

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DISTRICT OF NEW FOREST (OFF STREET PARKING PLACES) AMENDMENT ORDER 2004 RINGWOOD FURLONG LONG STAY CAR PARK AND LORRY PARK.

Summary of Purpose and Recommendations:








The purpose of the report is to give Cabinet the opportunity of considering the representations received concerning the District Of New Forest (Off Street Parking Places) (Amendment) Order 2004.

The report recommends that the waiting times in the Long Stay Car Park at The Furlong Ringwood not Be introduced but the proposal to restrict lorry parking to between the hours of 6pm and 8am be Confirmed .

Cost to Council: £2500

Within existing budget? Yes

Contribution to Corporate Plan (Minor/Moderate/Major/Neutral):

	+		-		+		-
		neutral		Priorities			
	Major			Clean Streets and Public Space		Neutral	
	Minor			Crime and Disorder		Neutral	
	Minor			Housing		Neutral	
		Neutral		Managing our Finances		Neutral	

Comments on Impacts on Corporate Objectives and Priorities:



Organisation of excellence



Working with public and partners



Economic well being



Social well being



Environmental well being

**CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DISTRICT OF NEW FOREST (OFF STREET PARKING PLACES) AMENDMENT ORDER 2004
RINGWOOD FURLONG LONG STAY CAR PARK AND LORRY PARK.**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At its meeting on the 5 July 2004 Cabinet passed the resolution to amend the District of New Forest (Off Street Parking Places) Order as set out below. A draft Parking Order was duly advertised and representations have now been received and collated. This report sets out the representations received concerning the proposals in the draft Parking Order.

1.2 Council Resolution to amend Parking Order.

1.2.1 That officers advertise amendments to the District of New Forest (Off Street Parking Places) Order to reflect the following:

- (i) Allowing lorries to park only between the hours of 6:00pm and 8:00am in the existing lorry parking area of Ringwood Car Park.
- (ii) Reducing the waiting restriction in the long stay Furlong Car Park to nine hours 08:00am and 6pm.

2. REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED CONCERNING THE DRAFT PARKING ORDER.

2.1 The Representatives from non statutory organisations are summarised in Appendix 1 of this report.

2.1.1 The issue which raises most concern relates to the reduction in the long stay waiting period from 20 to 9 hours. This reduction would cause particular difficulty to those wishing to use the Express Coach Services and to a number of people who work in the Town.

2.1.2 No comments were received concerning the proposals to restrict lorry parking between the hours of 6:00pm and 8:00am.

2.2 The representations received from statutory consultees are summarised in Appendix 2 of this report.

2.2.1 The Freight Transport Association emphasise the need for facilities to allow drivers to rest. However, there are alternative lorry parking areas in close proximity to Ringwood.

2.2.2 Hampshire County Council (The Highway Authority) have no objections concerning the Amendment order but express reservations concerning the proposal to have some form of reserved parking facilities.

#

2.2.3 The Town Council have amended their position after consideration of the representations received by this Council and the views that have been expressed directly to them. Appendix 3 sets out the Town Council's views. The Town Council now believe the long stay waiting restriction should not be altered. The reason for this being the adverse effect of reducing the waiting time to 9 hours would have on those using the Express Coach services and certain groups of people who work in the town. The Town Council wish to proceed with marking the lorry park for use by cars and restricting lorries to parking between 6:00pm and 8:00am.

2.2.4 The Economy and Planning Review Panel considered this issue on 22 September 2004. The Panel analysed the important role played by the Express Coach Services, the pressures of commuter parking, the desire to reduce traffic and the requirements for lorry parking. As a result of this and consideration of the representations received the Panel recommend to Cabinet that:

That part of the Draft Parking Order relating to the reduction in the waiting times in the Ringwood Furlong Long Stay Car Park NOT be confirmed and that part which relates to restricting lorry parking to between the hours of 6pm and 8am BE confirmed.

The panel is in agreement with the lorry park being relined to accommodate cars.

3. PORTFOLIO HOLDERS VIEWS

3.1 Given the representations received and the comments of the Town Council, the problems that will be caused to certain groups of people appear to outweigh the benefits derived from reducing the waiting period in the long stay car park. Given this, I believe that the sections of the draft Amendment Order that deal with a reduction of the waiting period in the Furlong Long Stay car park should not be confirmed. Restricting the time period lorries can use the existing lorry park to between 6:00pm and 8:00am combined with remarking the area concerned for use by cars will increase capacity in the car park. Given this I would recommend that the section of the draft Parking Order dealing with restricting lorries waiting time to between the hours of 6:00pm to 8:00am be confirmed.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There will be cost in the region of £2500 for re-signing and advertising the changes. This can be contained within existent budgets.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 From the representations received and particularly the views of the Town Council, it would appear that there is insufficient support to change the waiting restrictions in the Long Stay car park given the large number of people this would affect. However, limited representations were received concerning lining the lorry park and restricting lorry parking to between 6:00pm and 8:00am. The exception to this being the Road Freight Association whose concerns can be met by other lorry parks in the area.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 That the District of New Forest (Off Street Parking Places) Order 1984 be amended to the effect that::
- 8.1.1 Lorries can only park in the existing lorry park area of the Furlong car park between the hours of 6:00pm and 8:00am.
- 8.1.2 That no alteration be made to the waiting restrictions in the long stay section of Ringwood car park.

