

Bolton Council

Report to: Executive Cabinet Member -
Environmental Services

Date: 19 February 2018

Report of: Director of Place

Report No: ECMES/46/18

Contact Officer: Joe Fox

Tel No: 01204 336429

Report Title: **Petition Requesting the amendments to the existing parking restrictions at the junction of Chorley Old Road and Gaskell Street, Bolton.**

Non Confidential: This report does **not** contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

Purpose: To advise the Executive Cabinet Member on a petition that has been received requesting the amendment to the existing parking restrictions at the junction of Chorley Old Road and Gaskell Street, Bolton.

Recommendations: The Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services is recommended to approve the following:

a) That no further action is taken at this stage with regard to the restrictions on Chorley Old Road but subject to funding a review of the loading restrictions is undertaken on Gaskell Street.

Decision:

Signed:

Leader / Executive
Member

Monitoring Officer

Date:

Summary:

A petition has been received requesting the amendment to the existing parking restrictions at the junction of Chorley Old Road and Gaskell Street, Bolton. The Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services is requested to approve the recommendation contained in this report.

Background Information

1. A petition, containing 134 signatures has been received. The petitioners have signed the petition as they are against the existing loading and parking restrictions which have been placed outside Gaskells Wine and News.
2. A covering letter which was received prior to receipt of the petition sets out the reasons why the restrictions should be removed/amended and was written by the shop owner Mr Hiren Patel.
3. In this letter Mr Patel sets out the following points:

The problems i am facing with these restrictions in place are:

- *Milk Man wont come to deliver milk till after 10am, but then he will only come when he is passing the area, as he normally delivers milk around 7.30 am and has a set round, for example at 10am he may be in farnworth and will not come back to me especially untill he next passes the area which could be anything from 12-2pm. this for fresh milk delivery is disgusting to me and my customers as they are not getting fresh milk in the morning when it is needed.*
- *Bread man wont come to deliver fresh bread for the same reason as above.*
- *I personally have no where to unload when i get back from the cash and carry around 8.30 - 9 am.*
- *Fresh sandwiches cant be delivered due to same restrictions, i sell most sandwiches between 8am and 9 am when customers are on there way to work they pick up there lunch.*
- *Pasties from carrs pasties wont get delivered till after 10am which means i loose my morning trade of breakfast items such as sausage rolls.*
- *Soft drink delivery's cant be delivered to me again same reasons, as they normally deliver around 9am due to the way there delivery round falls.*

I am proposing you either scrap the unloading restriction outside my business or give me a unloading/loading bay outside my business so i can continue to trade.

the restrictions in place outside my business are affecting my business, i am approximately down £100 per day based on average profit of 20%. This is £20 per day, £140 per week, £560 per month and £ 6720 per annum. This for me as a small independent business (corner shop), is crucial to me surviving.

You may think its a simple solution to get delivery's after 10am, but its not. The companies / delivery drivers have a set route, for example they could be in darcy lever at 10am, this means they will not especially come to me thinking the restriction is over outside my shop, they will only come back when they are passing the area which could be around 2pm.

This causes masses of problems as my customers cannot get daily essentials they need, such as bread and milk etc..., this means they go else where on a daily basis instead of my business.

I would like you to reconsider the restrictions for the above reasons.

4. Mr Patel also raises issue in that he claims that he was not notified of the restrictions and therefore given no opportunity to make any representations.

Background

5. The recently installed parking restrictions placed near to the junction of Chorley Old Road and Gaskell Street were part of a wider proposal to review the restrictions along a large proportion of Chorley Old Road between Gaskell Street and Whitehaven Road.
6. The proposals included the amendments to the waiting and loading restrictions and to introduce time limited parking bays in an effort to assist businesses with customer parking turnover.
7. As part of the proposals outside Gaskells Wine and News it was proposed to introduce waiting and loading restrictions during the peak traffic flow times between 7.30 – 9.30am and 4.00 – 6.30pm. Previous to this there had been no waiting/loading restrictions outside Mr Patels premises.

Officer Observations

8. The junction of Gaskell Street and Chorley Old Road had signals installed approximately 10 years ago in an effort to improve traffic flow and road safety. Part of this proposal was to introduce 2 approach lanes from the west heading towards Bolton Town Centre which would increase traffic capacity through the junction. However, the when the signal installation was completed no parking restrictions were introduced which resulted in a reduced capacity on the eastbound approach. This remained the case until the recent past when these restrictions were introduced.
9. It is readily accepted that if there is an increase in the number of approach lanes to a signal controlled junction then there will be an increase in the capacity of that junction. In this case officer observations support that theory and there has been a notable decrease in queue lengths and congestion on the approach to this junction.
10. It is noted that Mr Patel will lose some of the provision extended to him through use of the public highway to unload goods to his shop during the times which are convenient to him, however, there are other times during the day when loading/unloading outside Mr Patel's shop can be undertaken. If loading/unloading takes place during the peak traffic times then this does cause issues for other road user and results in congestion and longer traffic queues.

Recommendations

11. The Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services is recommended to approve the following:
 - a) That no further action is taken at this stage with regard to the restrictions on Chorley Old Road but subject to funding a review of the loading restrictions is undertaken on Gaskell Street.