

# Report of the Strategic Director Place to the meeting of Bradford West Area Committee to be held on 28 February 2024

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## Subject:

Kirkham Road Bradford - Petition

## Summary statement:

This report considers a petition requesting permit parking on Kirkham Road, Bradford.

## EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

It is expected that there would be no disproportionate impact from the scheme recommended for future consideration within this report. Where a scheme is prioritised for funding, it will be subject to Equality Impact Assessments if potential disproportionate impact is identified through more detailed investigation and design.

Ward 7 City

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David Shepherd  
Strategic Director Place

## Portfolio:

Regeneration, Planning & Transport

Report Contact: Andrew Smith  
Principal Engineer – Traffic & Road  
Safety South  
Phone: (01274) 434674  
E-mail: [1radfo.smith@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:1radfo.smith@bradford.gov.uk)

## Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration & Environment

## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1. This report considers a petition requesting permit parking on Kirkham Road, Bradford.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. Background information is provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

## **3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1. A ward member has commented on the petition. The Councillor has stated that the street has a lot of parking issues. All the ward members have been contacted by residents angry and desperate to get the parking issues sorted. There are 2 schools and a community centre in the vicinity and a very busy road adjacent.

Horton Grange Primary is addressing the school time parking with parents via newsletters and a road safety group that the Councillors have set up. The Councillor is very concerned the issues remain the same because of the number of vehicles using what is in effect a cul-de-sac. that should there be a fire or medical emergency there will be severe delays in getting help to the affected residents due to the volume of vehicles on that street and Spencer Road; the Councillor concludes that something needs to be done to assist the residents.

## **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

- 4.1. There are no financial or resource implications arising from this report.

## **5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

- 5.1. There are no significant risks arising from this report.

## **6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

- 6.1. There are no specific issues arising from this report.

## **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **7.1. SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1.1. There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

### **7.2. TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.2.1. There is no impact on the Council's own and the wider District's carbon footprint and emissions from other greenhouse gases arising from this report.

### **7.3. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.3.1. There are no community safety implications.

**7.4. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

7.4.1. There are no implications on the Human Rights Act

**7.5. TRADE UNION**

7.5.1. There are no implications for the Trade Unions.

**7.6. WARD IMPLICATIONS**

7.6.1. Kirkham Road is located within the City Ward. The ward members have been consulted on the petition and their comments have been included in paragraph 3.1.

**7.7. AREA COMMITTEE LOCALITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

7.7.1. None.

**7.8. IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

7.8.1. None.

**7.9. ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.9.1. None

**8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

8.1. None

**9. OPTIONS**

9.1. Members may propose alternative actions from those recommended on which they will receive appropriate officer advice.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1. That no further action be taken on the request for permit parking on Kirkham Road, Bradford.

10.2. That the petitioners are informed accordingly

**11. APPENDICES**

11.1. Appendix 1 – Kirkham Road, Bradford – Petition, background information and location plan.

**12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

12.1. None.

**Petition Kirkham Road, Bradford (76 signatures)****Background information**

A precis of the petitioner's concerns is as follows: -

Parking issues on Kirkham Road that have been ongoing for many years with no solution offered from the Council. Some of the problems include: -

- Non-resident shop keepers park their cars as well as customers which reduces available spots for residents.
- Teachers and parents of the two primary schools not utilising car park and park on the road to pick up / drop off making it extremely difficult to manoeuvre at peak times.
- Residents of Waverly Road also park on Kirkham Road and Spencer Road.

The petitioners are concerned that these problems have led to further issues such as vehicles parking on the pavement, vehicles blocked in and cars double parking preventing access further up the road. All these can cause major problems for access by emergency services, residents who need to go to work sometimes find themselves blocked in and cars parked on the pavements restrict access for wheelchair users and people with prams. All of this is exacerbated by several households owning many cars, perhaps as part of a vehicle business.

The petitioners are suggesting a parking permit system for residents (with a maximum car limit) which would prevent excess vehicles from being parked on the road and hereby creating a safer street as well as reducing the above issues. This ensures all residents receive priority.

