

DECISION ITEM



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE	13 OCTOBER 2015	5

DICCONSON TERRACE/HENRY STREET HACKNEY CARRIAGE STANDS

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

Under the previous administration, the Public Protection recommended, and the Portfolio Holder for Social Wellbeing approved the appointment of new hackney carriage stands on Dicconson Terrace and Henry Street, Lytham

The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of a number of issues affecting the stand and a request to relocate them.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Committee considers the report and determines whether to:
 - a) Leave the stands in their current location and seek to further encourage the public from parking on them during the evenings, or
 - b) Commence a consultation exercise with a view to relocating the stands to the north side of Dicconson Terrace.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

To Promote the Enhancement of The Natural & Built Environment (Place)		To Encourage Cohesive Communities (People)	✓
To Promote a Thriving Economy (Prosperity)	✓	To Meet Expectations of our Customers (Performance)	✓

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Minutes of the previous meetings relating to the stand are attached.

REPORT

1. In 2014, following the increase in popularity of licensed premises on Henry Street, Lytham it was felt that the existing hackney carriage stand arrangements were insufficient and double parking by the hackney carriage drivers was leading to significant congestion of Dicconson Terrace and Henry Street.
2. As such, the Portfolio Holder for Social Wellbeing approved the appointment of a new stand on Henry St and a feeder stand on Dicconson Terrace. It should be noted that is the Officer's opinion that the new stands have actually achieved their intention in that they have resolved the issue of congestion.
3. However, a number of complaints regarding the stands have been received from both the drivers and a resident of Dicconson Terrace.
4. The resident complains that the vehicles are now parked outside her property late at night causing nuisance and annoyance and affecting her quality of life. The resident is supported in this claim by other residents on the west side of street who also comment that the drivers frequently park on the "H" bars at the end of the stand, and they have asked whether alternative options could be explored in terms of the stand location.
5. The hackney carriage drivers complain that the stand is frequently obstructed by private motorists, and that the drivers are being verbally abused and threatened when they point out to motorists they are parked on a stand.
6. Lancashire Parking Services have attended the stand on some occasions and have taken the appropriate enforcement action. Officers are currently working with Lancashire Parking Services to achieve an enhanced presence on the street, however the stand continues to be obstructed.
7. Officers have attempted to increase awareness of the stand via press releases, placing "no waiting" cones on the stand most evenings and placing additional signage over and above the statutory requirement. The Police are also assisting and the possibility of placing "flyers" in the area is being assessed.
8. The actual design of the stand is not helpful in clearly identifying it as a taxi rank. As it is a shared bay in that it is for restricted parking between 0800 and 1800, a taxi stand between 1800 and 0300 and unrestricted between 0300 and 0800, the road markings are white and the road is not marked with "Taxi". It is however correctly marked for enforcement purposes.
9. The Chairman of the Public Protection Committee, Ward Councillors and Officers met with the residents, business owners, Police and a taxi representative to discuss the matter and were requested to consider the possibility of relocating the stands to the east side of Dicconson Terrace.
10. The Police and Lancashire County Council Highways Department have been consulted regarding this and provisionally have no objections.
11. However, whilst the relocation of the stand may address the concerns of the residents, the remaining issues may simply be transferred to the other side of the street and there will continue to be some noise from engines and persons boarding the vehicles. There are also

residents in the properties above the Assembly Rooms and the issue of private motorists parking on the stand may still continue.

12. As such, the Committee is therefore requested to note the report and determine whether to continue with the existing ranking arrangements whilst seeking to dissuade private motorists from parking on the stand or, commence a consultation with a view to appointing a new hackney carriage stand on the east side of Dicconson Terrace for a distance of 15.25 from a point 65m south of its junction with Clifton St to a point 17m north of its junction with West Beach.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Should the Committee recommend the relocation of the stand, there would be a cost for advertising and road marking which will be met from existing budgets.
Legal	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Community Safety	Hackney Carriage stands play a vital role in the removing of persons from Town Centres, particularly late at night and by placing at places of public resort should facilitate a speedier removal of taxi customers.
Human Rights and Equalities	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	There are no implications arising directly from the report.

LEAD AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
PPC minutes	19/3/14	www.fylde.gov.uk

Attached documents

- Appendix 1 Public Protection Minutes 19th March 2014
- Appendix 2 Portfolio Holder Decision
- Appendix 3 Map showing location of stands