

Annex B

OBJECTIONS / COMMENTS TO ADVERTISED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Scheme:	Woodcote Green & Old Wokingham Road, Crowthorne – No waiting at any time restrictions		
Date Advertised:	16.06.2021	No. of objections / comments received:	11

Objector	Summary of Objection / Comment	Officers Comments	Decision Abandon/Modify / Proceed as advertised.
Wokingham Without Parish Council	<p>The Council states that the popularity of Bucklers Park SANG has been significant and this is to be welcomed, but the levels of onsite parking provision are outstripped by the demand from users, leading to issues with overspill parking on neighbouring residential streets.</p> <p>Over the last several months, the Council have been notified of concerns from residents over the number of vehicles parking close to the junction of Ellis Road & Old Wokingham Road as well as further into Ellis Road. These parked cars have led to number of near misses where cars have had to reverse to allow cars through.</p> <p>The Council is pleased that the issue of overspill parking has been recognised, they are considered that the restrictions proposed will cause further issues, rather than offer a solution.</p> <p>Their concerns are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction of restrictions on certain roads is likely to push the problems further afield into roads such as Celandine Close, Rowan Drive or Brookers Row. • The parking situation at the SANG has been exacerbated by the closure of other car parking facilities within Bracknell Forest, including those off the Devils Highway near the Dive Store. They ask if these issues be addressed so that the SANG parking is available for those using the facility? • They make comment to the lack of consultation with residents over the proposals. Wokingham Without PC were only made aware of the proposals by Crowthorne PC and the ward members were not aware of the proposals. 	<p>The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. Later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council. Whilst the Council has been made aware of residents' concerns from Brookers Row, and has been monitoring this, the issue of overspill parking in roads under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough has been made aware to us only recently.</p> <p>In view of this, Wokingham Borough were consulted on our proposals and further restrictions in Old Wokingham Road, Ellis Road & Old Sawmill Lane were added.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. Whilst the comments regarding moving parking are noted we believe these restrictions should be implemented so to ensure the safe passage of vehicles along the affected sections of highway. As a matter of course further monitoring of the effects of the restrictions will be carried out and further restrictions can be considered should additional parking issues be observed.</p> <p>It is not possible to provide car parking facilities off Devil's Highway, in the location past the Crowthorne Divecrew shop. It is appreciated that historically public cars would be tolerated when parking on a forestry loading area by the landowner at that time, but this did not meet landowner obligations to protecting the rare and valuable wildlife</p>	Proceed as advertised

	<p>The Parish Council would like to see measures that encourage residents to access the SANG on foot or cycle. They suggest this could be in the form of a safer crossing option near to Ellis Road and reviewing the speed limit for this section of Old Wokingham Road.</p> <p>They ask for a wider discussion between Bracknell & Wokingham borough Councils, and Crowthorne & Wokingham Without parish councils to ensure all the matters are considered, and the impacts of any restrictions understood before any restrictive measures are taken.</p>	<p>located within Swinley Forest. Additionally the loading area was being accessed via a section of rural restricted byway, which was not classified or constructed for motor vehicles. The situation with prohibited vehicles using a Right of Way and parking directly alongside protected wildlife areas was unsustainable. The changes to install the gate have preserved access for pedestrians, cyclists, horse-riders and carriage-drivers who are permitted to use a restricted byway. Creating a formal parking area in that location would be contrary to a variety of planning and landowner obligations and would be harmful to the protected habitats.</p> <p>It should be noted there has been a rationalisation of parking provision across the Crown Estate lands in Windsor and Bracknell Forest, so this issue is not unique to Crowthorne Woods car park.</p> <p>As stated above discussions were held with Wokingham Borough Council when the issues of parking in Old Wokingham Road and roads under their responsibility were raised with us. Our final proposals were agreed with them and prior to the consultation they were asked to share the information with anyone they felt would have an interest including local ward members and yourselves. Consultation letters were sent to those residents directly affected by the proposals, notices were erected on site and placed in the Bracknell News and the proposals were also available to view on the Bracknell Forest website.</p> <p>Sustainable travel improvements have already been made along Old Wokingham Road including a new section of shared footway/cycleway running from the village past Bucklers Forest SANG and into the TRL development. The feasibility of providing an additional crossing near to the junction of Ellis Road has been looked at. However due to the presence of the large trees on the eastern side and the narrow width of the carriageway it is not possible to provide a pedestrian island or a controlled crossing.</p> <p>Speed surveys carried out earlier this year showed average speeds of approximately 34/35 mph in Old Wokingham Road which are consistent with its plated speed limit of 40mph. At present a reduction to 30mph would be unlikely to be supported by Thames Valley Police as simply lowering the speed limit would be highly unlikely to produce a significant drop in average speeds, which in turn would lead to an unsustainable demand in police resources to enforce the speed limit.</p>	
<p>X X XXXXX X Woodcote Green</p>	<p>X XXXXX is slightly concerned that creating a no waiting zone in the XXXXXXXX XXXXXX XXXXXXXX X property will only force people to park in the residents' bays.</p> <p>X adds that they only had issues during the first Covid lockdown with non-residents parking in the residents bays and never an issue with vehicles parking in the turning circle.</p>	<p>The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. It is our understanding that later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council.</p>	

