

Dear all,

Please see attached the updated plans for Station Road, Westgate On Sea.

The total number of parking spaces to be removed will be 5, with 2 additional spaces provided at the eastern end of Station Road near the junction with Roxburgh Road, which means that a total of 3 on street parking spaces will be lost overall.

As discussed, please could you let me have any comments by 5pm tomorrow at the latest so that we can then get the safety assessments carried out on the design on Wednesday. Thursday or Friday we will then deliver the notices to residents and businesses in Station Road, St Mildred's Road, Adrian Square and Ethelbert Square. A copy of the notice, that will go out with the plan, will be issued to all in this email chain before being delivered to residents and businesses.

Kind regards,

**From:** KCC Officer in SPD Team

**Sent:** 07 September 2020 10:02

**To:** Emma [REDACTED] <Emma.[REDACTED]@kent.gov.uk>; Liz [REDACTED]  
<Liz.[REDACTED]@kent.gov.uk>; <[REDACTED]@westgateonseas.gov.uk>; Also copied to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Station Road, Westgate-On-Sea

Hello Emma,

The revised drawings are being produced as we speak, the amendments will take several hours, but I have set a target of having these completed for your review by 5pm today. We would then need any comments returned by the same time tomorrow.

When carrying out public consultations we do not give individual officers names, as the amount of correspondence and work that is generated needs a team of officers to manage. We are working on over 10 other schemes in the county at the moment due to the unprecedented workloads trying to deliver the various Active Travel Fund Projects. The consultation will continue to run for the duration of the trial, we want to make sure that residents do not feel limited to contacting us with comments just this week, as we can make changes as we go. The main aim of this 'emergency consultation' is to make sure residents are aware of the work done to quickly amend the scheme before the consultation goes live.

No parking will be removed between Roxburgh Road and Ethelbert Crescent, we have been very clear on this with the contractors and will go through this with them on site before works commence. The only parking changes will be at the junction with St Mildred's Road. I cannot make any detailed assumptions regarding the exact number of parking spaces that will be affected until the revised drawings are complete, I am hopeful that the overall reduction will be no more than 5 spaces. This is something I will be able to answer with more certainty when the drawings are completed this afternoon.

Kind regards,

KCC Officer from SPD Team

**From:** Emma [REDACTED] <Emma.[REDACTED]@kent.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 07 September 2020 09:15

**To:** KCC Officer, Liz [REDACTED] <Liz.[REDACTED]@kent.gov.uk>; <[REDACTED]@westgateonsea.gov.uk>;

Also copied [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Station Road, Westgate-On-Sea

Dear,

Good morning, I am looking forward to seeing the revised plans this afternoon. Please would you let me know approximately what time these will be emailed over?

I would also like to ask, when your leaflets go out to the residents of Adrian Square/Ethelbert Square & to traders and St Mildreds Road residents, this week - mid week, will they have an officer allocated by name to this quick consultation?

Also I would like you to confirm that the removal of those potentially 5 parking spaces that you wrote about in your last email - will be carried out on the first day of the contractors on site.

We do not want to see a large amount of spaces taken by mistake, if this happens there will be reporters and news coverage immediately as they are watching Westgate closely and will more than likely be very close by on the first day when contractors are on site.

In Westgate we have long standing activists. The residents in Westgate are hugely demonstrative and they will take to the town in protests. We really cannot allow any room for mistakes.

We need to be on the ground supporting their concerns and showing them as an authority that we do care about their businesses.

It is vital that only a very small number of car parking spaces are taken away on the first day of the contractors on site.

Please confirm that you have fully instructed them to do this.

My main concern as it always has been are those business owners. The one way traffic I'm not convinced will work, however I'm not a traffic surveyor, I realize there's been mixed reports and in my view you may have thought through a plan and been able to mitigate against any pre conceived issues. During Covid there was a block on communication and so no info was made available until it was too late & your plans had been agreed alongside our local district authority.

However, the large removal of parking bays is not at all fair on traders. Please confirm that the amount will be low in number and down to the 5 suggested by you previously, can you also confirm the contractors know and that it won't be a staggered removal?

