

The Lee Parish Council

Consultation on parking in Oxford Street, Lee Common

Residents and visitors to Oxford Street are invited to respond to this consultation:

Email: theleeparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk
Write to: Clerk to The Lee Parish Council
c/o Tankards Dene, Hawridge Vale, Chesham HP5 2UG

There will also be an opportunity to discuss this proposal at The Lee Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 12th September at 7:30 pm at the Parish Hall.

ALL RESPONSES to the consultation should be received by 30th September 2017.

1. Background

Residents of Lee Common will be familiar with the road safety issues in Oxford Street, where vehicle traffic has to share the road with pedestrians. During opening/closing times at Lee Common C of E School (LCS) and at other times when there is a significant amount of parking on the road (e.g. when building work is being undertaken, deliveries are being made) there is often insufficient space for pedestrians and vehicles to mix safely.

These problems are experienced outside and near many schools, but the situation is exacerbated at Lee Common by the absence of pavements, the narrowness of the road and the increased general residents' parking on the road.

Last year the Parish Council had an on-site meeting with Thames Valley Police (TVP) to see what measures might sensibly be considered. We have also had discussions with LCS and with Bucks County Council (BCC); traffic monitoring has also taken place. TVP has concluded that speed per se is not the issue, but rather the lack of road width and poor parking habits are the major concerns, especially in the vicinity of the bends near Princes Lane, near junctions and near LCS.

It has also been concluded, subject to this consultation, that a formal one-way system is not practical, that nobody really wants to see double yellow lines and that introducing school parking spaces at the allotments - even if feasible - would still mean traffic and pedestrians on the same stretch of road at the same time. TVP has also suggested that speed humps, further speed restriction and more school signage are not really the key issues and that what may simply be needed is more gaps for pedestrians to take refuge from passing vehicles.

2. The Highway Code

The Highway Code clearly states DO NOT stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- at or near a bus stop

- opposite or within 10 metres (approx. 32 feet) of a junction
- directly in front of an entrance to a property
- on a bend
- against the flow of traffic.

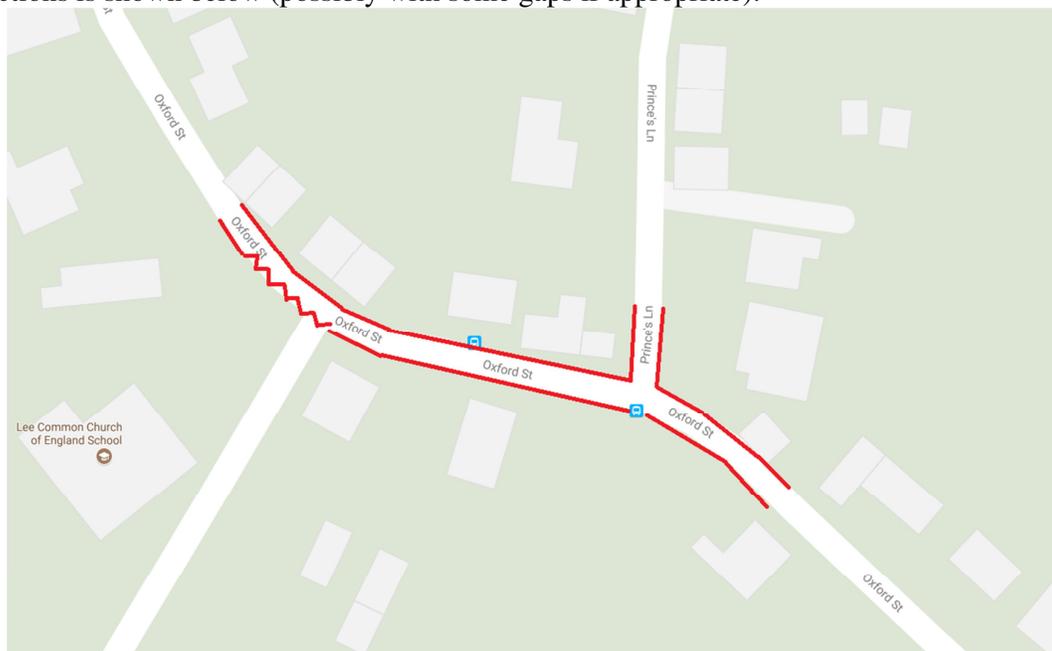
There are regular breaches of these rules by residents and visitors in Oxford Street and we are advised that, in the case of an accident, failure to comply with these rules may be used to establish liability in any court proceedings.

3. The proposal

The restrictions to parking described in the Highway Code extend well beyond the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school. It is therefore to be considered whether:

White-lining the edges of sections of the road in the vicinity of Princes Lane and LCS is the most appropriate way of improving the situation.

A single white line could be painted along relevant sections of Oxford Street, next to the bus stop, the fire hydrant, on the bend and opposite the junction with Princes Lane, in order to remind drivers of the Highway Code's restrictions. The exact sections to be white-lined would be determined by BCC following this consultation, but an indication of the possible sections is shown below (possibly with some gaps if appropriate).



- Indicates possible white-lined section
- ∩ Indicates current yellow zig-zag section

4. Consultation

Residents and visitors to Oxford Street are invited to respond to this consultation and in particular whether they support the white-line proposals described above.

The Lee Parish Council - August 2017