Further Information:

John Bull
Car Parks Manager
Tel: (023) 8028 5949

Background Papers:

Cabinet Report 5 July 2004
Ringwood long stay parking/
use of lorry park.

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF THE OBJECTION REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED CONCERNING DRAFT DISTRICT OF NEW FOREST (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2004

NAME	ADDRESS	REFERENCE NO.
Mr P S Nicholson	Northgate, Hurst Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1AX	1
Mrs A Coles	15/17 Lower Buckland Road Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9DN	2
Dr Milo Siewert MD	The Dorset Natural Health Clinic, 32 Wessex Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH14 8BQ	3
Mr J B Howell	Twynys, Marsh Lane, Breamore, Fordingbridge, SP6 2BP	4
Mrs Susan Everett	29 Denholm Close, Ringwood BH24 1TF	5
Mr David Burns	Bye Cottage, Shappen Bottom, Burley, Ringwood BH24 4AG	6
Debra Clark	SPS Wellbeing, Corporate Health Consultants, The Moorlands, 28/30 Southampton Road, Ringwood BH24 1JD	7
Mrs E Lamb	Nicada, Rockbourne Road, Sandleheath, Fordingbridge SP6 1QG	8
Mr John Thorne	Wilts & Dorset Bus Company Ltd, Bus Station, 1 Dolphin Centre, Poole, Dorset BH15 1SN	9
	Sandhills, 168 Station Road, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 1DS	10
Meesons, Solicitors	New House, Market Place, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1ER	11
Mr P J Oakley	105 Hightown Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1NL	12
Mr G E Goldsmith	Bassett, Poplar Lane, Bransgore, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 8JE	13
New Forest West Conservative Association	E mail	14
National Express Coaches	E mail	15
Mr R Orchard	15 Deweys Lane, Ringwood, Hants BH24 1AJ (e-mail)	16

REF NO:	DETRIMENTAL TO AND LEAD TO A DECLINE IN EXPRESS COACH SERVICES	BE DETRIMENTAL TO LOCAL BUSINESSES BECAUSE WAITING TIMES TO SHORT FOR HOURS OF WORK	RESULT IN MORE VEHICLES ON THE ROAD AS FEWER WOULD BE ABLE TO USE COACH SERVICE	MANY PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE EXPRESS COACH FACILITIES	THE PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOLVED BY PRICING	FOR ALL RESIDENTS - SHOULD NOT FAVOUR THOSE WHO LIVE/WORK IN RINGWOOD	IN AGREEMENT PROVIDED DOES NOT PREJUDICE EXPRESS COACH SERVICE
1				✓			
2				✓			
3	✓			✓			
4				✓		✓	
5				✓			
6							✓
7		✓					
8				✓			
9		✓					
10				✓			
11		✓					
12		✓					

REF NO:	DETRIMENTAL TO AND LEAD TO A DECLINE IN EXPRESS COACH SERVICES	BE DETRIMENTAL TO LOCAL BUSINESSES BECAUSE WAITING TIMES TO SHORT FOR HOURS OF WORK	RESULT IN MORE VEHICLES ON THE ROAD AS FEWER WOULD BE ABLE TO USE COACH SERVICE	MANY PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE EXPRESS COACH FACILITIES	THE PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOLVED BY PRICING	FOR ALL RESIDENTS - SHOULD NOT FAVOUR THOSE WHO LIVE/WORK IN RINGWOOD	In Agreement Provided Does Not Prejudice Express Coach Service
13				✓		✓	
14	✓		✓		✓	✓	
15				✓	✓	✓	
16*					✓		

* Believes time limit will not reduce problems of car park being used by commuters to Bournemouth.

APPENDIX 2

Comments From Statutory Consultees concerning Draft District of New Forest (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2004

1. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

1.1 The County Council believe the Proposals concerning the reduction of hours from 20 to 9 and the use of the lorry Parking Area during the day complies with the New Forest Transport Strategy and, therefore, have no objections .

1.2 Concern was expressed by the Local County Member about the proposal to consider having reserved parking, this concern centred around the need to provide for the car park being a link in the wider transport chain to encourage the use of public transport and linking Coach / train transport. This aspect will be further investigated when Cabinet consider the matter of the provision of Reserved Parking.

