

REPORT: Environment & Urban Renewal Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 10th September 2014

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Policy & Resources

PORTFOLIO: Transportation

SUBJECT: Objections to Proposed 'At Any Time' Waiting Restrictions, Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook

WARDS: Daresbury

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To report on objections that have been received following public consultation on a proposed Traffic regulation Order to introduce 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on part of Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook and to put forward an amendment to the original proposal. A plan of the original recommendation is supplied in Appendix 'A', this appendix being a truncated version of the initial proposal document which has had irrelevant/duplicated sections removed as it originally referred to a range of Traffic Regulation Order proposals. Revised recommendations are set out in Appendix 'B'.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS: That the Board supports the Council's intention to introduce an Order to implement 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook as set out in Appendix 'B' and that the Executive Board be recommended to support its implementation.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Using delegated powers and after consultation with the ward councillors, the Executive Board member – Transportation and Cheshire Police, the Operational Director (Highways, Transportation and Logistics) issued approval to advertise a proposal to implement 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook as set out in Appendix 'A'.
- 3.2 The background and justification for the proposed restrictions are set out in Appendix 'A'.
- 3.3 During the formal public consultation process, eight individual objections were received together with objections from Warrington Anglers Association and Preston Brook Parish Council. These will be available at the meeting but the main points of each are summarised below.

Objection 1, from a resident of nearby Canalside Cottages: Objection relates to lack of parking space in the area and impact on this of recent development work (including conversion of St. Faiths Mission to apartments).

Objection 2, from a "pensioner and partly disabled" resident of nearby Canalside Cottages: Objection relates to lack of parking space in the area and impact of recent

development work, vehicles being left by those car sharing to commute and also requests a residents only parking scheme.

Objections 3 & 4, from residents of nearby Canalside Cottages: The objections relate to a lack of parking space in the area and the repercussions of the proposal for local residents who have relied on this parking for years; suggest that there has never been a problem even when the church was active, consider that any possible impacts will be the result of new developments; question the need for any parking controls and state that the removal of the ability to park will cause problems for local residents and their visitors who would have nowhere else to park, noting that many nearby residents are elderly and lacking the ability to walk distances; and suggests that an effective compromise would be to make Hill Top Road one way.

Objection 5, from a resident of nearby Canalside: Objection relates to lack of parking space in the area; highlights that parking on Hill Top Road is necessary for a blue badge holder living at the property who is physically and mentally handicapped when weather conditions make the steep slope down to the property a skidding hazard; this is the only parking available for public utilities and other work people who need essential access to properties on Canalside. Suggests introduction of residents only parking permit scheme for properties along Canalside and making Hill Top Road one-way.

Objection 6, on behalf of the “disabled and over 60’s section for Warrington Anglers Association”: Objection relates to loss of parking space close to the Bridgewater Canal which would jeopardise use of this venue by their members.

Objection 7, from a resident of nearby Canalside Cottages: Objection relates to lack of parking space in the area caused in part by development work in recent years, expressing concerns over the impact the restrictions could have on a disabled resident and that as residents they have no other place to park.

Objections 8 & 9, from elderly anglers: Concerned they will no longer be able to reach the canal due to lack of accessible parking space and infirmity; Objection 8 suggests that consideration should be given to imposing parking restrictions on Windmill Lane, Preston-on-the Hill but this is outside of the scope of this report.

Objection 10, on behalf of Warrington Anglers Association: Objecting to loss of “only viable place to park”, linking this with recent adjacent developments.

Objection 11, from Preston Brook Parish Council, on behalf of residents to the proposals and requested that timed restriction and/or two disabled bays be implemented instead of “At any time” restrictions.

- 3.2 Waiting restrictions in the area were initially requested by Cheshire Police some years ago, and one head-on collision occurred in 2011 when a vehicle entering Hill Top Road collided with another which was on the wrong side of the road when passing cars parked on the south side of the carriageway in Hill Top Road. However, as referred to in paragraph 3.4 of Appendix A, there are a number of factors which combine to justify the need for a waiting restriction along this length of road: the introduction of two new access points to adjacent developments off Hill Top Road and the need to maintain adequate visibility levels for vehicles accessing them taking into account the curvature of the road; the width of the carriageway along this length of road (5.7m) which results in vehicles having to cross to the other side of the road if there are vehicles parked on one side and the need to ensure the junction of Hill Top Road and Chester Road can

operate safely and efficiently.

