

Briefing Note- Highways Committee- 10th July 2007

This briefing note considers a petition received from the residents of the Clarendon Gardens area requesting the retention of the experimental gated closure on Clarendon Gardens.

Residents Concerns

The petition, which includes 279 signatures, is in accordance with Standing Orders and reads

“We, the undersigned, having experienced the new traffic calming measures, and the installation of the gate on the intersection of Clarendon Gardens and Castleton Avenue, affirm that we are pleased with the new arrangement, and would like it to be permanent.”

Background

Following concerns expressed by residents about speeding and rat running within the Clarendon Gardens area. Brent successfully sought funding from Transport for London (TfL) through the annual Borough Spending Plan (BSP) process to design and implement measures to mitigate these concerns.

Following the approval of this committee on the 25th January 2005, 22nd March 2006 and successful public consultation, approval was given to implement a 20mph zone and experimental gated closure. Unlike permanent orders experimental orders have a six month objection period. Committee also resolved that monitoring of the outcomes of the scheme should be undertaken and be reported back to this committee after this six month period expired in order that a decision could be made as to whether or not to make the order permanent.

Implementation of the scheme commenced in October 2006 and was completed in December 2006. The experimental gated closure was introduced on the 20 November 2006, with the objection period ending 19th May 2007.

The ‘Clarendon Gardens 20mph Zone and Experimental Gated Closure Review Report’ is included on the agenda for this meeting. This petition was however not received in time for inclusion within this report.

Outcomes of the Review

Full details of the review are included within the ‘Clarendon Gardens 20mph Zone and Experimental Gated Closure Review Report’, they are however summarised below

As part of the review of the experimental gated closure a re-consultation of the original consultation area was undertaken in May 2007, this received a 44% response rate with 58% opposing the retention of gated closure and 38% supporting it.

A consultation was also carried out along St Johns Road which received a 54% response rate with 100% opposing the retention of the closure. In addition three formal objections were received to the experimental gated closure traffic order, along with a 760 signature petition requesting the removal of the closure

In light of the strong support for the removal of the closure the 'Clarendon Gardens 20mph Zone and Experimental Gated Closure Review Report' recommends for the removal of the closure. It does however in addition recommend for the introduction of additional traffic calming measures and the inclusion of Clarendon Gardens within the adjoining 20mph zone to attempt to mitigate any impact of its removal.

Response to the Petition

This petition has to be considered along side the 'Clarendon Gardens 20mph Zone and Experimental Gated Closure Review Report'. The overall demonstration of strong support for the removal of the closure does not change with the inclusion of this petition and it is therefore suggested that the recommendations of the report remain unchanged.

It should however again be noted that one of the recommendations of the 'Clarendon Gardens 20mph Zone and Experimental Gated Closure Review Report' is to implement, subject to satisfactory consultation, additional traffic calming measures in the area which should at least partially alleviate some of the residents concerns

Peter Boddy

Traffic Management