	<p>X states X is not aware of any discussion with residents over the proposals.</p> <p>X agrees with the parking restriction proposals at the junction of Old Wokingham Road & Woodcote Green.</p>	<p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue.</p> <p>Whilst the Council noted the comments with regards to the residents observed lack of parking in this area, the proposals have been drawn up based on resident and developer observations and ultimately will ensure this area is kept clear of parking.</p>	
<p>X & X XXX X Woodcote Green</p>	<p>X & X XXX would like to make the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They agree that parking along Woodcote Green is unsafe and they have had issue on more than one occasion • They also agree parking near to the junction with the flats is unsafe • They have witnessed the emergency access to the SANG being blocked on numerous occasions • However they have significant concerns that the restrictions will push cars elsewhere (further along Woodcote Gren, Brookers Row and Ellis Road) • During very busy periods cars have parked further into Woodcote Green blocking driveways and footways. • In the summer months users of the SANG are parking in the road in the evening to prevent being locked in due to the early closure of the car park. Could this be addressed? • Can the Council consider other ways to tackle the parking issues such as requiring the developers to increase the car park size, impose parking charges, limit parking duration, discourage people to from driving to use the SANG which was supposed to be a facility for local residents • Can the Council confirm how these restrictions will be enforced? <p>They agree the parking on Woodcote Green can be dangerous and obstructive and they agree restrictions need to be imposed on or near the junctions however they fear that imposing restrictions along the whole length of the initial part of the road will push the problem further into it. They do not wish for the entire road to be subject to parking restrictions but ask the Council revisit this current proposal and consider alternative options.</p>	<p>The Council notes the comments regarding parking in the entrance to Woodcote Green and Bucklers Forest SANG car park.</p> <p>The Bucklers Park SANG is privately operated and the car park opening times are not directly within the council control. The opening hours are published here: Buckler's Forest - Thames Basin Heaths (tbhpartnership.org.uk) If the observed opening hours vary from the displayed times, or if there is a request to extend the opening times there are contact details on the page and this should be put to the site operators. The Council and the Strategic Access Monitoring and Management Partnership also maintain regular contact with the operators to ensure the hours match public demand. The restricted opening hours are the direct consequence of misuse of the car park for anti-social behaviour, and advice was sought from the Police by the landowners when this was first put in place. In terms of SANG management, having to close car parks is not ideal as there should be free access 24/7. However the Planning Authority and Natural England acknowledge that local residents should not have to live with the disturbance caused by revving cars, loud music, wheel spinning, slamming car doors and illegal substance trading late into the evening. As legitimate user of the open space are likely to be intimidated by these activities and groups of youths, the amount of visitors who would have arrived by car but now can't is unlikely to be significant.</p> <p>The SANG car park size is governed by planning rules laid down by Natural England based on the overall area of the SANG. The current car park is the maximum size (in terms of cars able to park) permitted under these rules.</p> <p>Imposing parking charges or limiting the duration of stay are likely to increase on-street parking as visitors will seek free alternatives and places they park for longer.</p> <p>Improved cycling and footway facilities have been provided from Crowthorne village and new cycle facilities linking the TRL development to Bracknell are scheduled to be built later this year. However, the SANG is a publicly funded leisure facility which is available for the use of all.</p>	<p>Proceed as advertised</p>