- 3.3 Having considered the various objections, it is believed that most of the benefits of introducing waiting restrictions can be achieved whilst leaving space on the south side of Hill Top Road between Chester Road and Waterside for parking and the revised proposal in Appendix 'B' reflects this option. The parking space provided will serve the needs of local residents.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is estimated the cost of implementing the proposals would be approximately £1000; this would be met from the annual traffic management revenue funds.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no other direct social inclusion, sustainability, value for money, legal or crime and disorder implications resulting from this report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'Children & Young People in Halton' priority.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton' priority.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Reducing possible road casualties will have the direct benefit of releasing health resources and thereby enable funding to be focused on other areas of health care.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The introduction of these waiting restrictions will reduce the chance of future collisions at this location.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'Halton's Urban Renewal'.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 There is a variable and uncertain road safety risk associated with not introducing these proposed restrictions, the degree of risk depending on the degree of conflict due to vehicles needing to travel on the wrong side of the road to pass parked vehicles. A head-on collision occurred under these circumstances in 2011, resulting in driver injury. However local residents do have a strong case for consideration in the provision of a limited amount of waiting space.
- 7.2 Traffic displaced from parking at the location to receive new restrictions will inevitably place an extra parking demand on adjacent areas and this is largely unavoidable. The new restrictions recommended in this report are being proposed generally on safety and freedom of access grounds, which should have a higher priority than an increase in the pressure on available parking space.

8.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 There are no direct equality and diversity issues associated with this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 There are no background papers under section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

REPORT: M J Noone, Operational Director
Policy, Planning & Transportation

DATE: 5th December 2013

REPORTING OFFICER: S. Johnson - Lead Officer, Traffic & Road Safety

SUBJECT: Proposed Waiting Restrictions at Various Locations in Runcorn
and Widnes & a Clearway Order in Widnes

WARDS: Daresbury, Halton Brook, Halton Lea and Halton View

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the introduction of waiting restrictions to address a range of parking issues at various locations throughout the Borough, together with a school 'Keep Clear' clearway Order.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that notice be given of the Council's intention to introduce Orders to implement "At Any Time" waiting restrictions at various locations as set out below.
- 2.3 It is further recommended that subject to no objections being sustained at the end of the public consultation period and to the agreement of the Police and emergency services and satisfactory consultation, the Orders be made.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.4 **Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook:** Conversion of the former St. Faiths Mission Church to apartments has seen construction of an off-road parking area to the west of the building, accessed directly off Hill Top Road. Completion of the (under construction) Go Blade electric motorcycle track to the east of the former Mission will result in their access road joining Hill Top Road immediately to the east. These accesses are on the inside of the bend on Hill Top Road, and given the curvature of the road and the steepness of the earth banks at the side of the carriageway any vehicle parked on the north side of the route results in the sight lines for traffic exiting the accesses being blocked. Parking on the south side of Hill Top Road between Chester Road and Waterfront results in through traffic needing to travel on the wrong side of the road and also obstructs access/egress to the apartment entrance. It is recommended that "At Any Time" waiting restrictions are introduced on the north side of Hill Top Road extending from the junction with A56 Chester Road, eastwards to a point 50 metres beyond the entrance to the Go Blade access. Also, on the south side, extending from the junction with A56 Chester Road, eastwards to the junction with Waterfront. Drg. no. 9239 in Appendix 'C' refers.

4.0 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 During the formal advertising period to follow, consultation will take place with the emergency services and other regular consultees. All ward councillors have been consulted and have no objections. Cheshire Police have been consulted and raised no objections.

Details of Proposed Orders:

[a] "At Any Time" Waiting Restrictions.

[b] Details:

Location	Statement of Reasons
Hill Top Road, from its junction with A56 Chester Road: south side to the junction with Waterfront and north side, for a distance of 110m.	To keep clear accesses and sightlines for entrances to apartments at the former St. Faiths Mission Church and the Go Blade motorcycle centre on the inside of the bend on Hill Top Road, and to prevent parking on the south side of Hill Top Road between Chester Road and Waterfront which results in traffic having to travel on the wrong side of the road and also obstructs the apartment entrance.

[c] Plans: All in Appendix 'D', for deposit only, and not to scale.

Hill Top Road: Drg. no. 9239

Applicable to all proposals:

[d] Associated revocations: None.

