

Objection correspondence to the revised parking proposals for Vermont/Talbot Close

**Highways and Parking
Network Management**
Southampton City Council
45 Castle Way,
Southampton SO14 2PD

Direct Dial: (023) 8083 2337
Email: graham.muir@southampton.gov.uk
Please ask for Graham Muir

Fax: 023 8083 3981
Our Ref: HP/NM/GM/CC18/

The Occupier
Vermont Close, Talbot Close & The Firs (Talbot Close)

9th November 2009

Dear Sir / Madam,

Parking Restrictions Vermont Close, Talbot Close and The Firs (Talbot Close)

Further to my letter of 18th June, I am writing to update residents as to the status of the proposed parking restrictions in Vermont Close, Talbot Close and The Firs (Talbot Close). At the end of October we received technical approval from the Department for Transport for the signing for the scheme. There is however an issue arising from the planned work at the Great Oaks School which we are seeking to address. We understand that this construction work will temporarily reduce the parking available on the school site for around 40 weeks. As a consequence, during school times visitors to the Red Lodge Community Pool (RLCP) will no longer be able to use parking in the Great Oaks School.

As it is Council policy to support community services, we have been considering how we can assist RLCP during the construction period, whilst still balancing the interests of residents. There would appear to be no benefit to residents or RLCP in delaying the introduction of the scheme, as this could lead to a higher level of conflicting demand for on-street parking between residents, visitors, commuters and contractors.

Having exhausted the scope for parking in the short term off the highway, we are now proposing to amend the draft Traffic Regulation Order to allow permits to be issued to visitors to Red Lodge Community Pool. In order however to limit the impact on residents, these permits would be restricted for use within 75m of the Red Lodge Community Pool. This would restrict their visitors to any available parking in the proposed parking bay in Vermont Close and the area opposite the garages further north along Vermont Close. There would be no change to resident's entitlement to park in these areas. Whilst this is not an ideal solution for residents or for visitors to the Red Lodge Community, we view this as the only practical option, if the pool is to remain in operation.

Whilst we would hope that you will find this amendment to the draft Traffic Regulation Order acceptable but if, for any reason you do not, and you wish to object to the proposal to allow permits to be issued to RLCP, you have right to do so. Your objection would then be placed before the Council's Cabinet for consideration and a decision (unless the proposal is withdrawn). **Should you wish to make an objection in this way, please write to me stating your reasons for doing so and making sure your letter reaches me no later than 12th December 2009.** Please note that in the event you wish to make an objection and request that it be considered by the Council's Cabinet body, any future correspondence may be included within a Cabinet report accessible by the public or be subject to disclosure under Freedom of Information legislation.

Yours faithfully

Graham Muir

Graham Muir,
Traffic Engineer, Traffic Management

If you would like this letter sent to you in another format or language, please contact the number at the top of this letter.

Muir, Graham

From: Marion Vincent [vincentmaz.1951@yahoo.com]

Sent: 23 November 2009 17:43

To: Muir, Graham

Subject: Car Parking, on Vermont Close, Talbot Close and The Firs (Talbot Close) SO16 7NF

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter dated 9th November 2009 regarding your intention to allow casual parking in the above areas that would be detrimental to the Residents.

I object to these proposals on the grounds that should any damage be caused to any of the Properties and the Owners vehicles it is extremely unlikely that the casual visitor to the pool will admit liability for the damage caused. If you go ahead with these proposal can you assure the Residents that the Council will accept all liability for any damage caused. It will also mean at times that the residents or their visitors will be unable to park their vehicles close to their properties. I would also want your assurance that if any casual visitor parked inside your proposed 75 metre zone they would if you are informed be dealt with by means of parking fine and/or having the vehicle removed by immediately no matter of the time of day by yourselves.

When the refuse collectors come every week they already face great difficulties in gaining access and should access for the Emergency services be restricted by this decision of yours again I would want to know if the Council will accept full liability.

Whilst I sympathise with the Councils dilemma over the planned repairs I feel it is not in the best interests of the residents of the above locations.

Please re-consider your proposals in light of these objections,

I await your reply

Mr L Vincent
5 The Firs



Red Lodge
Community
Pool

Red Lodge Community Pool Ltd,
Vermont Close,
Winchester Road
Southampton SO16 7LT
☎ 023 8076 8209
www.redlodgeswim.com

“A charity run by the community for the community”

Mr Mark R Heath
Solicitor to the Council
Southbrook Rise
4-8 Millbrook Road East
Southampton
SO15 1YG

13th August 2009.

