

TAXI RANKS – CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 Members to consider the objections received to the proposed Hackney Carriage Ranks published in the Southend Recorder on 11 October 2002.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Environmental Services Committee on 5 September 2002 (Minute 401/02) Members designated the following locations for proposed Hackney Carriage Ranks;-

- West side of High Street 2 existing public parking bays outside 12-16 High Street Rayleigh. Times of operation 6pm to 6am daily.
- Outside British Legion Hall, London Hill, Rayleigh. North side of London Hill commencing in a West direction from a point 3.4 metres from the East kerb of Church Street for 15.8 metres, i.e. existing public parking area. Times of operation 6pm to 6am daily.
- East side of High Street commencing in a South West direction from a point 5.5 metres from the leading edge of the Lagoon Island for 38.5 metres outside of existing lagoon Rayleigh High Street. Times of operation of rank are unrestricted.
- Rochford Square, South side of central island in a West direction from a point 1.0 metre from the East edge of the island for 15.0 metres and North side of central island in a West direction from a point 3.0 metres from the East edge of the island for 10.2 metres. Times of operation of rank are unrestricted on South side. Unrestricted except between 6am to 6pm Tuesdays on North side.
- Back Lane, Rochford in Car Park on Western Boundary by Renouf's Hotel, 5 bays in a North West direction from the electricity sub-station. Times of operation are unrestricted.

- 2.2 The locations were duly published and a number of objections to the changes have been received which have not been withdrawn.

- 2.3 The Council is required to consider the objections, before appointing the ranks.

3 OBJECTIONS

- 3.1 West side of High Street 2 existing public parking bays outside 12-16 High Street Rayleigh. Times of operation 6pm to 6am daily. (See map at Appendix 1, which is to follow)

The Rayleigh and District Chamber of Trade object to this rank for the following reason:-

“A reduction in public parking bays serving businesses in this area including the Doctors Surgery. There are a variety of businesses that open late in this vicinity, i.e. fast food outlets and restaurants, off licence, small supermarket.”

- 3.2 Outside British Legion Hall, London Hill, Rayleigh. North side of London Hill commencing in a West direction from a point 3.4 metres from the East kerb of Church Street for 15.8 metres, i.e. existing public parking area. Times of operation 6pm to 6am daily. (See map at Appendix 2, which is to follow)

The Rayleigh and District Chamber of Trade object to this rank for the following reason:-

“A reduction in public parking bays serving businesses and clubs in this vicinity. A reduction of public bays in this area will take place due to the new housing development. The London Hill/Church Street/High Street junction is still subject to the long awaited traffic review raised initially by Ward Members.”

“Visitors to Holy Trinity Church also use this parking area.”

- 3.3 East side of High Street commencing in a South West direction from a point 5.5 metres from the leading edge of the Lagoon Island for 38.5 metres outside of existing lagoon Rayleigh High Street. Times of operation of rank are unrestricted. (See map at Appendix 3, which is to follow)

Essex County Council objects to this rank for the following reason:-

“I object to the proposal as the bay will overlap the existing No Loading/Unloading restriction which was introduced last financial year to keep the road clear of disabled drivers vehicles, thus allowing buses access into the bus stop. The existing No Loading/Unloading restriction terminates at a point 46 metres North East of the junction with Crown Hill and I object to any encroachment into this restriction which your proposal will do.

Please amend your proposal accordingly to terminate at the same point.”

Essex Police object to this rank for the following reason:-

“objects to the proposal for the East Side of Rayleigh High Street outside of the existing lagoon, as this would impede the flow of traffic entering the High Street at this point.”

4 OBSERVATIONS

- 4.1 Essex County Council and Essex Police have not objected to the proposed ranks situated outside 12-16 High Street Rayleigh and outside British Legion Hall, London Hill, Rayleigh. In view of the objections received, Members will need to consider the adequacy of public parking at both locations during the times of 6pm to 6am. The parking bays at both locations are subject to waiting restrictions as follows:-

Parking bays outside 12-16 High Street Rayleigh – Monday to Saturday, 8am to 6pm, 30 minutes, no return within 2 hours.

Parking bays outside British Legion Hall, London Hill, Rayleigh – Monday to Saturday, 8am to 6pm, 1 hour, no return within 3 hours.

- 4.2 The objections to the rank situated on the East Side of the High Street outside the existing lagoon raise valid traffic flow and safety concerns. Both Essex County Council and Essex Police have indicated that if the specification for the rank is amended so that it does not encroach on the existing loading/unloading restriction, they would have no objections to the rank.

The revised specification for the location of the rank would be:-

East side of the High Street commencing in a south West direction from the North leading edge of the lagoon island for 33.5 meters outside of existing lagoon, Rayleigh High Street. Times of operation are unrestricted.

This will provide sufficient ranking for 5 taxis.

5 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) To determine the location and times of operation of the ranks at:

West side of High Street 2 existing public parking bays outside 12-16 High Street Rayleigh. Times of operation 6pm to 6am daily.

Outside British Legion Hall, London Hill, Rayleigh. North side of London Hill commencing in a West direction from a point 3.4 metres from the East kerb of Church Street for 15.8 metres, i.e. existing public parking area. Times of operation 6pm to 6am daily.

- (2) That the location of the rank outside the existing lagoon in Rayleigh High Street be amended as follows:-

East side of the High Street commencing in a South West direction from the North leading edge of the lagoon island for 33.5 meters outside of existing lagoon, Rayleigh High Street. Times of operation are unrestricted.

Steve Clarkson

Head of Revenue and Housing Management

Background Papers:

Letter from Rayleigh and District Chamber of Trade
E-Mails from Mr. A Dellar, Traffic Engineer, Essex County Council.
Letter from Casualty Reduction Manager, Essex Police.

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