HCW/14/54
Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee
3 July 2014

West Buckeridge - provision of mandatory disabled bay

Report of the Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

Recommendation: It is recommended that:

- (a) the contents of this report be noted and
- (b) the traffic regulation order in respect of the disabled parking bay in West Buckeridge, Teignmouth be made and sealed as advertised.

1. Summary

To consider further information provided by the doctor of the applicant for this bay as resolved at the last meeting of this HATOC.

2. Background

At the last meeting of this Committee on 13 March 2014 a report, number HCW/14/21, was presented to consider the objections to the conversion of an advisory disabled bay to mandatory in West Buckeridge, Teignmouth.

The Committee resolved, inter alia, "that this matter be deferred for a more detailed report to include further details from the applicant, the options for both locations and implications of dropped kerbs."

To this end the applicant was contacted and a statement was requested from their medical practitioner that a parking bay to the front of the property would be significantly more detrimental to, or have a greater negative impact on, their health than the one positioned in West Buckeridge. Two responses have been received from the applicant's doctor, the first detailing the applicant's medical problems and medication, both of which are not relevant, the second stating that the applicant "sometimes struggles with the steps involved" at the front of their house and that "A parking bay to the front of her property would be significantly more detrimental to patient's health than one positioned in West Buckeridge".

3. Discussion

The Members of this Committee will understand that there are two potential places where this applicant could park on the public highway adjacent to their home and that both locations provide an equally feasible solution on highway grounds. The locations are either in West Buckeridge to the rear or Buckeridge Road to the front. The applicant's preference is to park in West Buckeridge where the existing advisory disabled bay is marked.

The doctor's letter confirms that the bay location in West Buckeridge is the appropriate place for this applicants and it is therefore recommended that the bay remain here and be made mandatory.

With respect to the dropped kerbs adjacent to the bay in West Buckeridge this is an "historic" feature perhaps provided at a time when provision of off street parking was considered for

this difficult site. Their presence adjacent to the existing bay is not significant as the current "off street" area is not large enough to accommodate any vehicle other than a motor cycle therefore an obstruction is not being caused by the parked car. In addition some blue badge holders may find it easier to alight at a dropped kerb making this an appropriate feature here.

4. Proposals

It is therefore recommended that this traffic regulation order be made and sealed as advertised.

5. Financial Considerations

The Disabled Parking Bay Budget funded from the On Street Parking Account, approved at the March 2013 Cabinet, will be used to fund identified works.

6. Sustainability Considerations

It is hoped that the introduction of disabled bays will help people with disabilities to park more conveniently close to their homes. Additionally it will help to reduce inappropriate and dangerous parking in our neighbourhoods, which will improve our road safety record and also reduce congestion and improve air quality.

7. Carbon Impact Considerations

The proposals should have a positive impact on carbon emissions as the provision of parking bays should reduce vehicle mileage and manoeuvring.

8. Equality Considerations

The proposals should ease the problems being experienced by blue badge holders where bays are being provided.

9. Legal Considerations

There are no specific legal issues arising from this report. The course of action proposed is in general accordance with the Council's powers as Highway Authority.

10. Risk Management Considerations

A Minor Scheme Safety Assessment has been carried out in each case.

11. Options/Alternatives

The possible alternatives are:

- Do nothing this would mean that the current reported abuse of the advisory bay would continue to the detriment of the applicant's lifestyle.
- Remove the bay this would be contrary to the County policy on provision of disabled parking bays for blue badge holders
- Reposition the bay to Buckeridge Road/West Brimley this would go against the request of the applicant.

12. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

Providing mandatory disabled parking spaces close to a blue badge holder's home complies with policy.

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Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background PaperDateFile Reference1. CSM 13569927March 2013West Buckeridge2 HATOC report13 March 201413/3/14

Also previous CSMs with respect to the provision of the advisory bay

aj190614tnh sc/cr/west buckeridge provision of mandatory disabled bay 02 240614

