

Controlled pavement parking – Rushey Mead pilot schemes

Short Update Briefing – Ward Meeting 21st June 2016.

General:

In recent years the council have received many complaints from pedestrians (especially vulnerable pedestrians) who have been put at risk by drivers who park vehicles in a way that obstructs the pavement. Two areas in Rushey Mead have been identified as possibly suitable to pilot measures to control pavement parking. The areas were chosen because many residents are currently parking on the pavement. However, they are generally doing this in a disciplined way. This shows that although most residents feel they needed to park on the pavement to keep the carriageway clear, they are aware that pedestrians do have to use the pavement too. Therefore, the council recognise that by introducing controls to regularise the existing parking situation it would minimise any disruption to responsible residents in those areas. At the same time, the council would then be able to *encourage* those who persist in parking in a way that obstructs the pavement (ie <1m) by using their civil enforcement powers to issue parking tickets. There is also the option that where the problem is particularly acute physical barriers could be employed.

Braemar Drive Area:

A leaflet describing the issues and possible control measures was distributed to this area in January.

The council received a 38% response to the questionnaire attached to the leaflet. Overall 65% of respondents were in favour of some form of control of pavement parking. Although very few wanted to see physical barriers used.

After considering these responses the ward councillors felt that it would be helpful to residents to see a possible scheme in more detail and to be able to discuss this with their councillors and council officers. A draft scheme has been raised for discussion and a drop-in session has been arranged for Wednesday 29th June at the Rushey Mead recreation centre on Gleneagles Avenue. Residents are welcome to drop in anytime between 5:15pm and 6:45pm.

Harrison Road area:

A leaflet describing the issues and possible control measures was distributed to this area in May.

The council received a 17% response to the questionnaire attached to the leaflet. Overall 90% of respondents were in favour of some form of control of pavement parking. Only a minority supported the use of physical barriers.

There were also comments received regarding dustbins being left out on pavements and calls for a residents parking scheme in the area.

Councillors and council officers will now consider the response in detail and what form and extent (if any) of controlled pavement parking scheme may be suitable. Further consultation on this will take place with residents in this area later in the year.