

HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY AREA: PAY & DISPLAY CHARGING AND MINOR CHANGES - OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

APPENDIX 1 - Summary of letters of support and objections received to Traffic Regulation Order

UPDATED: 01/03/19

Street/Summary	Objections/support/comments received.
	Summary of responses: Objections - 4, Support - 4, Comment - 12, Mixed Response - 0.
1) Resident, Support Area: General	I live at [REDACTED] Erleigh Road and under the current arrangements we have no residents parking. I support the proposals to amend the parking to include residents parking. However I think that pay and display parking should remain as Mon-Friday 8-5.30. Free parking at weekends does give people the opportunity to attend St Luke's Church in Erleigh Road or visit family and friends in the RBH without having to pay.
2) Resident, Support	Approve.
3) Resident, Comment Area: Erleigh Road	I do not think that it is necessary to extend the parking restrictions on Erleigh Road west of Alexandra Road so that payment is required at weekends. This area never becomes full of parked cars at weekends so it appears to be introducing a parking charge to address a problem that does not exist. The negative impact would be on parking here used by visitors to the hospital and visitors to local residents at the weekends who would have to pay to park here if these new restrictions were implemented. I would remind the council that the purpose of parking restrictions is for traffic management purposes not as a fund raising form of taxation. This point has been tested in court. Unless the Council is able to provide evidence that there is a traffic management issue that is being addressed by these proposed restrictions, it can be assumed that the purpose of them are to raise additional funds and is therefore an illegal use of statutory powers.
4) Resident, Comment Area: Kendrick Road	The reasons given for the amendments is "in the interests of safety or in response to demand" 1) The introduction of parking restrictions will not improve the safety of many roads. Indeed, since the introduction of parking restrictions on Kendrick road more cars speed. Thus the safety reasons is not legitimate. 2) I am not aware of any demand to increase the hours of the parking restrictions. Indeed I understand many people to be vehemently opposed to them. Weekends are when residents are more likely to have visitors and the current arrangements with freely available parking at weekends enables them to have visitors at that time. Extending the parking restrictions to the weekends may limit visitors to some of the more vulnerable members of society - which would be a very undesirable consequence. Given that there does not appear to be

	any safety or demand reasons to increase the hours of the parking restrictions it seems to be driven by the need to increase council revenue. The council may need to increase revenue, but if so it should be done equally across the entire town rather than simply selecting one part which is effectively taxed again! Use of the bowling club on Kendrick road would be restricted were these weekend parking restrictions to be introduced. It seems wrong to restrict use of a (much loved) social and sports facility for no benefit. I am very frustrated that this is the second consultation on a very similar proposal in as many years. Do we have to keep registering the same concerns?!
5) Resident, Comment Area: Addington Road	I live on Addington Road east of Alexandra Road which appears to be unaffected by these proposed changes. It is, therefore, probably more appropriate for residents of Addington Road who live on the affected section to comment on these changes. However, as an observation, it would seem sensible to increase the amount of pay and display in that section of Addington Road as there aren't a large number of residents in that section. If the is to happen, then maybe the section of Addington Road to the east of Alexandra could become wholly residents only rather than mixed use.
6) Resident, Support Area: Addington Road	I welcome the proposal to amend the parking restrictions in Addington Road to enable people to park there without payment or permit between 5.30pm and 8am.
7) Resident, Comment Area: Kendrick Road and Alexandra Road	<p>1. My only comment on the changes outlined is that permitting parking on both sides of Kendrick Road opposite each other will lead to traffic congestion and delays.</p> <p>2. My concern is that the restrictions in parts of Alexandra Road (particularly directly outside my property) are not being changed in line with most of the other roads. Specifically permits will still be required for residents overnight. The particular sections of Alexandra Road which concern me are</p> <p>(a) all of the northernmost section, between London Road and Erleigh Road;</p> <p>(b) most (the northerly part) of the section between Erleigh Road and Addington Road.</p> <p>This particularly affects me because you refuse to give me a Resident's Permit despite the fact that I live on the [REDACTED] with, as I said, restricted sections immediately in front of my living room window.</p> <p>Also, I believe that the property next door ([REDACTED], Alexandra Road) does have Resident's Permit(s), even though it has space for 2 or 3 cars in its driveway, which my property does not have.</p>
8) Resident, Comment Area: Allcroft Road	I live at [REDACTED] Allcroft Road along with my family and struggle daily approaching my drive with parked cars on the north end of Allcroft Road. It is a total nightmare. The same problem happens in the mornings and during the day. As vehicles are all different sizes my view reversing out of my drive is increasingly restricted. I am a [REDACTED] and therefore it is extremely challenging for me. Drivers cut the corner approaching Allcroft Road from Redlands Road even though it is a 20 mph zone. Drivers end up stopping behind the parked cars and blocking my driveway . I end up with road rage and abuse. Drivers have to reverse back if possible to do so safely or I have to drive to Lower Mount and turn my car around. It would make sense to reduce the

