

Station Road and High Street Otford – Request for New Waiting Restrictions

Review and Discussion with Cllr Gough - August 2020

To: **Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board, September 2020**

Main Portfolio Area: **KCC – Growth Environment and Transport**

By: **Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste**

Classification: **For information**

Ward: **Otford and Shoreham**

Division: **Sevenoaks North**

Summary: Further to March 2020 Sevenoaks JTB, parking at Otford was discussed between Cllr Gough and KCC Officers from Planning & Delivery Team. Cllr Gough is arranging further details to be sent to SPD Team. SPD Team will reinvestigate this matter. The data collected during the reinvestigation combined with discussion, will determine the most suitable next steps.

For Information

1.0.1 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Kent County Council received petitions from Otford Parish Council requesting waiting restrictions within Station Road and High Street Otford. These petitions were presented to the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board meeting on 3rd December 2019. The request related to concerns relating to congestion, pedestrian accessibility and anti-social parking.
- 1.2 At the March 11th 2020 Sevenoaks JTB, a paper was presented by KCC, with findings that no action to be undertaken at that time. The conclusion in the Paper received criticism from the JTB. It was agreed that KCC Officers would discuss the matter further with KCC Member Roger Gough. This Paper outlines the summary of the discussion held via video call, held 12th August 2020.

2.0 Discussion via Video Call, 12th August 2020

- 2.1 The Paper presented to the JTB Board in March 2020 was discussed.
- 2.2 At the end of the discussion it was agreed that Cllr Gough would gather further location details from Otford Parish Council, of where the Parish felt there were problematic hotspots caused by parking, impacting pedestrian access and creating congestion.
- 2.3 KCC's Schemes Planning & Delivery Team is currently experiencing exceptional service demand. SPD Team must focus on the delivery of the Government's recently announced Emergency Active Travel Fund and the securing of the second phase of a significant injection of funding for the highway network in Kent. It was therefore

agreed that upon receipt of the information from Otford Parish Council, KCC would review and reinvestigate the parking issues, but progress may be delayed, potentially until 2021, whilst work on the Emergency Active Travel Fund was prioritised.

2.4 It was also agreed that where possible, it was important to collect representative site data, outside of any further future Lockdowns (due to Covid19), school holidays, etc.

3.0 Reinvestigation

3.1 Parking reinvestigation in Otford will depend on the details to be provided by Otford Parish Council, but is likely to involve:

- Review of the specific location details to be provided by Otford Parish Council (ie. in relation to physical setting, road width, footway availability, proximity to key destinations like the school and the train station, proximity to formal crossing points, any existing parking restrictions).
- Data collection via video capture, on different days / at different times, to better understand the extents and nature of any problematic parking.
- Discussions with Otford Parish Council.
- Discussions with the KCC Member
- Discussions with Sevenoaks District Council's Parking Team.

3.2 This will allow Officers to consider the most suitable next steps, based on the information collected and discussions held.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 A meeting was held with Cllr Gough and KCC Officers in August, to discuss the Otford parking issues raised at previous Sevenoaks JTBS. KCC Officers are to be provided with specific location information by Otford Parish Council, on where they feel there are particular problematic parking hotspots in Otford.

4.2 KCC Officers will reinvestigate this matter through collecting site data and discussions. This investigation may be delayed until 2021, due to SPD's priority work on the Emergency Active Travel Fund, relating to the Covid19 pandemic. KCC Officers will continue to work with Cllr Gough on this matter, as the reinvestigation progresses.

Future Meeting if applicable: TBC	Date: 14/08/2020
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Contact Officer:	<i>Wendy Boustead, Schemes Programme Manager</i>
Reporting to:	<i>Nikola Floodgate, Schemes Planning & Delivery Team</i>