

Browns Road area Parking Permit Area - 11 letters or emails objecting

1. Dear Sir/Madam

We are writing to you in response to your letter regarding the proposed PPA.

We were on holiday when the letter was posted and did not return until 17/01/19, so missed the entire TMO consultation period and was not able to respond before. Given our extenuating circumstances we would request that our comments below be noted and factored in to any decision making.

In short, we are opposed to this PPA (the lack of any permit parking was a key driver for us buying our house on King Charles Crescent in April 2018), but (unlike those campaigning for this PPA) we understand that just because we want something does not make it right nor the fair choice for all.

What we expect in these situations is that those responsible for making this decision complete the necessary due diligence and make impartial decisions for the benefit of all concerned. Instead we have been provided with a non-existent case for this PPA and a process that is being run as a formality, as the decision makers had already decided on implementing this PPA.

The process undertaken to canvas the residents was not impartial. The phrasing of the questionnaire was designed to force residents to justify why a PPA shouldn't exist rather than collect actual opinions. The form wasn't very intuitive and was open to error, as was borne out in the stats presented.

When it came to the council meeting that was held, we were shocked by the 'stats' that were being presented and the language and behaviour of those involved.

Firstly, there was a continual assertion from the council staff that the 'majority of residents have requested the PPA'; a claim which is echoed in your letter. This is simply untrue, as by your own figures only roughly half of the residents responded from which roughly half 'showed support' for the PPA.

Secondly, the testing method and test results presented are highly unprofessional. In what other walk of life could you conduct one single test that does not even prove your argument (parking spaces were not 100% full during the test) and then use it to try and prove your argument?

Thirdly, the arguments raised against the PPA in the meeting were legitimate, consistent and strong, whereas the arguments for were speculative, emotional or relating to an individual's exceptional case.

Fourthly, the behaviour of some of the councillors was eye-opening. They were overly friendly with the main protagonist for the PPA and one (after asking us for our opinion and not waiting for a response) told us, "This is happening. You have to deal

with it.” – this comment was made before the item had even been discussed at the meeting.

The final straw was to return from holiday to find that the TMO consultation period has expired. The length of the TMO consultation period was 18 days, which is too short for a decision like this which is going to impact on the residents for the foreseeable future.

Could you please respond to this email with your comments and advise on the council's complaint procedures?

Regards

2. Hi,

I work full time at Sainsburys Local, Ewell Road and need to be able to park for the duration of my shift which is an 8-9 hour period between the hours of 6am and 11pm.

The parking restrictions you propose would greatly inhibit me from attending my workplace and earning a living.

Kinds regards,

3. Dear sir/madam,

I personally object to PPA but if the majority of residents want this then fair enough. Is there any data on the amount of households who wish this? I find it strange alpha road and Britannia are not included. Also will the residents whos flats are situated on ewell road from south place alley to browns road be entitled to a permit? If not where can they park? I also wanted to point out the questionnaire did not make clear permits are for one car per registered owner....i think a letter to clarify to residents they will need to make arrangements to park work cars elsewhere is needed (a few of my neighbors have work vans and even a hourse) and i dont think they realise they will not be allowed a permit for them and i was disapponted the questionnaire did not make clear due to a previous survey of parking, a permit will not improve the situation by much and not guarantee a space as younes has stated. Also when the council close warwick grove and browns road during the newent house redevelopment will we be entitled to a refund during the possible year of no access during permit hours we could encounter and have to park elsewhere? When this parking zone happens and if we do not get any benefit for paying to park can we petition to get this reversed? Especially as far as im concerned we were not informed this might not improve parking? When asked do we support the scheme? Im aware this is the case as I attended a meeting last year with the results of the beat survey . Can the council afford to set up a ppa for just effectively 2 roads surely the amount of permits will not cover the cost of setting it up and implementation? If your house borders a free road why pay? If you drive to work monday to friday why get a permit?

Im in two minds to just park on alpha road as i can just walk for 30 seconds to my house...The ppa should really cover the estate and roads up to the iron bridge. I do think parking is an issue but i find this is the case not unique to this area if anything i find surbiton gets targeted as maybe it is presumed we are wealthy? as tolworth, chessington and berrylands do not get this hassle by their train stations yet the residents complain commuters park up to use the station? residents own more cars then spaces available and drives remove alot of spaces too plus all the double yellows on browns road does not help...ive always found being a shift worker parking is worse while residents are home...early hours and late at night. The parking situation is actually ok in the afternoon after residents who drive have gone to work and before they come home.

Saturday is actually difficult also to park if not worse due to shoppers/people eating out and using the park and i feel as alot of the residents that support this will get away without paying for a permit as they are not parked monday to Friday if they drive to work....this penalises shift workers and the less well off residents who possibly work part time. The permit should include Saturday for a fairer system to all residents that we must all pay. The cost of living is shocking as it is and this is just another tax on us and visitors. Some will say its a couple of pound a week.....yes thats true on top of rent/mortgage council tax utilities food transportation costs childcare the list goes on. At a time when food banks are struggling with demand, choosing to heat or eat and many residents around here in rent and council tax arrears this extra tax for no benefit is a joke if it will not quarentee a space nearby....i have always parked by my home.