	allocated parking space to stop this major problem. Extending the display and parking permit over the weekend will cause myself and my family additional stress and abuse from the general public. I would like a member of the committee to view this problem with me.
9) Resident, Comment Area: Marlborough Avenue	We, Marlborough Avenue do not seem to be included in this and seem to be the only road around here with no place where our weekend friends can park without two permits being issued if a Sunday lunch at one pm is the order of the day. We have asked counsellors on several occasions to address this but nothing has happened. Officer Comment: Marlborough Avenue did not feature in this consultation.
10) Resident, Support Area: Kendrick Road	I fully support the introduction of a resident parking scheme in Kendrick Road. The current proposals would assist the residents of Kendrick Court. The court is made up of 20 flats all of which are at least 2-bedroom apartments, however the 1930's nature of the building space means there are only a dozen or so parking spaces for cars on site and off-road. As a result, residents need a place to park and although the grounds are extensive they can't be updated or changed from the current layout as it's a understandably a conservation area.
11) Resident, Comment Area: Kendrick Road	I am a property owner at Kendrick Court, on Kendrick Road, and as with other residents in the Court I formally request that the Council considers introducing a residents parking scheme for Kendrick Road. Please do not introduce a solely Pay & Display status WITHOUT thinking of local residents who pay their council tax. Requiring residents to Pay & Display for parking outside their own homes is both financially and logistically challenging; paying £10 or more a day to park near our homes is extremely difficult. Furthermore, it does not reflect the fact that as Reading Council Tax payers, we are being subjected to the same conditions as non-Reading visitors. We do not have sufficient parking in our Court to allow all residents to park here - and the conservation area status of the area prevents us from increasing the amount of off-road parking. Nearby roads (eg Morgan Road, Upper Redlands Road) have successful residents parking schemes. Overall allowing us to participate in a residents parking scheme, for a court of 23 apartments, would not have a material effect on the spaces available. I would be willing to pay an annual (or monthly) fee for a residents parking permit if such a scheme were to be introduced.
12) Resident, Comment/Objection Area: Kendrick Road	Proposed parking restrictions amendments to Kendrick road are both dangerous and unnecessary. The proposed parking to be added to the corner of Allcroft road presents a major hazard it is located on the immediate exit of the junction from Allcroft to Kendrick and sits within non permissible distances from a turning corner. In addition this proposed parking causes road width restrictions to public and vehicles it will not be wide enough for busses to pass safely and will cause severe congestion adding additional hazard to cyclist pedestrian and vehicles clearly the proposal has not been viewed measured or considered by any person whom is qualified to so do. This should be rejected on the grounds of health and safety. In addition living at [REDACTED] Kendrick Road we have marked and paced out the proposed position in and this will

