

Somerset Place, Teignmouth – Provision of Mandatory Disabled Parking Bay

Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure 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 proposal for the mandatory disabled parking bay at Somerset Place, Teignmouth is implemented as advertised and the traffic regulation order in respect of the disabled parking bay is made and sealed.***

1. Background

An application for a disabled parking bay was received by Devon Council County from a blue badge holder at Somerset Place, Teignmouth. The applicant has met the criteria for provision of a disabled parking bay.

2. Proposal

The most appropriate location for the disabled parking bay was identified at the end of the limited waiting section adjacent to Wedgewood Court. The Bay would have to be mandatory as the Bay would be adjacent to other enforceable restrictions. Details of the proposal are shown in Appendix I to this report.

3. Consultations

Following approval by the local member and Chair of Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee, formal consultation on the proposed traffic regulation order for the county wide disabled parking bay order began on 25 October to 15 November 2018. During the consultation period, one submission was received from Teignmouth Town Council objecting to the proposed mandatory disabled parking bay at Somerset Place, Teignmouth.

An extract is reproduced below from the minutes of the Town Council's Extraordinary Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 14 November 2018.

192 MATTERS OF URGENCY BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Russell said Devon County Council had received an application from a resident to introduce a disabled badge holder area on a specified length of Somerset Place. She conveyed concern as the area would not solely be available for the resident and there are other nearby areas for badge holders.

Cllr Burgess proposed to take advice and refuse the application, seconded by Cllr Green and agreed by majority. Cllr Eden voted against.

Blue Badge Holder are permitted to park within limited waiting bays without time limit but there is no guarantee that a space will be available at any particular location. Applicants for Disabled Parking Bays are made aware that any bay provided cannot be guaranteed for their personal use. However, provision of a Disabled Parking Bay will reduce competition for the space in a given area thereby improving the chances that the applicant will be able to park close to their residence more often.

4. 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.

5. Environmental Impact Considerations

The proposals are intended to improve mobility and access for blue badge holders and therefore the environmental effects of the scheme are therefore positive.

6. Equality Considerations

The proposal should ease the parking problem being experienced by the blue badge holder when parking near their home.

7. Legal Considerations

The lawful implications and consequences of the proposal have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council's responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, secures the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities. It is considered that the proposal complies with section 122 of the Act as it secures and maintains safe access to premises for the blue badge holder.

8. Risk Management Considerations

This proposal has been assessed and all necessary safeguards or action have been taken/included to safeguard the Council's position.

9. Options/Alternatives

The recommendation is to proceed with the proposal to implement the disabled parking bay as advertised. The option of not proceeding with the disabled parking bay will not ease the parking problems experienced by the blue badge holder.

10. Reasons for Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposal for the mandatory disabled parking bay is implemented as advertised as the bay will not cause any additional congestion in the area as this is already a parking bay. It is also accepted by the applicant that the bay will be available to all blue badge holders.

Meg Booth
Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Electoral Division: Teignmouth

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
None		

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Appendix I To HIW/19/14

