



MEADOW ROAD, LOUGHTON REPORT BY DISTRICT MANAGER, TRAFFIC AND PROJECTS ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Background

At the meeting of the Panel in March 2010, Members were made aware of a petition signed and submitted by the residents of Meadow Road, Loughton. It had been signed by over 80% of the residents who were requesting a parking permit scheme. Officers advised that the proposal would be reviewed and reported to the Panel at a future meeting within the financial year of 2010/11.

The request being made has stemmed from an issue felt by the residents for a number of years. Historically, when investigated by Officers, it had been the consensus amongst the residents that they did not want to pay for permit parking in their road. However, in light of the submission of the petition; it appears that the residents' position has now changed.

Officers are aware of the feeling of urgency in getting this issue addressed, since increases in parking costs at the station have exasperated the issue further.

Considerations

There are a number of factors to consider with the proposal:

- a) Currently, ECC do not fund the introduction of residents parking zones, or similar. Funding is provided by the District Council, but due to the ongoing substantial parking reviews, additional roads are not being considered at present. At the meeting 22 June 2010 Members were advised that no new parking reviews would be taking place until the three which are underway are complete. Once complete, as Cabinet decision currently stands, individual locations may be looked at, but only where practical solutions exist and where there is clear consensus in favour of the proposal.
- b) A suggestion has been made to pursue this as a pilot scheme. A pilot scheme is however not necessary, as a proposal of this type requires a standard application to be submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) for approval.
- c) From an Engineering perspective, there are concerns that the finite road length may not be able to accommodate all residents' vehicles, should a parking permit scheme be pursued. Thus the required capacity will not be met and so displacement will occur into the next available roads. Members should consider whether residents would want to pay for a parking permit, if there is no guarantee that there will be space to park within Meadow Road.

Photographs

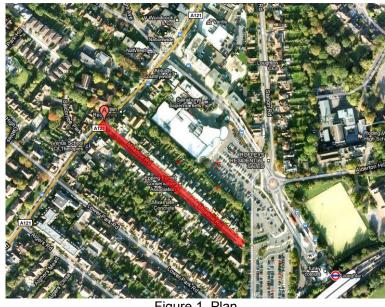


Figure 1 Plan



Figure 2 View from High Road



Figure 3 View from Meadow Road

Petition documents

то:	Local Highways Panel Epping Forest District Council
SUBJECT:	Attached petition from residents of Meadow Road, Loughton
LEAD PETITIONER:	Mrs Diane ten Houten 34 Meadow Road, Loughton, Essex, IG10 4HX Home: 020 8257 9248 Mobile: 07989 841 319 Email: <u>diane.tenhouten@hotmail.co.uk</u>
DATE:	10 th March 2010

SUMMARY:

Please find attached a signed petition from over 80% of the residents of Meadow Road, Loughton. We strongly urge Epping Forest District Council to implement a residents parking permit scheme as soon as possible.

Meadow Road meets the criteria for a Controlled Parking Zone, due to its close proximity to Loughton High Road and Underground Station.

For residents, it is now virtually impossible to leave Meadow Road during the working week, and be guaranteed a parking space upon their return. In recent years, Meadow Road has become a daily parking focus for the following people:

- Commuters to the Central Line Station just 5 minutes walk away
- Sainsbury's staff
- Local businesses (including Roberts Barber, Attwaters Solicitors, Dreams Nail Bar, NatWest etc.)

Individuals arrive between 7.30am and 9.30am, and do not leave until 5.00pm at the earliest. As Meadow Road is a cul-de-sac, they often wait at the bottom of the road, until residents leave for work and spaces become available. This dramatically increases the flow of traffic in Meadow Road, which many parents with young children, including myself, are very concerned about. Traffic is regularly held up, as deliveries/workman are unable to park, which increases tension dramatically. I have witnessed a number of altercations, and neighbours have informed me of other occasions when situations were almost at breaking point.

Alternative parking solutions, such as a single yellow line with no parking between 2pm-3pm, would be completely unworkable for Meadow Road. Only a small number of properties have off-street parking, therefore, the Residents are unanimously against this type of parking restriction.

As lead petitioner, I am happy to be the main contact point for follow on communication between the local authority and the residents. Residents would welcome the opportunity to meet with town/district councillors to discuss options and how best to proceed.

PETITION FOR RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME IN MEADOW ROAD, LOUGHTON

We, the undersigned, strongly urge Epping Forest District Council to implement a residents parking permit scheme in Meadow Road, Loughton. We believe Meadow Road meets the criteria for a controlled parking zone, due to its close proximity to Loughton Station and the High Road.

Since the Sainsbury's development, Meadow Road has become very popular with shoppers and commuters, making parking for residents sometimes impossible during working hours.

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Natalie Scorm	23 Meadow Road	
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Sirvie Worthington	5 Meadow Rd	Show War AR
SEAN WYATT	3 MEADOW RD	S. Lufter.

Lead petitioner: Mrs D. ten Houten, 34 Meadow Road

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