	<p>cause major hazard for entering and reversing to our private property with sever risk of injury and harm. All other restriction increases to Kendrick road are in necessary and an affront to the local amenity preventing use of vital amenity such as Reading bowls club and to Christchurch particularly on sundays when shoppers and others are at a low ebb and do not use the road for parking. The council members should be ashamed of this proposal reducing community amenity which it is their responsibility to uphold and maintain and improve for wits local residents. How many times do residents have to reject these proposals and be heard.</p>
<p>13) Resident, Comment</p> <p>Area: Marlborough Avenue</p>	<p>As a resident of Marlborough Ave, I would like to ask, why despite repeated requests representations to our local councillors, NO changes are being made to the restrictions in our road. There are no provisions for visitors to park at all over the weekend, which is far more restrictive than other roads in our area. Despite being told that we could change the parking conditions if we didn't like them, the council seems to be totally unwilling to listen to repeated requests to do so.</p> <p>Officer Comment: Marlborough Avenue did not feature in this consultation.</p>
<p>14) Resident, Comment</p> <p>Area: General</p>	<p>Why not extend the pay an display time to the evenings and over night to allow people visiting the hositipal , Local schools, like abbey / kendrick Reading etc and ST lukes church and hall some where to legally park. The majority of park and display places are empty in the evening and Weekends so it would not affect residents needing parking spaces. I see no need to make the North side of Allcroft road no parking on Sundays, as few is any one parks there and it they do it slows down the cars racing at up to 70 mph along the roads so that good is it not?</p>
<p>15) Resident, Objection</p> <p>Area: Elmhurst Road</p>	<p>I am writing to register my objection to the parking changes proposed for Elmhurst Road. The current parking on the road is as follows: Mon-Fri 8:00 to 17:30 pay and display or permit holders only. At all other times permit holders only. The proposed parking on the road is: Mon-Sun 8:00 to 17:30 pay and display or permit holders only. At all other times shared use. I believe that it would not be appropriate to allow share used on Elmhurst Road from 17:30 to 8:00 on every day of the week. Elmhurst Road becomes very busy during the morning and evening rush hours with cars queuing to get through the traffic lights. When cars are parked on either side of the road it become difficult to navigate the road which causes delays, minor accidents and a danger to pedestrians. It is also very difficult to safely pull out of Marlborough Avenue onto Elmhurst Road when there are cars parked resulting in a build up of traffic.</p> <p>I would like to suggest some alternative options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remove all parking in the two zones to the west of Marlborough Avenue and closest to the traffic lights (opposite the residents only parking for the houses) and replace with double yellow lines. This would enable traffic to queue for the traffic lights without obstructing the other side of the road and would allow pedestrians to cross safely. Change the parking rule as proposed elsewhere on Elmhurst Road. 2) Change the rule for the zones to the west of Marlborough Avenue and closest to the traffic lights (opposite the residents only parking for the houses) to Mon-Sun 8:00 to 17:30 pay and display or permit holders only. At

	<p>all other times permit holders only. This would also enable traffic to queue for the traffic lights without obstructing the other side of the road and will allow pedestrians to cross safely. Change the parking rule as proposed elsewhere on Elmhurst Road.</p> <p>3) Only allow shared use from 20:00 to 8:00 to reduce the number of cars parked on the road during rush hour.</p> <p>I hope you will give my objections and proposed alternative solutions due consideration as they will give more parking flexibility on Elmhurst Road while ensuring traffic flow and safety of drivers and pedestrians.</p>
<p>16) Resident, Objection</p> <p>Area: Elmhurst Road</p>	<p>I would like to object to the proposed parking changes on Elmhurst Road in particular at the Christchurch Road End. Prior to the changes to the parking scheme in 2017 Elmhurst Road was notorious as a terrible and unsafe road to drive down, with drivers from both directions having to slalom between parked cars. The benefits of the current parking scheme is that very few cars, if any, park on the west side during peak hours. This allows a safe and free flow of traffic. The new proposals mean that cars will be able to freely park on the west side of the road before 08:00 and after 17:30, which is still within peak times for Elmhurst road. Peak traffic on the road is between 07:00 to 20:00. If more cars are encouraged to park on the west side during these peak times it will lead to more congestion, more accidents and make it unsafe for pedestrians.</p> <p>I think there are two better options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introducing pay and display or permit holders at all times, thereby limiting the number of cars that would park on the west side. This would not remove the hazard but reduce the risk. 2. Remove the parking bays on the west side at the Christchurch road end of Elmhurst road, thus allowing the free flow of traffic by the traffic lights. The proposed changes could still be implemented at the upper redlands road end of Elmhurst Road. <p>I would be interest to know if a full traffic and road safety risk assessment for this proposal has been conducted?</p>
<p>17) Resident, Comment</p> <p>Area: Allcroft Road</p>	<p>[REDACTED]. I pay a big part of my pension to RBS Council Tax. Yet it seems due to the new parking scheme in 2017 I am the most affected person in Allcroft Road. [REDACTED]. Since the new parking scheme cars are parked opposite both exits I need a bigger space to take my car out as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a). Pavement in front of my house is downhill b) there is grass on the pavement <p>When I take my car out especially on a rainy or icy day at times it gets stuck in the grass</p> <p>Also my friends hesitate to give me a lift - Due to downhill pavement they don't feel comfortable bringing the cars on my drive. And they can't stop the cars even for a couple of minutes to call me as traffic on the road gets restless. I shall be highly grateful if you please extend the present double yellow lines for another few yards to make my life a bit easier.</p>
18) Resident,	We are writing to object to the proposed changes to parking restrictions in Elmhurst Road. Before the current