I understand the lady from x browns road struggles as she thinks she should always be able to park outside her house. im sure she will be in contact unhappy and probably request a PPA for 24hrs as she does not seem to understand outside her house is the first space coming from ewell road and where does she think the people of muybridge yard park and the residents of ewell road flats park but then she is a lawyer (as she makes it clear to everyone) and knows better i guess and blames the london commuters like herself for parking on her road when its mostly just residents and some cars never move like my dads and some of my closer neighbors cars never move as they work in london or they are retired.

I know its abit of a rant but i think ive made valid points to consider when enforcing this scheme. Is it cost effective and does it give us good value for money?

Kind regards,

4. Dear Sirs,

My name is x and I am the owner of x Alpha Road, currently letting it out x. But having lived at that address for 14 years I do feel qualified to make comments on the proposed introduction of Permit Parking on Alpha Road. I fully support that Alpha Road be included as part of the Permit Parking Scheme Around Browns Road (Ref KINGMAP0020).

Parking has always been a problem in Alpha Road, especially at the Browns Road end, where there is a terrace of 8 houses (Nos 52-59). None of these houses have off-street parking - as properties at the other end of the road do - and so it is these

residents who are most plagued by parking issues, and who will be most affected by whatever decision you come to in this regard.

During the working day, it is almost impossible to find a parking space. I have lost count of the number of times I have had to drive around the surrounding streets, sometimes for up to 15-20 minutes, trying to find somewhere to park my car. Invariably when I found a space it was not on Alpha Road. So if Alpha Road is not part of the proposed permit scheme it will be impossible for Alpha Road residents who don't have off-street parking, to park their cars anywhere within walking distance of their home. I understand Britannia Road has voted to be excluded from this permit scheme, but those houses also have off-street parking.

Given the difficulty Alpha Road residents have in parking now; the developments going on in the area and the extra cars those developments will bring; and the proximity to the train station, it is vital that Alpha Road be included in this scheme, even if it is just at the Browns Road end of the street. To not include Alpha Road, would be short-sighted and do a dis-service to its residents who own cars.

I understand from my neighbours that Alpha Road was not originally included in the scheme in large part to the vociferous objections of one of my neighbours, x. I feel it important to point out that x does not own a car and so does not understand the difficulty other residents face in parking their cars. Introducing a parking permit would have no affect on her, other than perhaps having to purchase visitors' permits from time to time.

I feel it is important for you to note that some residents of Alpha Road will be more affected by your decision than others.

I therefore urge you most strongly to add more weight to the comments of those residents who will be detrimentally affected (ie those without off-road parking and who own cars, mainly those living at 52-59) if Alpha Road is not included in the scheme; and to therefore ensure that Alpha Road - either as whole, or just the Browns Road end - is included in this parking permit scheme.

Thank you for taking the time to read my views, and if you wish further explanation please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

5. We hope that you are well.

Our names and x, we are the tenants of x Alpha Road and live here with our 3 year and 8 month old daughters.

We love living on Alpha Road and have been residents for the last four years. Until we learnt of the planned exclusion of Alpha Road from the PPA, we had planned to re-sign the tenancy when the current one comes to an end in May this year. We fully support the inclusion of Alpha Road in the Permit Parking Area around Browns Road(Ref KINGMAP0020).

Parking is becoming progressively worse for residents and houses 52-59 Alpha Road are not fortunate enough to have off-street parking, unlike the other end of the street. Commuters arrive in the morning from around 7.30am and leave their cars until around 6pm taking every single empty space.

Our eldest daughter is in preschool and despite having a car, one of us is forced to walk her there in the morning along with our baby regardless of weather. This has been particularly challenging in the recent cold, icy and snowy weather. When we have been in the car, it has been impossible to park within walking distance by the time we return home. With a small baby, this is far from ideal. We now feel unable to use our car at all during the 'working day.'

It's particularly frustrating that the spaces are being lost to commuters because there is a useable car park at the station and their cars block the street for the entire 'working day.' As well as residents, this also impacts on our visitors, shoppers on Ewell Road, people visiting Fishponds park, and those using the Children's Centre and Nursery on Alpha Road.

If we are not included in this scheme, we honestly cannot see how we will ever be able to park during the working day. The development happening in the area (Newent House and the new build flats), combined with the PPA on the surrounding streets, will make parking for the residents of 52-59 alpha road impossible during the day. Sadly it will force us, as tenants, to reconsider our plans to resign our lease and potentially leave a house and neighbours that we love.

