

Residents' Comments on Proposed Parking Restrictions Thames Rd

Dear Clerk to the Council,

I attach for information an email sent to Councillor Gant of Oxfordshire County Council in respect of the proposed double yellow lines in Thames road. Many local residents have objected to this proposal.

The position of the Parish Council, that any further yellow lines should be temporary for the duration of construction works prior to a wider consultation on yellow lines in Goring, seems reasonable.

We thought it would be helpful to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, the concern that many local residents have expressed. Could you forward this email to the Parish Council's Traffic Management, Parking and Pedestrian Safety Committee.

Dear Councillor Gant,

I am writing to you as the Cabinet member for Highway Management to make a further representation about the above and also to draw your attention to the unreasonably short timescale allowed by Highway Officers to make any further representation.

22 Objections by local residents and 5 concerns have been made to these unnecessary proposed permanent parking restrictions in this part of Thames road which is a cul de sac with little and very slow moving traffic. We do not feel that any proper consideration has been given by Officers to the reasonable objections raised.

We note that Goring Parish Council argues that any parking restrictions should be temporary for the duration of construction works pending consultation on revisions to yellow lines in Goring as whole.

We would therefore request that, in accordance with this, that you should defer the decision on permanent yellow lines for better and further consideration (including residents views)during this consultation.

A further point to note is that Officers indicated in email that their proposed decision would be available to view on the evening of Wednesday 13 December. This was subsequently amended to the evening of Wednesday 6th December. However any further representations needed to be made by 9am on Friday 8th December, thus giving only one day for any further representations or to confirm a wish to speak at the meeting. This makes a mockery of proper public consultation.

We hope you will be able to consider the points raised in this email and defer this decision as per the request of the Parish Council. I attach as background information the points that we raised in our comments to OCC.

Attached enclosure:

We would like to comment on the double yellow lines which are proposed in Thames Road adjacent to and opposite the existing private access drive which will serve 4 new houses (2 semis and 2 detached) to the rear of Stowe house. We would make the following points

- Residents of the Birches (26 terraced houses) make use of Thames Road and Glebe Ride for parking as there are insufficient parking spaces to accommodate resident's cars in the garage and parking areas. Residents of flats and smaller houses in Thames Road likewise use Thames Road and Glebe Ride for parking. This street parking is important to residents in the area. Delivery vans and tradesmen's vehicles also use this parking.
- Community groups using Goring Village Hall use Thames road for parking. This is the nearest available parking for the elderly.
- Cricketers using the Recreation ground use Glebe Ride and Thames Road for parking.
- Patrons of Pierrepont's cafe also use Thames road for parking. Thames road is the nearest available parking to the cafe. The cafe is an asset for the village.
- The proposed double yellow lines will result in the loss of around 5 car parking spaces.
- Existing parked cars in Thames road and Glebe Ride act as natural traffic calming measures and cause any passing traffic to slow. The part of Thames road, where the lines are proposed is a cul de sac, traffic speeds are low and parked cars help in reducing speed.
- The existing bellmouth into the Birches from Glebe Ride (which serves 14 houses) has double yellow lines only on the bell mouth side of the road. The far side of the road is available for parking, there are no traffic issues.
- It is suggested that any new double yellow lines should likewise be restricted to the bellmouth side of the road only, where parking does not take place currently.
- Unnecessary time limited parking restrictions at the southern end of Thames road have already reduced the available street parking. A temporary restriction to allow contractor's large plant to access the site would be sensible but further permanent cumulative loss of parking spaces, which reduce the options available to residents and the wider village community is not desirable and on the basis of the above points, we would like to OBJECT to the proposed order.