<p>Objection</p> <p>Area: Elmhurst Road</p>	<p>restrictions came in, there were terrible traffic conditions in Elmhurst Road, because parking on both sides reduced it to a single-track lane. At peak times there were long stationary queues in both directions because of the difficulty that drivers had in getting to and from the busy traffic lights at the Christchurch Green end. There were noisy “Mexican Standoffs” - with nobody being willing or able to give way. Parked vehicles (including resident’s cars) regularly suffered damage as drivers tried to squeeze through. Pedestrians (and there are a lot of them in this University area) found it very hard to cross the road safely. Getting our car in and out of our drive was virtually impossible. The rush hour continues long after 17.30, so we are very afraid that returning to a parking free-for-all as early as this would bring back all the problems which have been removed by the current scheme. If changes are to be made (and we would much rather retain the status quo) we strongly recommend that you should only allow shared use from 20:00 to 8:00 to reduce the number of cars parked on the road during rush hour.</p>
<p>19) Resident, Comment</p> <p>Area: Marlborough Avenue</p>	<p>We would like one side of Marlborough Avenue (the side of the Elmhurst Road garages) to have the same parking restrictions as The Mount off Christchurch Road. This would allow anyone to park in the evenings and weekends. During the week we value the current parking restrictions in place between 8am to 5.30pm. We have asked our three Councillors to sort this out previously, but surprise surprise they failed to do so despite saying it had been sorted!</p> <p>Officer Comment: Marlborough Avenue did not feature in this consultation.</p>
<p>20) Resident, Comment</p> <p>Area: General</p>	<p>It is risky tinkering with a system that caused quite a bit of disruption when it was introduced, especially as while we were ‘consulted’ at the time, we saw little evidence of our views forming part of the overall scheme. These suggested changes, called ‘Hospital & university area: pay and display charging and minor changes’ on the website seem more than ‘minor’ - the ‘pay and display’ scheme being extended from Monday to Friday to Monday to Sunday, while the evening and overnight restriction of parking to permit holders only, in some areas, is being removed. Parking at weekends, eg for hospital and resident visitors, is being penalised and I can not see any proposal to extend the MereOak ‘Park and Ride’ service at weekends to compensate for this. This looks more like a money raising exercise rather than an attempt to control parking. It is also very disappointing to not see any joined up thinking linking parking with the impending switch to electric vehicles. There will be a serious need for on-street charging facilities yet I don’t see much evidence of the Council addressing the issue in this area. As a local resident, I don’t remember receiving any notification from the Council regarding these proposed changes, other than notices pinned to lamp-posts. A twenty one day consultation period (7-28 February 2019) only adds to the feeling of our opinions not being wanted. Thank goodness for local political activists who alerting us. Let us hope their diligence will be rewarded at the local elections.</p>