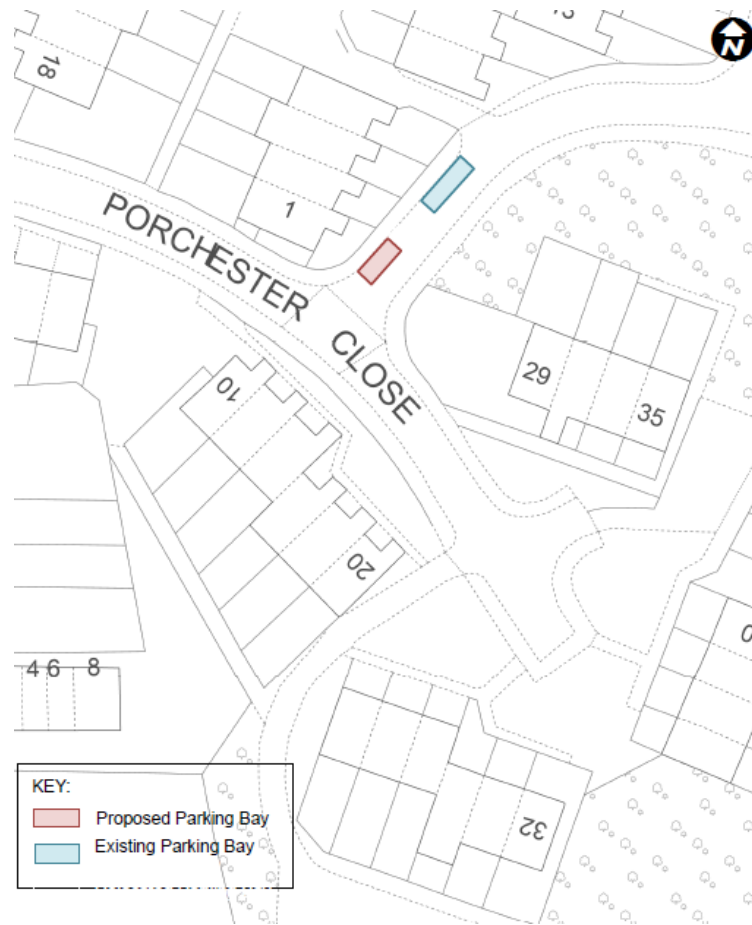


## APPENDIX 2 - FOR ADVICE

Applications for a disabled persons (blue badge) parking bay which met Kent County Council's assessment criteria, including redacted details of the feedback received during the informal consultation, location plans and Officers' comments/recommendations

### HARTLEY: Porchester Close



### INFORMAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

#### 1. Comment - Hartley Parish Council

"This matter was discussed at the meeting of the Planning Committee and no objections were raised to this proposal."

#### 2. Comment - Cllr P Cole (SDC)

"If this configuration were to be acceptable from a Highways and residents perspective then Cllr Penny Cole and myself would welcome the introduction of the second bay."

#### 3. Comment - Cllr D Brazier (KCC)

"Fine with me."

### OFFICERS' COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATION

In order to minimise the effect on parking in this section, the original proposal was to move the existing disabled persons parking bay (located near no.5) downhill slightly, to ensure that there would be sufficient space between a new standard length parking bay located

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near no.1 and the existing parking bay in which a car could be parked. However, concerns were raised by neighbours during the informal consultation that this may result in access difficulties for vehicles using the road leading to the parking area at the rear of the properties, and in view of this, it was necessary to change the proposal.

However, to ensure that there would still be sufficient space between the two parking bays in which a car could be parked, the revised proposal was to install a slightly smaller parking bay outside no.1, and to leave the existing one near no. 5 in its current position, as shown on the plan above.

KCC have consented to a smaller parking bay than the national standard length being introduced on an interim basis. However, should a traffic regulation order be made in respect of this parking bay in the future, consideration would have to be given to either increasing its length to meet current standards, or to applying to the Department for Transport for special authorisation to retain the shorter parking bay.