		<p>Bracknell Forest Council employ the services of a specialist car parking management company to run their off street car parks and provide on-street parking enforcement. Enforcement is primarily based on a rotating patrol route system so it is unlikely the restrictions would receive daily visits. However where there are persistent issues enhanced patrols can be carried out for a short period.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. Whilst the comments regarding moving parking are noted we believe these restrictions should be implemented so to ensure the safe passage of vehicles along the affected sections of highway. As a matter of course further monitoring of the effects of the restrictions will be carried out and further restrictions can be considered should additional parking issues be observed.</p>	
X X XXXXX Woodcote Green	X XXXXX agrees with the 'No waiting at any time' proposals. X suggests that 'No parking' signs are placed on the verges between parking areas. At the moment they are protected by temporary barriers, but X feels they will be parked on when these are removed and they are adopted by BFC.	The suggestion of verge protection has been passed to the Council's Development & Adoptions Team who will take it up with the TRL developers.	
X XXXXXXXXXXX	<p>X XXXXXXXXXXX supports the proposals as X has seen the parking present most weekends. However, X asks if the situation in Brookers Row has also been considered.</p> <p>X adds that most weekends Brookers Row becomes an overflow car park for Bucklers Park SANG with cars parked right on the junction with old Wokingham Road and further along the road. Brookers Row is not a wide road, so the cars form a single carriageway with no passing points along the entire length.</p> <p>X states that the proposed parking restrictions will only exacerbate the existing parking problems in Brookers Row, Ellis Road, Rowan Drive & Celandine Close.</p>	<p>The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. Later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council. Whilst the Council has been made aware of residents' concerns from Brookers Row, and has been monitoring this.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. Whilst the comments regarding moving parking are noted we believe these restrictions should be implemented so to ensure the safe passage of vehicles along the affected sections of highway. As a matter of course further monitoring of the effects of the restrictions will be carried out and further restrictions can be considered should additional parking issues be observed.</p>	
X X XXXXXXX X Old Wokingham Road	X XXXXXXX states that X XXXXX XX XXXXXXX XX XX XXXXXXX XX XXX XXXXXXX XXXX X XXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXX so X will be directly impacted by these proposals as X parks in Old Sawmill Lane. X XXXXXXX adds that the consultation letter states the proposals have been discussed with local residents but X has not been consulted.	The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. Later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council. Whilst the Council has been made aware of residents' concerns from Brookers	

	<p>X supports parking restrictions on Old Wokingham Road and reducing the speed limit but rejects the proposals to restrict parking next to X house on a side road that has no through traffic. X suggests if the intention is to restrict visitors to the SANG then exemption permits should be issued to residents to continue to park where they have done for many years.</p> <p>X states that Bucklers Park is clearly a popular destination and it would now seem that the original plans seriously underestimated the requirements on parking. X suggests that the parking provision should be reviewed. BFC should consider imposing parking charges to discourage the use of cars.</p> <p>X concludes that BFC really need to focus on the whole issue rather than pasting over the cracks with the imposition of parking constraints that alienates local residents.</p>	<p>Row, and has been monitoring this, the issue of overspill parking in roads under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough has been made aware to us only recently.</p> <p>In view of this, Wokingham Borough were consulted on our proposals and further restrictions in Old Wokingham Road, Ellis Road & Old Sawmill Lane were added.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. It should be noted that the restrictions in Old Sawmill Lane only extend 10 metres from the junction so matching the 'no parking within 15 yards of a junction' rule already in place and explained in the Highway Code.</p> <p>As explained above the Council only considers the implementation of parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. In view of this it is unable to issue exemptions to these restrictions.</p> <p>Speed surveys carried out earlier this year showed average speeds of approximately 34/35 mph in Old Wokingham Road which are consistent with its plated speed limit of 40mph. At present a reduction to 30mph would be unlikely to be supported by Thames Valley Police as simply lowering the speed limit would be highly unlikely to produce a significant drop in average speeds, which in turn would lead to an unsustainable demand in police resources to enforce the speed limit.</p> <p>Imposing parking charges in Bucklers Forest SANG car park would likely increase on-street parking as visitors will seek free alternatives.</p>	
X XXXXXXXXXXXX	<p>X XXXXXXXXXXXX requests that the restrictions are extended slightly further up Ellis Road as this junction is frequently parked on. The current proposal does not cover enough of the junction to solve the problem, whereas extending it 5/10 metres would make a big difference.</p> <p>X also suggests that the waiting restrictions are extended further up Old Wokingham Road to Rowan Drive. This is one of the other busy junctions where cars are parking.</p> <p>These additional restrictions would prevent cars displaced by the other restrictions causing issues in these locations. X supports the proposals with the additional restrictions he has proposed.</p>	<p>The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. Later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council. Whilst the Council has been made aware of residents' concerns from Brookers Row, and has been monitoring this, the issue of overspill parking in roads under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough has been made aware to us only recently.</p> <p>In view of this, Wokingham Borough were consulted on our proposals and further restrictions in Old Wokingham Road, Ellis Road & Old Sawmill Lane were added.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue.</p>	

