

Subject:	PETITION FOR ADDITIONAL PARKING AT AYCLIFFE
Meeting and Date:	Scrutiny (Policy & Performance) Committee - 10 October 2017
Report of:	Roger Walton, Director of Environment and Corporate Assets
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Nigel Collor, Portfolio Holder for Access and Licensing
Decision Type:	Non-Key Decision
Classification:	UNRESTRICTED
Purpose of the report:	To brief the committee on the options and costs involved in meeting the concerns raised by Aycliffe residents as set out in the petition, 'More Parking Spaces at Aycliffe' presented to the committee in June 2017.
Recommendation:	The committee will need to consider what further action, if any, it wishes to take.

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Committee received a petition entitled 'More Parking Spaces at Aycliffe' from residents of Aycliffe at the meeting on 13 June 2017. The petition signed by 42 people, was presented by Mr G. Dodd, called for the creation of more parking spaces at Aycliffe through the widening of roads where there was the space.
- 1.2 The committee resolved that; 'the Director of Environment and Corporate Assets be requested to provide a report to the 12 September 2017 meeting of the Scrutiny (Policy and Performance) Committee.'
- 1.3 Due to pressure of business on the September agenda, the report has been held over until this meeting.

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 The petition, 'More Parking Spaces at Aycliffe' as presented in June set out the concerns of local residents that the current parking arrangements were considered insufficient and that this as a consequence had led to vehicles being parked in such a manner that obstructions were being created with consequent concern that this could affect the access for emergency service vehicles.
- 2.2 Mr Dodd in presenting the petition made it clear that he did not wish to see restrictive parking arrangements (such as double yellow lines) introduced as this would only move the problem on to other areas.
- 2.3 The discussions at the committee meeting in June had noted that the road layout and in particular the road width within Aycliffe limited the amount of on street parking, which given the growth in the number of vehicles per household since the estate was originally designed was causing problems.
- 2.4 The petition as submitted proposed the creation of additional spaces by the widening of the road at various locations within Aycliffe such as; Old Folkestone Road, St. David's Avenue, St. George's Crescent and elsewhere.
- 2.5 Members agreed to ask for a report to be brought back to Committee covering the following matters:
 - Issues of land ownership (Kent County Council, Dover District Council or Housing Revenue Account land);
 - Potential solutions for creating additional parking spaces; and

- The cost and feasibility of implementing the solutions for additional parking spaces.

2.6 Taking each of these points in turn,

(a) Land Ownership

The discussions at the committee meeting in June focused on the possibility of creating additional parking bays within the grass verges or banks at various locations within Aycliffe.

The question posed was whether this was a matter for DDC as landowner of KCC as the Highway Authority. Having checked the Council's land ownership records, I can confirm that the majority of soft landscaped areas around the estate fall within DDC ownership, but are also included within the areas designated as 'public highway'.

Thus in terms of responsibility, whilst neither DDC or KCC have a duty to undertake works to alleviate the concerns raised, both have the power to do; subject to the consent of the other.

The land falling within DDC ownership is held with the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and so any costs involved in providing additional parking would be a matter for HRA budgets.

(b) Options for creating parking spaces

There are, as the petition has highlighted, a number of locations within the Aycliffe estate where additional parking bays could be created. These were detailed on the document presented to the committee in June (See Appendix 1).

Following the committee meeting, officers have reviewed these proposals and the issues associated with parking in Aycliffe. Previous works have been undertaken involving the construction of parking bays and the provision of grasscrete strips to allow vehicles to park partly on the verge. The photographs included at Appendix 2, show some examples of the parking issues and the current arrangements for managing these.

(c) Cost and feasibility of providing additional parking spaces

There are clearly some opportunities to create additional parking but, as can be seen, many of the locations suggested involve cutting into grass banks to a greater or lesser extent, which would add to the costs indicated below.

In determining indicative costs of providing additional parking spaces, estimates have been based on the specification used for the additional car parking spaces provided recently at the Whitfield offices. These parking spaces were built into grass islands and verges around the site and the specification will be very similar for Aycliffe.

There will be additional costs for traffic management implications and possibly a site compound (although the equipment may well be bought to site on a daily basis) therefore the figures include an additional 15% allowance on top of the original costs to allow for both this and any inflation/contract cost increases.

Construct 3 parking bays 4.8m x 2.4 in grass verge – £3,660.00

Works consist of the following: -

- Break out existing concrete kerbs – 7.2m
- Excavate existing grass verge to a depth of 250mm
- Dispose all material off site
- Roll to formation
- Supply and lay new HB2 kerbs bed and haunch – 12m
- Supply and lay geotextile membrane
- Supply and lay sub base, type 1 - 150mm thick
- Supply and lay D.B.M base course, 70mm thick
- Supply and lay D.B.M wearing course, 30mm thick
- Burn off existing DYL's (If required) – 7.2m
- Mark 3 new bays 2.4m x 4.8 in white thermoplastic paint – 16.8m

Cost per bay - £1059.93 + 15% = £1,218.92, Say £1,220.00 per bay

3. Appendices

Appendix 1: Copy of presentation document presented by the petitioners in June.

Appendix 2: Photos showing examples of the parking issues and the current arrangements for managing these.

4. Background Papers

None.

Contact Officer: Roger Walton, Director of Environment and Corporate Assets