Thank you

Best regards

[REDACTED]

**From:** KCC Officer in Schemes, Planning and Delivery Team

**Sent:** 04 September 2020 17:07

**To:** [REDACTED] Emma [REDACTED] <Emma.[REDACTED]@kent.gov.uk>; [REDACTED], Liz - [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@kent.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]parliament.uk; [REDACTED]@westgateonsea.gov.uk

Also copied to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Station Road, Westgate-On-Sea

Hello all,

Thank you for your time earlier this afternoon, and for the constructive meeting.

We have already been in contact with our contractors to make them aware that we will be revising the scheme and that any parking lost on Station Road must be minimal. We have potentially located an area at the eastern end of Station Road, as shown in the screen shot below, where 2-4 additional parking spaces may potentially be introduced where there are currently double yellow lines. This is only possible with the introduction of the one way system as we don't need to have so much carriageway width for one way traffic to pass on this bend. With this extra parking we may be able to limit the amount of spaces lost to less than 5. We have also identified an area where we could possibly investigate some tree planting, perhaps a Christmas tree as suggested by the town council, using the widened footway at Station Road and St Mildred's Road.



As mentioned the timescales are very tight. All of the changes detailed above will be amended in the designs ready to share with you all by Monday afternoon, once everyone on this email chain has considered the plans we will need to arrange a safety assessment of the proposals before issuing to the public. If possible we will need all comments back from yourselves within 24 hours. KCC can then print and letter drop copies of the plans with additional information detailing the revised scheme including the changes proposed to the trial following discussions with residents and elected officials. It is hoped that this can be delivered by mid next week so that we can implement the scheme by w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September to meet the Department for Transport timescales. A copy of the letter will be issued

to all residents and businesses fronting the works area (Station Road and St Mildred's Road), and to Adrian and Ethelbert Square residents as discussed at today's meeting.

To assist with monitoring of this scheme, and following concerns raised, I am going to order some automated traffic count (ATC) surveys which will collect data in regards to speeds and number of vehicles using the one way system, these will hopefully be on the ground at the end of this month.

We can confirm that the trial scheme, even if made permanent, will not impact the Christmas Fayre and this can still take place as planned subject to the current situation with Covid.

Thank you all for your assistance and understanding during these unusual times.

Kind regards,

**Sent:** 04 September 2020 11:34

**To:** <[REDACTED]@westgateonsea.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Station Road, Westgate

Hello ,

If the Emergency Active Travel Fund (ATF) trial scheme is abandoned there is no other funding mechanism currently identified to carry out any changes in Station Road, Westgate. Central government have advised that there is a risk that not delivering Tranche 1 projects may have an impact on further KCC funding bids to the Department for Transport (DfT), if we do not spend the Tranche 1 funding this will impact countywide not just in Thanet.

I have answered each of the points below in a different colour font. Some of the suggested measures would not be possible on a temporary/trial based, I have noted proposals which can be looked at if a permanent scheme is installed in blue.

Thank you for raising these ideas and comments with me in advance of the meeting, this will help greatly with the discussion this afternoon.

Kind regards,

**From:** <[REDACTED]@westgateonsea.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 04 September 2020 08:24

**To:**

**Subject:** Station Road, Westgate

**Importance:** High

Good morning

Following our discussion yesterday I have a few thoughts/feedback on how a more positive outcome could potentially be achieved, I know that some would like the scheme cancelled but I get the impression that this will not be possible?

These are ideas which some may not be appropriate for practical reasons but I will mention them all just in case:-

