



Highways Committee
9 February 2011

Report from the Head of Transportation

For decision

Wards Affected:
Mapesbury

Petition requesting changes to the parking restriction times of GM Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in the Cricklewood area

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report advises the committee of a petition received in relation to the hours of operation of the GM controlled parking zone (CPZ) and charges for “pay & display” parking. The petition has been signed by members of the Manor Health Club in Temple Road, and local residents. This report outlines the background and officers’ response to the matter.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Committee notes the contents of the petition and the issues raised.
- 2.2 That Committee notes the response of officers to the petition, as set out in this report, and agrees that officers should consider including a review of the GM CPZ operational hours when compiling the 2011/12 CPZ works programme for the committee’s approval in due course.
- 2.3 That Committee agrees that the main petitioner should be informed of the outcome of the Highways Committee decision in regard to this matter.

3.0 The Petition

- 3.1 A petition has been received from members of the Manor Health Club in Temple Road NW2 and local residents requesting that the Council re-consider the parking restriction times in zone GM CPZ. It also raises concerns about the level of pay & display charges in the Borough. The petition is reported here in accordance with Standing Orders. The petition has 897 signatures and reads:

“The aim of this petition is to request that Brent Council considers the views of our members and members of the local community and looks at the issue of parking in Temple Road. The request is to reduce the current timings (for example like the neighbouring GA Zone’s timings of 10 am- 3 pm). This will help the Health and Safety of all our members in particular our older and female members. We also feel that the current meter charges are excessive with rates of £4 for 2 hours. These rates are double and more compared to rates in other boroughs”.

4.0 Background

- 4.1 Manor Health Club is within Brent and is located at the junction of Cricklewood Broadway and Temple Road, within the GM CPZ. The Health Club has no off-street parking facilities and encourages members to access it using sustainable transport modes.

Cricklewood Broadway (the A5) has extensive parking controls. The area to the east of Cricklewood Broadway is within a Barnet CPZ.

There are a number of pay & display bays in Temple Road, reasonably close to the Health Club, which were implemented to provide for visitors and businesses in Temple Road and the area nearby.

There are a number of other businesses in the vicinity. These either have their own off-street parking facilities for customers/visitors or use the on street pay & display facilities.

- 4.2 The GM CPZ in which Temple Road is located was implemented in February 2003 after extensive consultation with local residents and businesses. The zone operates between Monday to Saturday, 10am to 9pm.
- 4.3 A review of the zone, which included a review of the parking restriction times, was carried out in June 2003. The results of the consultation showed that residents who live close to Cricklewood Broadway generally wanted to keep the existing CPZ times of 10am to 9pm, Monday to Saturday, whilst those further away (chiefly to the south) generally wanted a reduction in times to 10am to 3pm, Monday to Saturday. Respondents from Temple Road generally wanted shorter restrictions despite being close to Cricklewood Broadway.
- 4.4 The results of the review consultation were reported to the Council’s July 2003 Highways Committee. The Committee agreed to uphold the wishes of those residents who wanted a shorter duration CPZ including Temple Road and approved a separate zone for the area – Zone GA. Following this the Council received a petition from residents of Temple Road asking to remain in the existing Zone GM (10am to 9pm, Monday to Saturday).
- 4.5 The Committee, at it’s meeting in February 2004, agreed to re-consult residents and businesses in Temple Road on the CPZ operational times. The review consultation with residents of Temple Road was carried out in March 2004. The results are tabulated below.

Nos. of questionnaires delivered:	131
Nos. returned:	52 (40% response)
In favour of "10am – 9pm", Mon-Sat:	39 (75%)
In favour of "10am-3pm", Mon-Sat:	13 (25%)

- 4.6 The results of the consultation were reported to the April 2004 Highways Committee. Members agreed that Temple Road remain in Zone GM CPZ with operational times of 10am to 9pm, Monday to Saturday.

5.0 Response to the Petition

- 5.1 Officers appreciate the impact that the current parking arrangements in Temple Road have on visitors. Unless these visitors have access to off-street parking or visitor permits, they are faced with using the pay & display facilities (at a cost) for a significant proportion of the day or making alternative travel arrangements.

On the other hand, the arrangements prioritise kerbside parking space for residents who have purchased a parking permit.

- 5.2 The narrative above highlights the consideration that has previously been given to the issue as to what CPZ operational times would be appropriate for Temple Road.
- 5.3 In recent years, officers have received telephone calls and emails from residents of GM CPZ seeking a reduction in operation times to those that apply in the neighbouring GA CPZ. Those representations correlate with the views of the petitioners although there is no evidence that they are representative of the views of residents and businesses throughout GM CPZ.
- 5.4 Officers are of the view that that it would be inappropriate to consult businesses and residents of Temple Road (about operational hours) in isolation from a wider review of GM CPZ – since any changes flowing from amendments of one road frequently have an impact over a wider area and should be considered by that wider area.
- 5.5 It would be possible to adjust the hours of operation of the pay & display bays (only) in Temple Road to a shorter period. A shortening of hours would have financial implications for the Council but could accommodate some of the aspirations of the petitioners. However this would mean different controls would exist in different parts of Temple Road – opening up the prospect of confusion for motorists (particularly visitors) and operational difficulties. It would also set a precedent which could undermine the concept of consistency that has been applied up to now. Officers would not recommend that approach.
- 5.6 The Committee will be aware that, in response to the wider financial situation and subject to Full Council approval, the Revenue budget for 2011/12 and beyond will seek a significant reduction in the resources available for CPZ reviews and for implementing any changes flowing from those reviews.

In due course, officers will seek approval from the Committee for the 2011/12 CPZ works programme. It is anticipated that the programme will be severely limited with priority being given to works outstanding from 2010/11 reviews. It is unlikely to prioritise reviews of CPZs, such as GM, where history suggests that a consensus for change is unlikely.

Nevertheless it is recommended that officers consider a scheme to review the operational hours of GM CPZ when compiling the draft 2011/12 CPZ work programme for the Committee's consideration.

5.7 In regard to petitioners concerns about pay & display charges:

The Committee will be aware that there is a policy of applying a single scale of charges for pay & display parking.

The Committee will also be aware that on-street charges are reviewed periodically and that it is proposed to amend the charges from 1st March 2011 or soon as practicable after that date. That review would have considered a variety of factors such as the impact of charges on road safety and congestion, the economic vitality of Brent and wider environmental policy objectives. A recognition of the charges made by other Boroughs with broadly similar parking conditions and practices would also have been a part of the decision process.

Accordingly, officers are of the view that the views of the petitioners, in relation to pay & display charges, should be noted but that no further action should be taken, with regard to the charges in Temple Road, GM CPZ or across the Borough

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report, and the decisions at 2.0, at this time.

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 None at this time

8.0 Diversity Implications

8.1 No significant implications

9.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications

9.1 None at this time.

10.0 Environmental Implications

10.1 None at this time.

Background Papers

Petition received by Democratic Services on November 2010

Contact Officers

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