[e] Exemptions: Standard

[f] Date to be advertised: ASAP

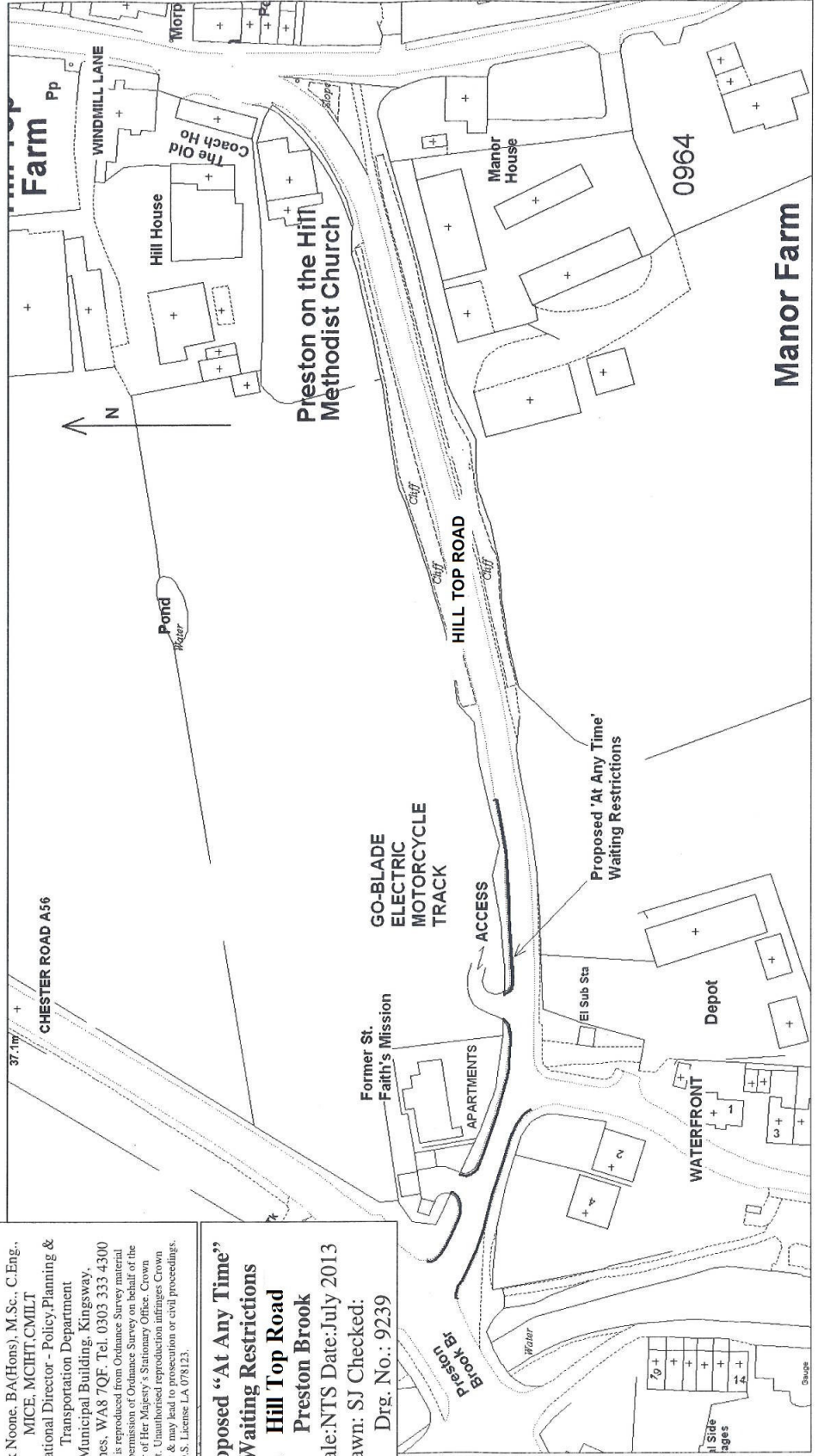
[g] Date to be effected: ASAP

[h] Advertising code: 2050 1625 W041



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**Proposed "At Any Time"
 Waiting Restrictions
 Hill Top Road
 Preston Brook**
 Scale: NTS Date: July 2013
 Drawn: SJ Checked:
 Drg. No.: 9239



Details of Revised Proposed Order:

[a] "At Any Time" Waiting Restrictions.

[b] Details:

Location	Statement of Reasons
Hill Top Road, from its junction with A56 Chester Road: north side, for a distance of 110m., south side to a point 15m east of Chester Road and then from a point 40m east of Chester Road to the junction with Waterfront (25m. gap)	To keep clear accesses and sightlines for entrances to apartments at the former St. Faiths Mission Church and the Go Blade motorcycle centre on the inside of the bend on Hill Top Road, and to prevent parking near to the Chester Road/Hill Top and Hill Top/Waterfront junctions.

[c] Plans: As in this Appendix. Namely Drg. no. 9239A, for deposit only, and not to scale.

Applicable to all proposals:

[d] Associated revocations: None.

[e] Exemptions: Standard

[f] Date to be advertised: ASAP

[g] Date to be effected: ASAP

[h] Advertising code: 2050 1625 W041



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**Proposed "At Any Time"
 Waiting Restrictions**
Hill Top Road
Preston Brook
 Scale: NTS Date: July 2013
 Drawn: SJ Checked:
 Drg. No.: 9239A

