permit "W4" holders)
South, east and west sides, in turning head in cul-de-sac	
South and southwest sides, outside car parks of Gladedale House	New double yellow line restrictions (no waiting at any time)

OBJECTIONS RECEIVED	
1	We are a local business and situated just around the corner from this road. We have limited parking for our customers and therefore as staff we park on the surrounding roads. Our customers are often elderly or have difficulty walking long distances. Our business is ideally placed as it is all on one level and has the car park behind therefore not far for our customers to walk. We have added, to our customers since 2014 over

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	<p>2500 customers-Quite an impact for the town. These customers often go up into the town and enjoy the shops and cafes situated there, either before or after their visit. In fact, one of the shops has commented that their footfall has increased and recognise that a fair amount of people walking in are from our business -Small businesses are essential to keep towns such as Westerham alive. We definitely add to the hustle and bustle of Westerham Town but feel that we have a constant battle in being recognised and helped as a local business. We pay our business rates but benefit little from them. Being stuck at the end of the High Street means we are often overlooked. Applying permit parking to these areas is a real blow for us. I hope that you will consider us for permits in this area. We only park between the hours of 8am and 5.30pm approximately, we have 5 staff cars, usually less, this results in us being out of the way once the residents come home in the evening therefore impacting on their lives minimally.</p>
2	<p>As a local resident with a vehicle and two young children it is really important that we are able to park nearby our home, especially with a baby as it is necessary to carry him to and from the car. Parking in this area is already at a premium and the proposals will only make matters worse. We are not the only people who this will affect and I'm sure you will receive further contact in opposition to this. In my opinion the changes are not necessary or proportionate. I am unable to make it to Sevenoaks to read the reports and rationale into this proposition but cannot see a valid reason for the changes (I would be happy to read an online version). I often park in Squerryes Mede and as a shift worker the un-restricted parking is a Godsend. I have never had any issues with access into the road or heard of any of the residents complaining about illegal or selfish parking- even when all the building work was taking place last year (2018). I can only foresee further parking problems, complaints to your office, potential conflict with parking attendants, local businesses suffering losses, houses losing value, issues in other roads causing potential obstructions and even road traffic collisions and a danger to local residents. This can only be a bad thing. I am appealing to your office to vote against these changes and leave things as they are. Please don't change it for changes sake and cause my family and other families in this area huge problems with parking. I repeat that I believe that the works are not necessary and in fact a waste of local authority funds- money that could be better spent on other more important things like education, community care, policing etc.</p>

OTHER COMMENTS RECEIVED	
1	<p>The addition of the proposed double yellow lines are a 'must' for the traffic to run smoothly and safely in and out of the car parks and up and down the road. There is no room for double parking. I also support the permit arrangement for fairness to the residents of Squerryes Mede. The residents of Squerryes Mede have had to accept big changes in the road over the last couple of years and I think it's time to give them something back. Also the building works that has and is still happening any chance the</p>

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	road could be resurfaced when the double yellow lines are done?? The digging up of the road for building etc. has left it looking a right mess.
2	I support the proposals.
3	To give residents of Squerryes Mede more of a chance to park in their road. However the plan is incorrect, most of the 'turning circle' lined in blue for residents parking is actually entrances to drive ways and car parks which are part of the freeholds of the properties in the road and have dropped kerbs so will not be suitable for parking cars. The council needs to address this and ensure the spaces are clearly marked so entrances are not blocked.

OFFICERS' COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS:

Amongst the 30 residential properties in Squerryes Mede, 3 supported the parking proposal at the statutory (second) consultation stage, and none objected. During the earlier informal consultation, 14 of the 19 residents who responded (equating to 74%) were in favour.

Two objections were received at the statutory consultation stage; one from a business, objecting on a lack of employee and visitor parking, and one from a resident of the High Street, who often parks in Squerryes Mede.

Dealing with these objections, long stay parking for local workers is available in the Darent car park which is a short walk from town. The proposal makes some provision for visitors with parking for up to 2 hours in Squerryes Mede during the daytime from Monday to Saturday (and all day on Sunday). Alternative short-stay parking is already available in the pay-and-display parking areas in other nearby streets and car parks.

Certain existing residents of High Street are already eligible for resident parking permits, and where there is spare capacity to do so, consideration could be given to extending this to include residents of other sections of the High Street, subject to monitoring.

Some High Street residents already have access to resident parking permits for the parking bays in Croydon Road, and this could be extended to include other High Street residents affected by this proposal.

Additionally and subject to availability indicated by monitoring and take up of permits, affected High Street residents could be given access to the Squerryes Mede scheme.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the objections be set aside, and the proposal be implemented, as drawn.