- Bin shelters (there is a problem with some residents above shops who do not have residential bins, due presumably to lack of space and use the small public litter bins) – Refuse collections are managed by Thanet District Council (TDC). If there was a permanent arrangement installed to provide more footway space along Station Road then I assume they would look favourably on providing wheelie bins, or similar.
- more enforcement for the one hour limited waiting, I know that some traders do abuse the limited waiting – KCC have no powers to enforce parking, parking enforcement is carried out by TDC. We can certainly request that TDC assist with the scheme and conduct additional parking enforcement during the trial period.
- angle parking – this could mitigate some loss of parking, not sure if your funding could stretch to including squares Ethelbert and Adrian. – We have investigated angled parking (known as echelon parking) along one side of Station Road as part of our design investigations for this scheme. However, to maintain sufficient road width to still allow buses, even with a one way system, and still allow enough room to manoeuvre into the angled spaces would require removal of all the on street parking on the opposite side of Station Road and would have resulted in more parking being lost than the scheme currently being proposed.
- disabled spaces – dedicated 2/3 that would be there for elderly to access shops. – We can certainly add some disabled parking bays if this is something which is deemed popular.
- there are lost spaces, there is a trailer permanently parked and used by a business on Ethelbert Square that could potentially be two additional parking spaces, I do not believe that this is an approved use of the highway. – Any taxed and insured vehicle can legally park on the public highway, so long as it is not causing a safety issue, or contravening any parking restrictions there is no way that authorities can enforce against this.
- there could be permission where widened pavements are created for goods/tables and chairs for free on the pavements during the period of the scheme – Yes, during the trial period KCC can agree placement of tables and chairs along the widened sections of footway. If the scheme were to be made permanent, then the usual process of applying for permits to place tables and chairs would then apply.
- the Town Council sought to purchase and site a permanent Christmas tree on Station Road, it was not practical at the time but could this be something considered with the planting if funding permits. – Subject to there being sufficient footway width to place the tree and still maintain 450mm clearance from the carriageway and space for pedestrians this can probably be achieved. This would only be something that could be possible if the scheme was made permanent.
- electric charge points for electric vehicles. – Unfortunately, it would not be possible to install charging points on a temporary basis. The widened footways proposed as part of this scheme would definitely improve the possibility of being able to provide charging points along Station Road in the future, as often one of the main issues with installing charging points is having sufficient footway space for the power supply and bollards.
- I know that SE Rail are looking for ways to become more community focussed, is this an opportunity to work with them as the train station is a central focus for Station Road? – We would welcome any views from SE Rail and Network Rail in regards to the trial scheme, and there would definitely be opportunity for some collaborative working with the railway authorities.
- If finding the 24 or 10 spaces that are going to be withdrawn could be demonstrated that would help to allay concerns – please see bullet 3. - Other than reviewing the scheme drawings, the best way to show where and how parking areas are proposed to be changed would be via discussion with KCC. Officers have investigated in detail options to re-organise

the parking layouts on Station Road, but due to the road widths available there is no layout that can provide more parking than is currently on site.

- Repairing the canopies which are currently leaking and are regarded as part of the unique character of the Town. – KCC would not have any powers to fund or repair the private canopies / structures oversailing the highway. This would be a bespoke / specialist function and not something which our highways contractors could carry out. The local Members may be able to assist with funding repairs via the Combined Member Grant allocation, but this would be at the discretion of Emma [REDACTED] and Liz [REDACTED].
- I think there are concerns that any additional benches might lead to anti social behaviour in the evenings. – This would be something that would need to be monitored throughout the trial, and if antisocial behaviour does occur then amendments can be made to the scheme to reduce this. As mentioned previously there are KCC officers local to the area which will be able to review and walk the site regularly.

[REDACTED] There are already planters on site which the Town Council and local businesses do maintain so it has been mentioned that any additional planters would be wasted funding. – Any planters installed during the trial will be maintained by KCC, but KCC would of course be grateful for any help that the Town Council can provide in watering the planters. The planters do not have to be a permanent fixture if they are deemed unnecessary following the trial period. Many of the existing planters in Westgate were installed as part of a scheme I implemented for a previous KCC Member, Jeff [REDACTED]

I hope that some of these suggestions may be helpful, I thought it best to send them in an email rather than try to discuss them all in our short meeting. See you later virtually.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
Westgate-on-Sea Town Council  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Website: [REDACTED]

Twitter: [REDACTED]

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**Sent:** 03 September 2020 14:18

**To:** <[REDACTED]@westgateonsea.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Phone Number

Hello ,

I hope you are well.

I have just tried to reach you on the land line number below, and left a voicemail message.

In my voicemail I mentioned a virtual meeting which is taking place tomorrow at 12:30 via Microsoft Teams, I will forward you an invite should you wish to attend this meeting. The KCC Leader and local elected Members will be in attendance at the meeting. We only have 30 minutes as myself and

██████████ have other meetings straight after, but we are hoping we can ensure that all involved are aware of what is proposed and of the ATF scheme requirements set by Central Government.

You will have most likely received a copy of the attached notice with details regarding the ATF scheme in Station Road, Westgate. This notice has been sent to all elected Councillors and Members and will be delivered to residents and businesses along Station Road by the end of next week.

Kind regards,