Kirkham Road is a typical residential street of terraced properties and many of the streets in the area are comparable with similar parking issues. Site visits have been carried out on Kirkham Road during the day and early evening. In the daytime there were many free parking spaces available along Kirkham Road and on Spencer Road. In the evening it was observed to be much busier with very few free parking spaces. Some cars were seen to be parked at 90° to the kerb and encroached onto the footway obstructing pedestrians. This can be attributed to there not being enough on street space to accommodate the residents' needs. It was also observed that all the parking spaces on Spencer Road were occupied.

The Council has an approved policy on Community On-Street Permit Parking which provides selection criteria to assess the relative severity of the parking problems and to help determine priorities for their implementation. It is also stated that issues must be attributable to a significant level of parking from external sources (for instance commuters, students, or large employment sites) rather than from residents. Residents parking schemes are not designed to share out limited parking space between neighbours they are to help residents who must compete for scarce parking space which is being used by people from outside of the local area, for example commuters or students.

It would not be usual practice to introduce permit parking on a single street in an area like this as this would merely transfer any problem parking from one street to another and impact on neighbouring streets.

## APPENDIX 1

The current policy allows 1 permit per vehicle registered at a property within a scheme and there is no limit to the number of vehicles registered to a property. The problem of one household occupying many parking spaces would therefore not be resolved by introducing a permit scheme.

The problems of not being able to find convenient parking on Kirkham Road have been discussed with the lead petitioner who suggested that a charge should be made for permits and this would help to limit the number of vehicles each household owns. The current policy does not include a charge for permits.

Kirkham Road is not in an area where commuter parking is prevalent or there is a large employment site nearby therefore it would not meet the Council's criteria for permit parking.

Regarding the petitioners attributing some of the cars to a vehicle business; it is difficult to identify vehicles that are for sale on the highway with most sales being carried out on the internet. Enforcement therefore relies mainly on information about the traders and the cars for sale being provided to the enforcement officers.

Incidences of obstructive and dangerous parking can be enforced by the Police. It is also possible that increase warden patrols can encourage more responsible parking.

### **Recommendation**

That no further action be taken on the request for permit parking on Kirkham Road on the ground that it does not meet the Council's criteria for on-street permit parking and permit parking would not resolve the parking problems associated with some households owning several vehicles.

That the Police and wardens increase passing patrols of the Kirkham Road area and that residents be encouraged to contact the Police in respect of obstructive and/or dangerous parking.

That the residents provide as much information as possible about the illegal sale of vehicles from the highway and this can be investigated by the Enforcement Officers.

30/10/2023

To whom it may concern,

We are writing on behalf of many of the residents of Kirkham Road, BD7 2DJ. There has been an ongoing parking issue for many years now with no solution offered from the local council. Some of these include:

- 1) Shopkeepers of local stores who are not residents parking their vehicles as well as their customers which reduces available spots of residents and our neighbours.
- 2) Teachers and parents of schoolkids of the two local primary schools not utilising the car park but instead parking on the road to pick up/drop off – making it extremely difficult to manoeuvre at peak times.
- 3) Residents of the street above (Waverly Road) also parking on Kirkham Road (and Spencer Road).

Points 1) and 2) and 3) have led to numerous further issues such as vehicles being parked on the pavement, vehicles being blocked in and cars double parking preventing access further up the road. All these hazards can cause a variety of major problems. For e.g., if emergency services need to get to an emergency, it is impossible for them to get their vehicles through creating a massive health and safety problem. In addition to this, those who need to leave for work sometimes find themselves blocked in. Furthermore, cars parking on the pavement prevent wheelchair users and pushchairs from getting past making access difficult for those with disabilities or other needs. All of this is exacerbated by a number of households owning quite frankly a ridiculous number of cars – perhaps – as part of vehicle business.

This issue requires an immediate resolution. We would like to suggest a parking permit system made available for residents only (with a maximum car limit) which would prevent excess vehicles from being parked on the road and hereby creating a safer street as well as reducing the issues mentioned above. This ensures that everybody who is a resident receives priority.

Please find attached the signatures of fellow residents including their details.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely



Handwritten signature.



**Petition requesting Permit Only Parking at Kirkham Road, Bradford, BD7 2DJ.**



| House Number | In Favour<br>(Please tick) | Opposed<br>(Please tick) | Name | Signature |
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