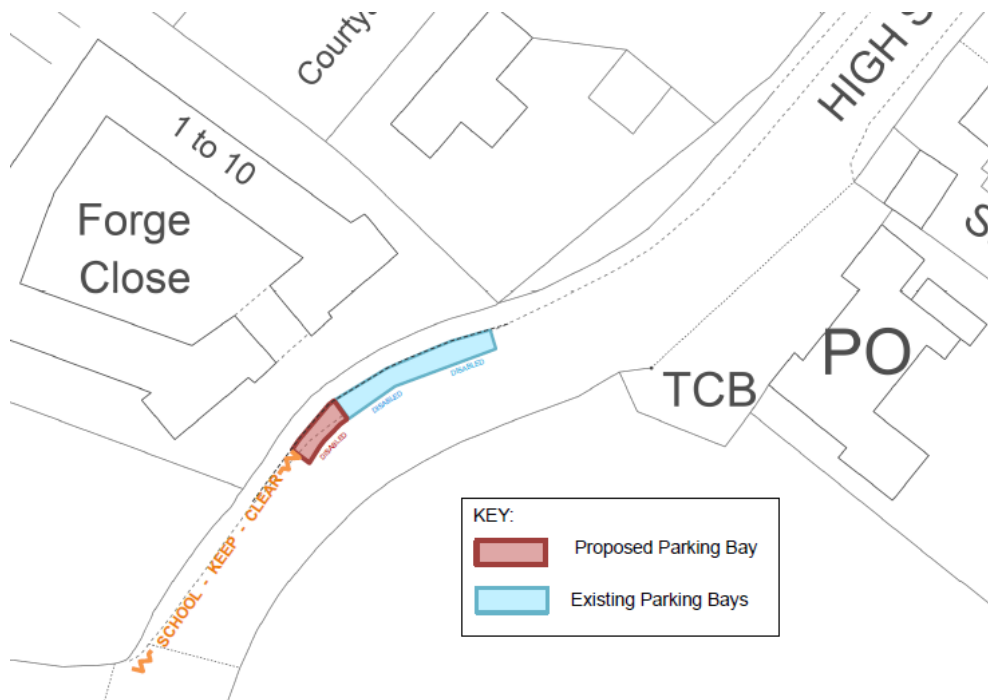
No comments were received from the occupiers of neighbouring addresses during the informal consultation on the revised proposal.

In the absence of any representations received during the informal consultation process, an interim disabled persons parking bay can be marked, without the need for a decision from the Board.

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### PENSHURST: High Street (near Forge Close)



### INFORMAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

#### 1. Objection

I am writing to you to make known my strong opposition to the proposed disabled parking bay for the following reasons:

1 of the three parking places there are 2 unassigned disabled parking bays for anyone with a blue badge to use.

2 when we moved here there were 3 bays for residents since reduced to 1 as 2 are now disabled bays and we could unload shopping, load garden waste etc we would be unable to do so we are pensioners and find difficulty in unloading shopping etc, loading garden waste etc

3 It seems that the residents of Forge Close who are not disabled but elderly are being discriminated against by the removal of their last parking place.

It's highly likely that other residents could suffer injuries as a result of this action.

With 2 of our three bays designated blue badge I feel that is enough and the removal of the last bay a step too far

### OFFICERS' COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATION

Applications for disabled persons (blue badge) parking bays are usually made because a disabled resident experiences problems parking on-street near their home, which due to limited mobility can reduce accessibility and social inclusion.

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The applicant meets KCC's personal assessment criteria for a parking bay, so unless there are compelling reasons to do so, it would be difficult for the Board not to approve the application, as this could be open to challenge for breaching the Equality Act.

It is therefore recommended that the application be approved, and an interim disabled persons (blue badge) parking bay be marked.

It is unfortunate that the proposal will inconvenience some residents, but much of the southeast side of the High Street, including the section opposite Forge Close, does not have any waiting or loading restrictions, and is therefore available for parking and loading/unloading activities at all times.

The section immediately to the southwest of the proposed disabled persons parking bay (northwest side) is covered by a school entrance (keep clear) marking, which prohibits vehicles stopping within its limits between 8.30 - 9.30am, and 3 - 4 pm Monday to Friday. Outside of those times (including at weekends), the section is available for parking and loading/unloading activities.

The section immediately to the northeast of the proposed and existing disabled persons parking bays (northwest side) is covered by a single yellow line restriction, which prohibits parking every day between 8.30am - 5.30pm. Outside of those times, the section is available for parking. It is also available for loading/unloading activities at any time.