

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DOVER JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 30 NOVEMBER 2017

**BUS/COACH PARKING PROPOSAL - DOVER SEAFRONT**

**Recommendation:**

*The Board is asked:*

*To consider whether, or not, it wishes to implement the bus/coach parking detailed in Appendix A to this report, by recommending that Kent County Council seals the necessary Traffic Regulation Order.*

Contact Officer: Gordon Measey Ext 42422

Reasons why a decision is required

1. As a consequence of the stopping-up (closure) of the Esplanade (the section of the seafront road between Harbour House and the end roundabout at Union Street), officers and this Board have been trying for the last year to find alternative Pay & Display bus/coach parking to replace that lost in the Esplanade.
2. On 8 December 2016 the Board considered providing parking along Camden Crescent and Wellesley Road. This proposal was rejected primarily in light of the difficulty larger coaches would have turning around the memorial roundabout at the end of Camden Crescent.
3. On 16 March 2017 the Board considered a second proposal, this time in Wellesley Road and along Marine Parade in front of the Gateway Flats. This proposal was rejected after taking into account the drawbacks highlighted in the report, namely that:
  - The impact that the coaches would have, parked on the most open section of the seafront, and that they would be seen for a greater distance than if the parking area were to be positioned at one end or the other.
  - It was the one location that impacted most on residents.
  - As coaches, and the tourism that they bring, benefits business, it was deemed reasonable for parking to be placed closer to those businesses that would or could benefit.
  - It is generally more acceptable to have commercial parking outside business premises, rather than residential ones.

Other options were included in the report on 16 March 2017 including an option for coaches to use De Bradelei Wharf Car Park. However, the Port Of Dover which owns this car park was unable to grant permission.

4. After much consideration the Board resolved that the proposal to provide coach parking in Waterloo Crescent outside and opposite Harbour House (both sides of the road) was the best one available and should be formally advertised. The proposal is attached as Appendix A to this report.

5. The proposal was duly advertised and two objections have been received and are attached as appendices to this report:

- Appendix B1 - a letter from the Port of Dover
- Appendix B2 - an email from the Dover Society

The points raised in the Port Of Dover's letter are self-explanatory. It is thought that the email from the Dover Society might, in part, be referring to the earlier (withdrawn) proposal outside the Gateway Flats.

6. As reported previously, the task of finding alternative parking for coaches on the seafront is proving problematic and few options remain. In light of the previous reports and the objections received to this last proposal, the Board is asked whether it wishes to progress with this latest proposal.

7. Evaluation of options available to the Board:

- a. To agree to recommend to Kent County Council that the proposal as detailed in this report and as Appendix A, be sealed and brought into effect.
- b. To agree to advertise an amended proposal.
- c. To withdraw the proposal.

#### Background Papers

Parking Services Files.

#### Consultation Statement

The Portfolio Holder for Access and Licensing has been consulted on the proposals outlined in this report. As part of the statutory process a formal advertisement was undertaken for the proposal, through which objections were received.

#### Impact on Corporate Objectives

The proposed changes to the waiting restrictions outlined in this report will foster improved opportunity and access.

#### Attachments

- Appendix A Waterloo Crescent, Dover - Plan showing the extent of the proposed "Pay & Display" Bus/Coach Parking  
Appendix B1 Letter of Objection from the Port of Dover  
Appendix B2 Email of Objection from the Dover Society

ROGER WALTON

Director of Environment and Corporate Assets

The officer to whom reference should be made concerning inspection of the background papers is the Parking Operations Manager, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent CT16 3PJ. Telephone: (01304) 821199, Extension 42422