

Goat Lees Ashford Parking Informal Consultation



Kent County Council has been made aware of a reported parking problem in residential streets in the Goat Lees area of Ashford. The reports are that staff from the Eureka Business Park regularly use surrounding streets to park during the working week resulting in parking congestion and unsafe parking practices. Boughton Aluph Parish Council, supported by the local borough councillor, wishes to promote a scheme to introduce area-wide parking restrictions to address this issue. This informal consultation, funded by KCC, is intended to seek residents' views on whether you consider this to be a problem and, if so, which measure(s) you would support being implemented to address it.

The options

If you consider parking to be a problem in this area, there are 2 solutions which are being offered to residents, the details of which are shown on the enclosed plans. Both options have different implications for residents.

Option 1. Safety Scheme

This scheme would consist of a small amount of double yellow line restrictions in those locations where parking would cause a danger or obstruction to other road users – e.g. around junctions, on bends etc. The scheme would extend only to those roads where parking by business park staff is known to take place at the current time, where parent parking is anticipated around the new Goat Lees Primary School, and where the bus operator has identified a specific obstruction issue caused by parked vehicles. This scheme is intended as a 'light touch' approach, and restrictions are therefore only proposed in those locations where the Highway Code dictates that parking should not take place but where there is considered to be significant risk of motorists parking. The double yellow lines therefore act as a visual reminder to motorists and enable Ashford Borough Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to enforce the restrictions should it be necessary. This scheme leaves all other kerb space unrestricted, allowing for a maximum of parking flexibility.

Option 2. Parking Management Scheme

This scheme would extend over all roads generally within 750 metres walking distance of the Eureka Business Park. It would consist of double yellow line restrictions in all locations unsuitable for parking (around junctions, bends etc.) and a single yellow line restriction operational from 10am to 11am and 2pm to 3pm Monday to Friday elsewhere. This scheme is intended not only to address parking in locations where to do so would cause a danger or obstruction to other road users but also to discourage commuter / long stay parking in those locations which are suitable for parking. 750 metres is considered a far enough walking distance to discourage displacement of parked vehicles beyond the limits of the restrictions.

Tear-off return form on other side
Continued overleaf

Types of parking restriction explained

Double yellow lines

Double yellow line restrictions mean you cannot park at any time of day. There are however some exemptions to the restriction, these include stopping to load and unload goods and to drop off and pick up passengers. In addition blue badge holders may park for up to 3 hours on a double yellow line where necessary when displaying their blue badge and parking disc.

Single yellow lines

Single yellow line restrictions are similar to double yellow lines but only apply at certain times or on certain days of the week. The times / days at which the restriction applies will be displayed on a sign plate nearby. The single yellow lines discussed in the above proposed options would operate from 10am to 11am and 2pm to 3pm Monday to Friday. This means that no one (neither residents or commuters) can park on the single yellow lines during these times unless they meet with one of the exemptions (e.g. they are actively loading or unloading the vehicle, are picking up passengers or are parked for less than 3 hours and are displaying a blue badge and parking disc).

The consultation process

You are invited to register your opinion by filling out the questionnaire below and posting or e-mailing it back to us.

Please note that direct, individual responses will not be sent out in response to each questionnaire. At the end of the consultation all responses received will be collated and the results analysed. A report on the feedback will then be compiled and the scheme which has the support of local residents, will be taken forward to formal public consultation. If this consultation proves to be inconclusive, the results will be reported to the Ashford Joint Transportation Board for a decision on which option shall be proceeded with.

More information

For a more detailed view of the consultation drawings, to see how the different options affect you, please go to www.kent.gov.uk/roads_and_transport/highway_improvements/consultations/current_consultations or the Boughton Aluph Parish Council (P.C.) website. The P.C. will also hold a number of local public briefings at which full size drawings will be available to view but will not form part of the consultation process. The P.C. is notifying residents separately to give you details of the meetings.

Consultation Questionnaire

Please let us know your thoughts on parking in Goat Lees by filling in the form and either posting it back to us or using the email address below. **Please note returns with no address will not be counted**

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Do you consider parking by staff from Eureka Business Park in residential streets in Goat Lees to be a problem? [please tick YES or NO]

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Any comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	No	

If Yes, which of the following would you support?

tick	<input type="checkbox"/>	Option 1 (safety scheme)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Option 2 (parking management)

Name:

Address:

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Returns of Consultation Questionnaire

Please return this form by one of the following methods:

By Post: Send to Katie Clarke, KCC Highways, Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone. ME15 6GB.

By Email: Email your responses to MHF@kent.gov.uk Please put **"GOAT LEES PARKING CONSULTATION"** in the subject box **and include your address. If possible please scan your completed form and attach to the e-mail.**

The deadline for responses is **Friday 15 March 2013.**

Our project reference: MHF-12-AS-56