

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 24 NOVEMBER 2020

THISTLE STREET, CARNOUSTIE – ROAD SAFETY

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report presents the findings of the feasibility study carried out into the proposed introduction of a one-way traffic management system on Thistle Street, Carnoustie, to address road safety concerns and seeks approval for consultation to be undertaken on the proposals.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the findings of the feasibility study into the proposed introduction of a one-way traffic management system on Thistle Street, Carnoustie;
- (ii) instructs the Director of Infrastructure to undertake consultation on the above proposal to introduce a one-way traffic management system on the east side of Thistle Street from its junction with its north cul-de-sac to its junction with West Path; and the previous option of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on the south side of Thistle Street; and
- (iii) notes that a further report will be brought forward to this Committee following completion of the proposed consultation.

2 ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

ECONOMY

- An inclusive and sustainable economy

PLACE

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Concerns have been raised over a period of several years by a resident of the cul-de-sac in Thistle Street, Carnoustie regarding vehicles parked on the main carriageway of Thistle Street causing difficulties for vehicular traffic entering and exiting the cul-de-sac safely. Exiting the cul-de-sac turning left towards Westpath is highlighted as a difficulty. The resident requested that consideration was given to the installation of waiting restrictions directly adjacent to the cul-de-sac at the location to allow the necessary manoeuvres to be carried out and more specifically to address concerns over potential access for emergency services.

3.2 During various site visits by Roads officers, vehicles were observed parking in the affected section of Thistle Street and the matter was raised for consideration at the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group forum, which comprises amongst others Roads officers and Police Scotland officers. The Highway Code stipulates that vehicles should not be parked opposite or within 10 metres of a junction. The Group agreed that the installation of waiting restrictions opposite the cul-de-sac was appropriate to help alleviate the current situation.

- 3.3 The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on the south side of Thistle Street for a distance of approximately 20 metres opposite the junction of Thistle Street with its north cul-de-sac was proposed within Committee Report No. 57/20 (Angus Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading) (On-street Parking) (Decriminalised Enforcement) (No.4) Order 2020) on 25 February 2020 at the Communities Committee. The proposed waiting restrictions for Thistle Street are re-presented on the plan appended to this report (**Appendix 1**).
- 3.4 The Notice of proposals was published in the Courier and Advertiser on 6 December 2019 and in addition Public Notices were erected on Thistle Street.
- 3.5 In response to the publication of the proposals, five objections and one letter of support were received. The letters of objection were received from local residents in Thistle Street and nearby Shamrock Street. The objectors were concerned that kerbside parking in the street is currently very limited and that the proposed restrictions would further exacerbate the situation in the street. Several of the objections also suggested that the narrow section of Thistle Street should be made one-way, which it was felt would alleviate part of the problem.
- 3.6 The Communities Committee agreed that a decision on Thistle Street be postponed and requested that the Director of Infrastructure undertake further investigations into the suggested alternative suggestion, namely the introduction of a one-way traffic management system in Thistle Street.

4 DETAILS

- 4.1 A search of the road traffic accident database confirms that there have been no recorded injury accidents on Thistle Street in the vicinity of its junction with the north cul-de-sac during the most recent three-year recording period from 12 June 2017 to 11 June 2020.
- 4.2 The suggestion for a one-way system is to avoid further parking restrictions in the street. Without parking restrictions, the difficulty of turning left out of the cul-de-sac remains. Therefore, the suggested one-way traffic management system would prevent eastbound traffic movements on Thistle Street from its junction with the north cul-de-sac to its junction with West Path, as shown in **Appendix 2**. The alternative of a one-way traffic management system which would prevent westbound traffic movements over this stretch of road would not solve the issue created by the parking. By introducing a one-way traffic management system in a westerly direction from West Path to the north cul-de-sac on Thistle Street it is anticipated that this would only eliminate some of the difficulties experienced by drivers entering and leaving the cul-de-sac.
- 4.3 The introduction of a one-way traffic management system would mitigate concerns expressed over the lack of on-street parking in the area, but it is important to note that parking directly adjacent to the cul-de-sac would remain and that there would still be issues with certain manoeuvres at the junction, in particular for larger vehicles and emergency service vehicles.
- 4.4 The introduction of a one-way traffic management system would also ease congestion on Thistle Street by removing the conflict with oncoming vehicles over the narrow section of carriageway, however, there is the potential for vehicles to travel at higher speeds westbound, which could cause additional difficulties for traffic exiting the cul-de-sac.

5 PROPOSAL

- 5.1 It is recommended that a formal consultation should be carried out, on the proposal to introduce a one-way traffic management system on the east side of Thistle Street from its junction with its north cul-de-sac to its junction with West Path. It is proposed that the consultation include the previous option of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on the south side of Thistle Street as referenced in paragraph 3.3 of this report and detailed in Report No. 57/20. The consultees would be as listed in **Appendix 3** and as shown in the public consultation location plan (**Appendix 4**). The outcomes of such consultation would be subject to a future report to this Committee.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 At this stage there are no financial implications arising from this report other than the costs associated with the consultation, which can be contained within the Roads Revenue Budget

for 2020/21. The financial implications arising from any ultimate scheme following the completion of the proposed consultation will be set out in the further report as per recommendation (iii).

- 6.2 For initial context, the estimated cost to install a one-way traffic management system, on Thistle Street, Carnoustie is £10,000 for the lit signs, electricity supply cabling including associated works. The estimated cost to install 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on the south side of Thistle Street, Carnoustie is £200. These costs would be funded from the 2020/21 Traffic Capital Road Safety/Traffic Calming Budget.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Legal and Democratic Services and the local Police Commander of Tayside Division were consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No. 57/20: Angus Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading) (On-Street Parking) (Decriminalised Enforcement) (No.4) Order 2020; 25 February 2020

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List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Thistle Street, Carnoustie – Proposed Waiting Restrictions
- Appendix 2: Thistle Street, Carnoustie – Proposed One-Way Traffic Management System
- Appendix 3: Thistle Street, Carnoustie - Proposed list of consultees
- Appendix 4: Thistle Street, Carnoustie – Consultation Location Plan

Thistle Street, Carnoustie – Proposed Waiting Restrictions

APPENDIX 1

Thistle Street, Carnoustie – Proposed One-Way Traffic Management System

PROPOSED LIST OF CONSULTEES

1. Local ward members for the Carnoustie and District area
2. Carnoustie Community Council
3. The local Divisional Police Commander for Tayside
4. The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Area Manager
5. The Regional Officer for the Scottish Ambulance Service
6. Angus Access Panel

Additionally, each resident within the area indicated on the attached plan (Appendix 4) will be provided with an individual copy of the consultation pack.

It is envisaged that the consultation will be included on the Angus Council website and that consultation packs will be made available at the Carnoustie Access Office for the general public who wish to comment on the proposed option. Completed questionnaires can be completed online or posted to The Traffic Manager, Angus Council, Angus House, Silvie Way, Forfar DD8 1AN.

