

AREA COMMITTEE: LUTON CENTRAL

DATE: 19TH JANUARY 2005

SUBJECT: PARKING ON PAVEMENTS AROUND WARDOWN PARK

REPORT BY: HEAD OF ENGINEERING & TRANSPORTATION

CONTACT OFFICER: JONATHAN PALMER

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IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL

COMMUNITY SAFETY

EQUALITIES

ENVIRONMENT

FINANCIAL

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CONSULTATIONS

STAFFING

OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: BISCOT AND HIGH TOWN

PURPOSE

1. To update the Area Committee with regard to parking on pavements around Wardown Park.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That an extension of the Controlled Parking Zone along Old Bedford Road should be added to the list of Small-scale Parking Schemes and reported to the Executive for approval as part of the programme for such works in 2005/2006.
3. If the Executive approves the scheme, a public consultation exercise with residents should commence in 2005/2006 to ascertain a way forward.
4. That this Area Committee notes that is planned to recommence work on the Pilot Pavement Parking Scheme in the Farley Ward in late January or early February 2005.

BACKGROUND

5. This issue was first reported in response to a petition to a meeting of this Area Committee on 19th October 2004 and the following was resolved: -
 - i. *That Head of Engineering and Transportation submit a further report to be submitted to the next meeting of the committee.*

REPORT

6. A meeting was held at the Town Hall on 10th December between officers and Councillor Magill to discuss the issue of pavement parking around Wardown Park and to be able to propose a way forward for Old Bedford Road.
7. There are ample parking spaces available within the park itself, however, it was felt that drivers were parking as near as possible to the facilities rather than using the car park provided and then walking.
8. It was agreed at the meeting that the following should be reported back to the Area Committee: -
 - i. That an extension of the Controlled Parking Zone along Old Bedford Road should be added to the list of Small-scale Parking Schemes and reported to the Executive for approval as part of the programme for such works in 2005/2006.
 - ii. If the Executive approves the scheme, a public consultation exercise with residents should commence in 2005/2006 to ascertain a way forward.
9. The council has been taking part in a government-sponsored investigation into pavement parking with a view to introducing a scheme where the council can take enforcement action. Initially, an area centred on Farley Hill was proposed but consultation did not give a clear indication on an area where a pilot could be introduced. However, based on the outcome of the consultation, two smaller areas were identified for further investigation. Due to lack of resources, it has not been possible to make any further progress, it is planned to recommence investigation work in late January or early February 2005.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

10. See paragraph 8 above.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. There are currently no financial implications with regard to the proposals in paragraph 8. If approved by the Executive then this will be funded as part of the Highways Priority Programme for 2005/2006.
12. The Pilot Pavement Parking Scheme was approved by the Executive in April 2004 and is included as part of the Highways Priority Programme.
13. Agreed by the departmental Finance Manager 7th January 2005.

APPENDIX

None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

None