Dear Mr Heath

Ref: City Of Southampton (Bassett, Highfield and Hampton Park) Residents' Parking Scheme Amdt. No.3 Order 2009

We are writing to object to the proposal of the residents' parking scheme in Vermont Close, Bassett.
We had not received an early notification of this prior to the official notice appearing in the Daily Echo 31.07.09.

This pool was originally built in 1980 and Southampton City Council had control and still own the building.
In April 2000 it became Red Lodge Community Pool and is being run as a charity and an independent organisation which is now established as a very successful community enterprise, the result of a lot of hard work on behalf of the volunteer committee and professional paid staff. This proposal will affect it considerably.

The proposed permit parking and the very limited parking area allowed for two hour parking will:

- **deter many of our pool users because the amount of 2hour parking will be so restricted , and there will be no alternative available when this is full.**
- **drastically reduce the space available for families to park for swimming, dropping off and collecting their children from swimming lessons, birthday parties and fun swim sessions, many of whom need over 2hours parking.**
- **inconvenience the parents who arrive with pushchairs for the parent and baby sessions, the more elderly and our weekly community groups.**
- **cause particular problems for visiting school groups, playgroups and our disabled persons who arrive by mini bus and up till now have had a guaranteed place to park in the playground.**

We have just installed new boilers at great cost, ready for the winter period and have carried out a vast amount of work internally, as it is only now we have built up enough funds to enable us to do this.

If we should loose our clients because of the parking restrictions, it could become impossible to keep the community pool open.

We would appreciate a response to this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Norris, Chairperson. Peter Davis. Penny Cooper.

cc. email: councillor.a.samuels@southampton.gov.uk
cc. email: councillor.j.hannides@southampton.gov.uk
cc. email: councillor.e.mizon@southampton.gov.uk

Red Lodge Community Pool Limited Registered Office: Vermont Close, Winchester Road, Southampton SO16 7LT
Registered Charity Number: 1084564
Company Number 3927198

Directors: C.Norris P.Davis P.Cooper Company Secretary: P. Cooper

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Colin Norris Chairperson
Peter Davis, Penny Cooper
Red Lodge Community Pool Ltd
Vermont Close
Bassett
Southampton
SO16 7LT

3rd September 2009

Dear Colin Norris, Penny Cooper and Peter Davis

Re: Bassett, Highfield and Hampton Park Residents Parking Scheme Amdt 3 09

Thank you for your letter of 13th August objecting to the proposed permit parking scheme in Vermont Close.

The scheme is primarily intended to deter long stay commuter parking and to restrict parking in the vicinity of the junctions. From our observations we were not aware of a significant level of visitors to the Red Lodge Community Pool parking in Vermont Close during the period (8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday) the permit scheme would operate. As we also understand there are plans to extend the parking and pick-up/drop facilities at the Great Oaks School, the Traffic Management team will delay its decision on your objection until 5th October to enable further time for consideration of the matter.

In the interim any further indication you may be able to provide on how many vehicles might be affected and at what time of day, would be appreciated. There may also be benefit in your organisation clarifying with Great Oaks School whether the expansion of their parking facilities could assist your visitors.

If you require any further information please contact me, otherwise I have enclosed a map of the proposed restrictions as this can be more informative than the description on the public notice

Yours sincerely,

Graham Muir

Graham Muir,
Traffic Engineer, Traffic Management

Muir, Graham

From: Pete & Tina Davis [pandtdavis@yahoo.co.uk]
Sent: 03 October 2009 00:33
To: Muir, Graham
Cc: Samuels, Alec (Cllr); Hannides, John (Cllr); Colin Micheal Norris; colin m Norris; Penny Cooper; Red Lodge Pool; Hards, Richard; Hall, Thomas; Laidler, Andrew
Subject: Vermont Close Proposed Residents Parking Scheme: Red Lodge Community Pool

To:Southampton City Council
Parking Control Department
Civic Centre
Southampton

Red Lodge Community Pool Ltd
Vermont Close
Bassett
Southampton SO16 7LT
2nd October 2009

For the attention of Mr Graham Muir

Dear Mr Muir,
re: Vermont Close, Talbot Close etc Residents Parking Scheme Order 2009

I write to inform you that our management committee decided at its meeting on Thursday 1st October 2009 that our letter of objection to the above lodged with you in August must still stand.

