
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Oban Lorn & The Isles Area Committee

Development & Infrastructure

14th August 2014

A816 Soroba Road, Millpark Terrace; Parking Restriction

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to advise Members of the outcome of the hearing that was held on 8th May 2014 to consider the sustained objections to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order to control parking on Soroba Road at Millpark Terrace.

The report seeks authorisation to proceed to make the order in light of the Reporter's findings.

The Reporter recommended that the Council confirm the order without modification.

RECOMMENDATION

That Members authorise the Head of Service for Roads & Amenity Services to proceed to make the order as originally published and consulted on.

A816 Soroba Road, Millpark Terrace; Parking Restriction

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The section of Soroba Road in front of Millpark Terrace was left as un-restricted when the Oban Town Centre Management Plan was promoted. Over time car ownership in the area has increased and further development in Glenshellach and Soroba has resulted in much higher traffic flows along Soroba Road. Cars parked on Soroba Road at Millpark Terrace constitute a hazard, causing North bound vehicles to have to cross the road centerline at a point where forward visibility is compromised by the topography and the geometry of the road. The parked vehicles also create an obstruction to traffic flow. These problems exist at all times but are less onerous during quieter periods when there are lower traffic flows. Complaints from the Police, bus operators and members of the public about the problem prompted the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order. The Department promoted a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to prohibited waiting during the hours of 8 am to 6.30 pm, with alterations to the existing No waiting/ No Loading restriction and an area of No Waiting / No Loading at any time through the railway bridge.

2.2 A number of objections to the proposed TRO were lodged and sustained. The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 required that a hearing be held to resolve the objections. The nature of the restrictions required the hearing to be chaired by an independent Reporter. The hearing was held on 8th May 2014 in the Corran Halls, Oban.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members authorise the Head of Service for Roads & Amenity Services to proceed to make the order as originally published and consulted on.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 The Reporters findings were issued on 23rd June 2014. The Reporter recommended that the order be confirmed without modification. While the Council is not bound to accept the Reporter's findings there would have to be a strong argument made to justify rejecting them.

4.2 The Reporter considered all of the evidence placed before her in relation to the impact of parked vehicles at Millpark Terrace and carefully considered the representations placed before her by the objectors.

- 4.3 The order was drafted to allow residential parking overnight and deliveries to be made during the day. The restrictions do not preclude disabled parking with a Blue Badge, unless the Police consider that the vehicle is causing a danger or an obstruction.
- 4.4 The impact on road safety and on congestion in the periods of high traffic flow was considered to outweigh the level of inconvenience to the objectors
- 4.5 Copies of the Reporters findings and the proposed order are included as appendices

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Reporter recognised that there will be some inconvenience to the residents of Millpark Terrace but felt that the road safety and congestion issues outweighed the inconvenience issues.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy	This TRO helps to ensure our SOA by contributing towards; “People live in safer and stronger communities.”
6.2 Financial	None
6.3 Legal	None
6.4 HR	None
6.5 Equalities	Disabled drivers are not disadvantaged by these restrictions.
6.6 Risk	None
6.7 Customer Service	Some residents of Millpark Terrace will not be able to park where they currently park. They will still be able to receive deliveries.

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Reporters findings
- Appendix 2 Proposed TRO

Executive Director of Development & Infrastructure
Policy Lead Councillor Ellen Morton
15th July 2014

For further information contact: Bill Weston, Traffic & development Manager