		Whilst the comments regarding moving parking are noted we believe these restrictions should be implemented so to ensure the safe passage of vehicles along the affected sections of highway. As a matter of course further monitoring of the effects of the restrictions will be carried out and further restrictions can be considered should additional parking issues be observed.	
X XXXXXXX Woodcote Green	<p>X XXXXXXX writes to express X full support for the proposals.</p> <p>X adds that X has been pressing BFC for over a year as the situation is extremely dangerous and a serious or fatal accident is imminent on Old Wokingham Road. X XXXXXXX has noted on many occasions that the parking in Woodcote Green is in such high volumes that it would be impossible for emergency vehicles to enter if necessary.</p> <p>X hopes that the restrictions will be implemented as soon as possible and would support more extensive ones if necessary.</p>	The resident's comments are noted.	
XXXX XXXXXXX X Old Wokingham Road	<p>The resident has lived here for 15 years and does not agree with the proposals for the following reasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council or owners of the Woodcote Green site took the decision to lock the 5-bar gate allowing access and parking for say 30-40 vehicles adjacent to Old Wokingham Road during lockdown. This caused many of the parking issues, forcing visitors to the SANG to seek alternative areas to park. <p>Since lockdown restrictions have eased, this has ceased to be a problem and the popularity of the site has reduced as alternates open up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building works have been taking place at number X and X Old Wokingham Road since later 2019 to spring 2021 – the council would have been aware of the expected number of trades vans which would park outside and along the OWR towards Old Saw Mill lane as it included plans for driveways and extensive redevelopment at the rear of the property where there is no direct access. Again works have completed at X and X is minimal, there was also a substantial kitchen refit at X which lasted 8 week and also contributed to unsafe / obstructive parking due to the number of trades vehicles that attended site – again this has completed this spring. The resident is not aware of any discussions with local residents. Access to X Old Wokingham Road, according to the street plan it appears both sides of the property (facing Old Wokingham Road and in Old Saw Mill lane) will now have parking restrictions 	<p>The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. Later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council. Whilst the Council has been made aware of residents' concerns from Brookers Row, and has been monitoring this, the issue of overspill parking in roads under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough has been made aware to us only recently.</p> <p>In view of this, Wokingham Borough were consulted on our proposals and further restrictions in Old Wokingham Road, Ellis Road & Old Sawmill Lane were added.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. It should be noted that the restrictions in Old Sawmill Lane only extend 10 metres from the junction so matching the 'no parking within 15 yards of a junction' rule already in place and explained in the Highway Code.</p> <p>Observations on the parking issues have been on-going for long period so temporary parking issues such as the resident describes will not have had a bearing on the proposals.</p> <p>As explained above the Council only considers the implementation of parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. In view of this it is unable to issue exemptions to these restrictions.</p>	

