

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Cabinet Meeting: 4 September, 2017

Report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport

Vale Street, Barry - Proposed Disabled Persons' Parking Place - Objection Report

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider an objection received to the proposed installation of a disabled persons' parking place in Vale Street, Barry and to propose any appropriate action.

Recommendations

1. That the objection to the disabled persons' parking place in Vale Street Barry is rejected for the reasons contained in this Report and that the disabled persons' parking place is installed.
2. That the objector is advised of this decision.

Reasons for the Recommendations

1. To allow the Traffic Regulation Order to be made and implemented.
2. To confirm the Council's position.

Background

2. The Council received a request for a disabled persons' parking place from the disabled resident of 13a Park Crescent, Barry. The applicant applied for the disabled persons' parking place to be installed in Vale Street, Barry as their property is a first floor flat above a shop on Park Crescent which is accessed via the rear lane off Vale Street.
3. The applicant confirmed that Vale Street is the closest most convenient place for him to park his vehicle and they have undertaken this practice for a substantial period of time due to the ease of accessibility to this road.
4. The applicant meets the current criteria as detailed in Council Policy for disabled persons' parking places.
5. Under delegated authority the Head of Visible Services and Transport, in consultation with the former Cabinet Member for Building Services, Highways and Transportation

gave approval to undertake statutory consultations and to give public notice of the Council's intention to install a disabled persons' parking place in Vale Street, Barry. This approval was given on 5th April 2017.

6. A letter of objection was received during the statutory consultation period which is attached at [Appendix A](#) for consideration.

Relevant Issues and Options

7. Vale Street is a terraced street situated within a highly populated residential area of Barry, which suffers from parking problems from residents due to multi vehicle ownership.
8. In addition, Vale Street is within very close proximity to the local shopping facilities on Park Crescent which generally increases the high demand for parking from visitors using the amenities within this area.
9. Parking surveys have been undertaken at various times throughout the day, evening and weekend and observations have confirmed the excessive demand for on-street parking at this location.
10. The main points raised by the objector are detailed below, together with the traffic officer's response.
 - Concern 1:
11. "Vale Street already has 5 (five) disabled parking bays. Glamorgan Street only has 3 (three), while Castle Street has fewer again.
 - Officer Response 1:
12. In the Council's Policy for disabled persons' parking places there is no restriction on the number of bays installed in an individual street, therefore each application must be considered on its own merit for each individual application.
 - Concern 2:
13. "Parking on Vale Street is already difficult for Vale Street residents, particularly due to the chip shop and other shops in the area. People park here, making it difficult for Vale Street residents to find parking spaces at key times of the day. Sectioning off yet another part of the street will increase parking pressures."
 - Officer Response 2:
14. The proposed location for the disabled persons' parking place was not only chosen for the convenience of the disabled applicant but also to not cause any inconvenience to the residents of Vale Street.
15. The proposed location is not fronting any residential properties in Vale Street and is close to the junction with Park Crescent, therefore it would be of great benefit to not only the disabled applicant but also to any disabled blue badge holder using the local facilities. Once a disabled persons' parking place is installed it is for the use of any disabled blue badge holder, on a first come first served basis.
 - Concern 3:
16. "The person involved has other options, and is not even a Vale Street resident. Therefore, please consider putting their parking bay on Park Crescent, Glamorgan Street or Castle Street, all of which have fewer disabled parking bays in the vicinity of the person in question."

- Officer Response 3:
17. The disabled applicant applied for the disabled persons' parking place to be installed in Vale Street, Barry as their property is a first floor flat above a shop on Park Crescent which is accessed via the rear lane off Vale Street. The applicant confirmed that Vale Street is the closest most convenient place for him to park his vehicle and he has undertaken this practice for a substantial period of time due to the ease of accessibility to this road.
 18. Attached at [Appendix B](#) is plan reference T/17/08/WS which shows the proposed location of the disabled persons' parking place for information.

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

19. The cost of making the Traffic Regulation Order and implementing the scheme is estimated at £1500.00 which would be met from the Traffic Management's operational budget 2017/18, and would utilise the Council's own resources.

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

20. There are no Sustainability and Climate Change Implications with regard to this report.

Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)

21. The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 allows highway authorities to make and vary Traffic Regulation Orders to regulate the movement of vehicular traffic, restrict or prohibit certain classes of vehicle and to improve the amenities of an area.
22. There are no Human Rights Implications with regard to this Report.

Crime and Disorder Implications

23. This proposal will help prevent potential disorder arising from the demand for on street parking.

Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)

24. The proposal will benefit all disabled blue badge holders living within the community.
25. Any signage associated with this project will adhere to the requirements of the Council's Welsh Language Scheme.

Corporate/Service Objectives

26. To maintain and develop a safe and effective highway.

Policy Framework and Budget

27. This is a matter for Executive Decision by Cabinet.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

28. The Ward Members for this area prior to the local elections in June this year were consulted on the proposal before and during the statutory consultation period and not comments were received. Comments from the current Ward Members have been requested on this report and if any are received these will be tabled at this meeting.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

29. Environment and Regeneration.

Background Papers

None.

Contact Officer

Wendy Smith - Senior Technician Traffic Management.

Officers Consulted

Operational Manager Legal Services
Accountant, Building and Visible Services

Responsible Officer:

Miles Punter - Director of Environment and Housing Services