We find we are unable to withdraw our objection for the following reasons:

1. There is not enough short-term, open or publicly accessible parking available for our users within the scheme as it stands. The short stretch of 2 hour parking for 7 or possibly 8 cars by the green is inadequate to cover our needs during the day. An extra 6 or 7 2 hour spaces designated opposite the garages would be the minimum acceptable to us as was discussed between us at our meeting on site. These would also have to be permanent.
2. The possibility of being granted no more than 8 parking permits in lieu of these extra spaces being created is also inadequate and is entirely impractical for most of our users and would present us with unacceptable administrative difficulties.. Many users would have to park, come into the pool to collect a permit and return it to their vehicles and then come back into the pool. This would be difficult for individuals but for a parent with children, usually quite young, would be impossible to manage. We do not offer creche or child minding facilities nor is the office manned at all times for permits to be issued or received and re-issued.

As you are aware we were promised that a meeting would be arranged to discuss our parking problems and the Health and Safety concerns around the impending construction works which you had expressed a wish to attend. It is unfortunate that this could not be convened before your 5th October deadline as a satisfactory solution might have been found to allow us to withdraw our objection.

We have gathered further information as you suggested on the (approximate) numbers of vehicles attending the pool over the three main periods of use during weekdays:

| Day | 9am - 12:30pm | 12:30 - 3:30pm | 3:30 - 6:0pm |
|---------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Monday | 12 | 6 | 30 |
| Tuesday | 10 | 6 | 30 |

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|----|
| Wednesday | 8 | 6 | 15 |
| Thursday | 8 | 8 | 30 |
| Friday | 6 | 4 | 20 |

As you appreciate everything that is being planned and what is already going on around us will serve to discourage our users coming to the pool. As all this is likely to seriously affect our business we feel we need to be assured that a satisfactory solution can be found for us to manage in the short term, over the next year, as well as over the longer term of the 11 years of the remainder our lease. We therefore felt that we have no choice but to sustain our objection to the residents parking scheme as proposed.

Yours sincerely

Peter Davis
Director

for and on behalf of the Red Lodge Community Pool directors and Management Committee

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Southampton City Council
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Southampton SO14 2PD

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Colin Norris Chairperson
Peter Davis, Penny Cooper
Red Lodge Community Pool Ltd
Vermont Close
Bassett
Southampton
SO16 7LT

9th November 2009

Dear Colin Norris, Penny Cooper and Peter Davis

Re: Bassett, Highfield and Hampton Park Residents Parking Scheme Amdt 3 09

Thank you for your email of 3rd October confirming your objection to the proposed permit parking scheme in Vermont Close. I also recognise from our discussions and copies of your correspondence with Richard Hards that you have been working to address a range of issues arising from the construction work at Great Oaks School including arranging alternative parking where possible. I am sorry if this has not yet been as productive as may have been expected.

As we now have received technical authorisation from the Department for Transport for the signing for the proposed parking permit scheme in Vermont Close, we now need to establish whether we have an acceptable resolution to parking provision for visitors to Red Lodge Community Pool on the highway. Otherwise the matter will need to be taken to the Cabinet of the Council for a decision.

Taking into account your objection that the proposed 2 hour limited waiting parking bay, would be significantly short of the capacity you may require and that your regular visitors would need have permits issued in advance we are now intending to amend the draft Traffic Regulation Order as follows:

- To allow parking permits to be issued for specified periods for named individuals or parties (e.g. schools) for the purpose of visiting Red Lodge Community Pool only.
- For these permits to be limited to within 75m of the pool. This would effectively restrict visitors to any available parking in the proposed parking bay in Vermont Close and the area opposite the garages further north along Vermont Close, as we have discussed. The pool visitors could then be supplied with a map to highlight the permitted areas of parking.

It is intended that this arrangement would only apply for the period of construction work.

Whilst I appreciate there may be outstanding issues off the highway and this amendment to the draft Traffic Regulation Order but may not meet all your needs, I hope that you will find it acceptable, if for any reason you do not, and you still wish to object, you have right to do so. Your objection would then be placed before the Council's Cabinet for consideration and a decision (unless the proposal is withdrawn). **Should you wish to make an objection in this way, please write to me stating your reasons for doing so and making sure your letter reaches me no later than 12th December 2009.**

Please note that in the event you still wish to make an objection and request that it be considered by the Council's Cabinet body, any future correspondence may be included within a Cabinet report accessible by the public or be subject to disclosure under Freedom of Information legislation.

