

Annex L Osbaldwick Ward

L1	Location: Meadowbeck Close
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Nature of problem and plan of Advertised Proposal
Visitors to Meadowbeck Nursing Home and parking associated with the primary school park on the Close, many of them partially on the footway obstructing disabled access.



The proposal for restrictions around the bend area where vehicles do park partially on the footway obstructing disabled passage.

Representations Received in support and objection:

Support (resident):

Problems identified:

1. The council has recently installed a new wheelchair friendly pavement outside Meadowbeck Nursing Home (doubtless at considerable expense). Despite this, and the posting of an advisory note within the nursing home, some vehicles continue to park on the pavement, blocking wheelchair access.
2. Cars park on the road and pavement thoughtlessly blocking access to the loading bay and to the front door by trucks (including ambulances and large trucks delivering food). Even if trucks get in,

they cannot always get out without driving onto the Birch Tree Lodge parking space/drive, which is damaging the surface and foundation.

3. Some cars also park right in the entrance to the nursing home car park, making the situation as in problem #2 even worse.

The police have been involved, which led to the posting of the sign regarding parking in the nursing home, but many visitors do not see or pay attention to that sign. The police cannot be expected to be attending every day. The basic problems remain.

In addition to the nursing home main car park there is another nursing home car park at the rear of the home, which is often under-used. The council's proposals would still leave plenty of further parking space for the nursing home on the straight section of Meadowbeck Lane past the entrance to the home. Hopefully cars parking there will realise that parking on the road is acceptable but parking on the pavement is not, but the fact that the road is straight here should reduce the motivation to park on the pavement.

The cost of installing double yellow lines would be very small compared to the cost of installing the wheelchair-friendly pavement. At the moment the investment in the wheelchair-friendly pavement is rendered useless by parking on the pavement, irrespective of the problems this causes to wheelchair users.

The view has been expressed that any additional yellow lines are to be avoided because all they do is shift the parking problem elsewhere. That is exactly the point of the council's proposal – to move the car parking slightly down the road (where there is ample scope for further parking) and off the pavement. Of course, this would mean that cars carrying disabled passengers would need to stop at the front door of the nursing home to unload such passengers and then if the car park was full drive slightly further down the road to park and walk back. The extra walk of 30 feet is not likely to be problematic for non-disabled drivers.

I consider that the council's proposals are very sound and a reasonable compromise between the needs of car owners and the needs of home residents and other local residents, and they have my full support. I understand that Cllr. Rowley is in agreement with my view.

Objection (Parish Council)

Osboldwick Parish Council object to the imposition of yet more double yellow lines in the Parish and see no purpose to the TRO in this location.

The Care Home in Meadowbeck Close has ample car parking for visitors

and deliveries and should be utilised by such users without expending public money on parking restrictions outside.

Any short term parking at this location associated with school drop off/pick up times will, if the restrictions are ever enforced, merely be moved to another location in Meadowbeck Close no doubt necessitating the further use of double yellow lines.

The Parish Council would much prefer CYC attentions to be concentrated on achieving solutions to the parking issues created in the local area due to use of parking restrictions outside and around the nearby school - namely a dedicated drop off area for parents to drop off/pick up children.

Some parents will always need to use cars and as such a solution should be sought and TRO double yellow line parking restrictions like this are not dealing with a problem but merely moving it.

Officer analysis

We are aware Osbaldwick Parish Council are not in favour of any waiting restrictions in the Osbaldwick Ward. Consequently we only propose them when we consider there is a safety issue to be resolved. In this instance, when cars park partially on the footway on the bend mobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs can only pass on the carriageway – there is no footway on the other side. Because of the bend it is not possible to see if a vehicle is coming.

Although this is a small cul-de-sac, there is an increased vehicle use associated with the care home.

There are notices in the care home asking visitors to park more considerately which has had little effect. The police have been involved over obstruction issues. The issue is not just related to the school peak hours, but can be noted at most times of the day.

The Parish Council have requested we put more resources to creating a drop off area for the school. This is outside the scope of this proposal or the remit of the regulation team.

Options:

1. Over-rule the objection and implement as advertised.
This is the recommended option because this is an issue that occurs most of the day, every day and is one that cannot be

resolved by other means.

2. Uphold the objection and take no further action.

This is not the recommended option because the problem would remain and the safety of pedestrians compromised.

Ward Councillor Comments:

Councillor M Warters

I've little to add to the Parish Council comments other than to highlight references in the CYC appraisal saying that the parking problem occurs at all times of Day and is not wholly related to the lack of a suitable school drop off point for parents at the nearby primary school.

If that is the case it further reinforces the point that the obstructive parking is being caused by visitors to Meadowbeck Care Home, there is ample car parking space for visitors and deliveries within the site of the car home.

From earlier correspondence I believe this request to have been initiated by the Care home, it should not be for the local authority to impose double yellow line parking restrictions at the behest of a private business whose business is creating the issue in the first place.

Any parking blocking footpaths is obstructive parking and a matter for the police to sort and issue fines for.

If access to the Care home is blocked by visitors' cars then the Care home needs to be more proactive in ensuring visitors use the available in site parking spaces.

In addition it would of course be worth mentioning that visitors/deliveries would still be able to stop on the double yellow lines for 5/10 mins for loading/unloading of people/goods and again any obstruction caused on the footpath would still be a matter for police enforcement.