	<p>enforced immediately outside. The resident states they are a XXXXX XXX XXXXX XX XXXX XXX XXXXXX, their XXXX XXXXX will not cover no waiting at any time restrictions and as the lane is often used by non-residents in preference to parking on the main road, parking is often limited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resident asks that the proposals could be either be re-considered or some form of resident parking permit be incorporated The resident add that as a cul-de-sac (unlike the other roads) local resident parking is limited already. • The resident asks if action can be taken against the Old Sawmill Lane resident who places traffic cones outside their home to 'reserve' the parking area for their use. 	<p>The issue of the Old Sawmill Lane resident placing cones outside their home will be passed to Wokingham Borough to investigate further.</p>	
<p>X & X XXXXXX X Woodcote Green</p>	<p>Having lived in Woodcote Green for X years they have witnessed the poor parking in the vicinity of the SANG so they strongly support the proposed measures.</p> <p>They add two more issues relating to pedestrian safety.</p> <p>Whilst they accept that a new signalised pedestrian crossing has been provided near to the entrance of the Bucklers Park development but feel that one is needed nearer to the junction with Ellis Road. They state that this point sees a far higher number of people wanting to cross than further north.</p> <p>Secondly whilst they praise the provision of footway/cycleway that runs to Crowthorne Village, they say it underused as it is extremely difficult & unsafe to cross at the southern end. They suggest a signal-controlled crossing point near to the roundabout or at least a pedestrian refuge.</p>	<p>The residents support of the proposals is noted.</p> <p>The feasibility of providing an additional crossing near to the junction of Ellis Road has been looked at. However due to the presence of the large trees on the eastern side and the narrow width of the carriageway it is not possible to provide a pedestrian island or a controlled crossing.</p> <p>The uncontrolled crossing point on Old Wokingham Road adjacent to the roundabout junction with Bracknell Road has recently been upgraded in connection with the provision of the new shared footway/cycle facility. Whilst the resident's comments on the safety are noted there have been no recorded accidents at this location in 27 years we have records for. Placing a crossing further up Old Wokingham Road would have reduced use for pedestrians/cyclists wishing to continue along Bracknell Road. Additionally the narrow road width, driveways and existing street furniture would make it difficult to find a suitable location a pedestrian island of signal-controlled crossing.</p>	
<p>X X X XXXX Ellis Road</p>	<p>X X X XXXX live in Pinewood Avenue and often run the gauntlet of getting out of Ellis Road onto Old Wokingham Road. Whilst they welcome the proposed parking restrictions, particularly at the junctions of Ellis Road and Old Sawmill Lane, they fell it will not completely address the problem but force the problem further down those roads.</p> <p>They add whilst we are all encouraged to walk/cycle everywhere it is just not practical for some people. They ask if the car park could be enlarged?</p>	<p>The restrictions were proposed following concerns raised from Woodcote Green residents during the 1st period of lockdown restrictions in Spring/Summer 2020. Later in the year TRL site developers consulted with local residents to develop some parking restrictions that were agreed with Bracknell Forest Council. Whilst the Council has been made aware of residents' concerns from Brookers Row, and has been monitoring this, the issue of overspill parking in roads under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough has been made aware to us only recently.</p> <p>In view of this, Wokingham Borough were consulted on our proposals and further restrictions in Old Wokingham Road, Ellis Road & Old Sawmill Lane were added.</p> <p>The parking restrictions proposed are in areas closest to the SANG and therefore will be typically those parked in first. Bracknell Forest have a policy of only proposing parking restrictions to stop vehicles parking in</p>	

		<p>positions that will cause a significant road safety or obstruction issue. Whilst the comments regarding moving parking are noted we believe these restrictions should be implemented so to ensure the safe passage of vehicles along the affected sections of highway. As a matter of course further monitoring of the effects of the restrictions will be carried out and further restrictions can be considered should additional parking issues be observed.</p> <p>The SANG car park size is governed by planning rules laid down by Natural England based on the overall area of the SANG. The current car park is the maximum size (in terms of cars able to park) permitted under these rules.</p>	
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Local Member Comments on Consultation responses:

Cllr T McKenzie-Boyle - There are a number of valid issues raised by the nearby residents mainly about the SANG and the paucity of parking availability there. However other issues have been considered and answered within the Officer's replies, so I am content that the Executive Member will give a purposeful decision on 13 September after due consideration.

Cllr R Wade – No response received