If you require any further information please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Muir

Graham Muir,
Traffic Engineer, Traffic Management



Red Lodge

Community

Pool

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Vermont Close,
Winchester Road
Southampton SO16 7LT
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www.redlodge-swim.com

“A charity run by the community for the community”

To: Mr Graham Muir
Highways and Parking
Network Management
Southampton City Council
45 Castle Way
Southampton SO14 2PD

Manager : Alan Ayles
Please reply to: Peter Davis
direct line No: 0238076 9594
mobile: 07715 550445

11th December 2009

Dear Mr Muir,

Re: Bassett, Highfield and Hampton Park Residents Parking Scheme Amdt 3 09

Thank you for your letter of 9th November 2009 asking for a response to your offer to provide temporary permits instead of the extra 2 hour parking spaces we wish to see.

The management committee and directors have carefully considered this and have concluded that our objection as per our email of 3rd October 2009 must still stand for the following reasons:

2 Hour Parking

The proposed 2 hour parking bay is totally inadequate for the number of visitors we have during the day. These spaces could easily be taken up by others, including residents' cars so we could be left with no spaces available at all. We would then have literally nowhere else to go.

Ideally, we would prefer to see the whole area of the close designated “2 hour parking or permit holders only”, except, of course, those parts which need to be no-parking. This would still prevent the commuter parking which is the main object of the scheme. It would also be mutually beneficial to both our users and residents' visitors as well as to other visitors.

On a further matter it would help considerably if the “end of period” times could be brought forward from 6:0pm to 4:0pm.

Permits

Permits are difficult to administer and will stop prospective patrons from making that crucial initial visit to the pool. They are a far from ideal solution for us.

As the permits on offer would be a temporary measure to compensate for not having the additional parking above, and would be designed to be available only for the duration of the construction period we will be back in the position of having insufficient parking again in August or September 2010.

Car Parking Post-Construction

We have not yet received confirmation of the arrangements agreed with Great Oaks School Headmaster, at the meeting which you attended, to use their newly refurbished car park again from September 2010.

continued over

As we have no guarantees of any permanent solution to our parking problem in the longer term we regret that we have no alternative but to continue with our objection.

Thank you for your kind assistance in helping try to resolve this issue. Please let us know if there is anything further you need from us.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Davis
Director

Red Lodge Community Pool

Copies to: Colin Norris Chairman
Penny Cooper Director
Cllr John Hannides
Cllr Alec Samuels

Muir, Graham

From: Veronica Radford [veronica.radford@virgin.net]
Sent: 11 December 2009 15:10
To: Muir, Graham
Subject: Objection to proposed parking restrictions in Vermont Close

Dear Sir

I write as a local resident and on behalf of 7th Bassett Scout Group to object to the proposed parking restrictions in Vermont Close, Bassett.

I understand that it is proposed to introduce Residents Parking only throughout and reduce public parking to just 6 spaces with a maximum 2 hour period.

While I appreciate there is a problem with prolonged commuter and student parking on the road I ask the Council to consider the impact on the two community run activities which are accessed from Vermont Close, mainly the Redlodge Community Swimming Pool and the 7th Bassett Scout Group.

Both these activities are run by volunteers from the local community and have been established for more than 30 years. They offer vital opportunities for children and adults alike, from a citywide catchment area, to take part in swimming and scouting activities. It is completely unacceptable that the Council should introduce parking restrictions that will be detrimental to these precious resources.

Both the swimming pool and scout group require parents to bring their children to swimming activities and scout meetings and therefore need short term parking which would be less than 2 hours. The current parking provision is not adequate for the numbers of users to be accommodated, particularly at peak times of swimming lessons and the beginning and end of scout meetings. Furthermore I understand that building works are proposed in the neighbouring school which will make the whole situation worse.

I therefore ask that the 2 hour parking restriction be extended to the whole of Vermont Close. This simple solution would stop the nuisance of commuter and student parking but allow necessary flexibility so that the community can continue to park for the short time it takes to bring children to and from swimming and scouting.

I ask the Council to be mindful that numerous generations of local children and adults have benefited from and continue to take part in the swimming pool and scout group and to take very seriously their responsibility towards these people by helping to protect and support these resources.

Yours sincerely

Dr Veronica Radford

Chair, Southampton City Scout Council

5 Redhill, Bassett, Southampton SO16 7BN