1.3 Comment

The County council have raised no objection but request further consultation concerning the proposal to provide reserved parking facilities

2. FREIGHT TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

2.1 The Association are concerned and strongly object to the proposal. Particularly because consideration is being given to the closure of Lorry Parking Areas at Rumbridge Street Totton and a lay by on the A36 at Totton.

2.2 Comment

Consultations concerning the A36 are ongoing. The proposals centre on controlling access/exit arrangements rather than closure. These measures are being proposed to assist local residents.

No decisions have yet been made about the Closure of Rumbridge Lorry Park. Given it's location it is felt unlikely that Lorry Drivers would look to Ringwood Lorry Park as an alternative to Rumbridge Street. Day time Lorry Parking facilities are available at Avon Forest Lorry park some 4.5 miles west of Ringwood on the A31. The Ringwood Lorry Park is very lightly used by lorries during the day.

3. RINGWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

3.1 The Chamber of trade sent out 200 questionnaires covering a number of topics affecting the management of the Furlong Car Park, 27 responses were received (13.5%). The only question directly relating to the proposed amendment to the parking order concerned to the change of waiting period from 20 to 9 hours in the Long Stay: Of the 24 who responded 15 were in favour of the change and 9 against. As a percentage of those who where asked to respond only 7.5 % responded positively in favour of changing the waiting restriction.

3.2 Comment

The Chamber of Trade were one of the original groups putting forward the suggestion of a reduction in the weighting limits in the Furlong car park. The survey undertaken by the Chamber suggests that in fact there is not overwhelming support.

4. RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

4.1 Attached (Appendix 3A) is a copy of a letter received from the Town Council. After careful consideration of the comments received, the Town Council believe the Draft Order should **NOT** be confirmed.

4.2 Comments

The Town Council have carefully reviewed the issue in light of the representations received. Changing the regulations as suggested will have a significant effect and the Town Council believe there is little support for such a change.

LETTER FROM RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Mrs L Battersby
Democratic Services
New Forest District Council
Appletree Court
Lyndhurst SO43 7PA

My Ref:TRS/TAN/P1/6

Your Ref:LB/JA

3 September 2004

Dear Lynne

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT OF NEW FOREST
(OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER**

I refer to your letter of 6 July 2004 with details of the proposals the Cabinet approved for public consultation. Firstly, can I express on behalf of the Town Council our thanks to the District Council, and in particular yourself and John Bull, for the very open way you have kept us advised of matters as we try to resolve the long stay parking problem in Ringwood.

The Town Council first proposed changes to the maximum permitted parking period at the long stay car park at the Furlong following representations received from some local residents. As you know, those residents were very concerned at what they felt was an inappropriate use of the car park by those who used it as a 'park and ride' facility.

Prior to the special Council Meeting last night, called specifically for this item, Members were provided with copies of all the representations you and John have forwarded to me. Councillors were also provided with a copy of the survey carried out by the Ringwood Chamber of Trade. They were also reminded by way of an advisory note distributed at the meeting of the need to declare all relevant personal and prejudicial interests.

The Mayor invited all Councillors to express their views on the proposals and for your background information I attach an extract from the minutes of the meeting. You will see that in overall terms Councillors now believe that the initial approaches to them exaggerated the effect of the problem and the solutions proposed do not command wide enough approval to support such a significant change.

In addition, Members now feel that the proposals only represent a short-term response and will also have an adverse effect on the use of the town as a major highway interchange for national bus services. It is believed that a more fundamental analysis is required in order to provide a long-term solution for the town. As a result of these considerations the Town Council resolved:-

- 1) That the proposal to mark out car bays in the lorry park to increase its capacity be supported.
- 2) That the proposal that heavy goods vehicles be forbidden from using the Ringwood 'lorry park' between 8am and 6pm be not supported.
- 3) That the District Council be requested to complete as quickly as possible the investigations into the financial and parking management implications of providing reserved parking spaces for use by local businesses.
- 4) That the proposal to restrict the maximum waiting time in the Furlong long stay car park to nine hours be not supported and no change be made to the existing arrangements in that car park.

- 5) That the District Council be invited to look at a more market related charging regime for long stay parking.
- 6) That the District Council be requested to review the layout of the existing car parks to maximise space and improve access.
- 7) That the District Council be requested to look at the possibility of regularising and expanding the use of the old road next to the electricity sub-station.
- 8) That the District Council be requested to carry out a feasibility study on the possible introduction of a decked parking arrangement on the Furlong long stay car park.

I hope that the above and enclosures are all self-explanatory but if you do require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to let me know.

I note that you copied your letter to me of 6 July to all District and County Councillors for the town area. I have copied this letter likewise.

Yours sincerely,

Terry Simpson
Town Clerk

Encs.

Please note the enclosures referred to are Minutes of a Ringwood Town Council Meeting and not included in this Appendix.