We understand that there have been some votes against a PPA on Alpha Road but we know that the majority of these are from people with access to off street parking and also from a resident that doesn't even have a car. We beg you to please consider the views of the residents of 52-59 Alpha Road that rely on using their cars but do not have access to off street parking as it is us that will be most affected.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kind regards,

6. To The Director of Place,

I am emailing in response to the TMO which was issued in The Gazette, regarding the PPA which is due to be brought in to the Brown's Road area. I would like to formally object to the exclusion of Alpha Road and request that we be included in the PPA scheme.

I am owner-occupier of x Alpha Road and the reasons I believe Alpha Road should be included in the scheme are below:

- We are currently unable to park on Alpha Road if we use our vehicle in the daytime, and are often reliant on the surrounding roads (which will no longer be available to us if we are not part of the PPA scheme).

- We have a hybrid vehicle, and can only charge our car if we are able to park near our house. As Kingston is championing the use and purchase of hybrid's it is a clear contradiction of Kingston Council's green initiative to then make a decision which will almost certainly guarantee that we are unable to ever charge our vehicle.
- If Alpha Road is not included we will experience the overspill of commuters, visitors and local businesses who will no longer be able park on the surrounding, permitted roads. We will also receive the overspill of residents (and their visitors) in surrounding roads who choose to park on our street, to save the cost of buying a permit.
- Newent House has recently brought in a monitored ticketing system, so the area has lost approximately 40 spaces, 9 on Alpha Road. Last week 5 cars (including local residents) received parking fines in 1 day. The extra pressure to our street in the daytime has drastically increased, and is currently unbearable (this will only get worse without inclusion of the PPA). The car park is now mostly empty all day, whereas the streets are totally full. (The previous road analysis doesn't account for these spaces and would deliver very different results if you were to run the analysis now)
- Newent House's planned developed into a dementia home will bring significant visitor numbers and employees to the area, and is likely to further pressurise the street.
- The south place development is bringing 49 flats to the area and is providing only 30 parking spaces; Alpha Road would be the closest road to these flats without a PPA, again causing our street significant problems.

Alpha Road is a street with mixed needs: many houses and flats have off-street parking. There are also a number of parking areas on our street which have old (and expired) parking notices indicating private parking and clamping. It has been confirmed that these are public parking areas, but due to this many residents have not been engaged in the parking conversation as they have incorrectly believed their parking spaces are protected. All Alpha Road residents, but particularly those without the option for off-street parking, are affected in a seriously detrimental way without this PPA, and to be left out of the scheme would be irresponsible and a significant mistake by the council, one which our street intends to fight.

I appreciate you considering my objection.

Regards,

7. Good afternoon

My name is x and I live at x Alpha Road, Surbiton KT5 8RU.

I am writing this email as I wish for our road to be included within the Parking Permit Area that is going ahead in our area.

I strongly wish to request inclusion the current situation causes problems everyday for parking. For example having to park 2 streets away and I have a toddler to manage along with shopping etc.

It also causes issues for visitors to ever find a parking space which is therefore causing a detrimental effect to my life and inclusion of family and friends in my social life.

Not being included will worsen my situation for parking even more. Therefore I wish Alpha Road to be included.

Yours Faithfully

8. Dear Ms Gough,

I write in relation to the recent correspondence on the Browns road parking permit consultation. x and I are residents of x King Charles Crescent.

Whilst we have not experienced any major problems with parking, a scheme may help other residents if they have had problems.

However, the £90 annual charge is strongly opposed. The council should not be looking to profit from this scheme.

Please can you confirm by receipt that this opposition has been lodged.

Kind regards,

9. Dear Sirs

Please take this as confirmation that I am a resident at Holmwood House, on Alpha Road. We would also like to be included in the Parking Permit scheme as we feel that everyone will simply park in our street if we are not.

Kind regards

10. Dear Sirs

Please take this as confirmation that I am a resident at Holmwood House, on Alpha Road. We would also like to be included in the Parking Permit scheme as we feel that everyone will simply park in our street if we are not.

Kind regards

11. BROWNS ROAD PERMIT PARKING AREA

I strongly object to this implementation on the following grounds:

1. It has excluded Alpha Road and will make it unbearably difficult to park for residents.

2. There are 59 properties on Alpha Road, most have access to off road parking or parking bays. The 8 Victorian houses do not have access to any parking and are solely reliant on availability on what is available on the local road.
3. It has excluded Britannia Road and will make it extremely difficult to park for residents.
4. Visitors will park on Alpha Road and Britannia Road rather than purchase permits
5. Demand for parking will increase due to a new development of 50 properties.
6. Demand for parking will grow in 2020 with a new development of a dementia centre which will be open 24/7 and require parking for staff and visitors.
7. The impact by selecting roads, 2 new large developments will have a detrimental impact on any roads not included in the PPA which were originally to be included.
8. The council is supporting commuters and not the local residents and council tax payers.
9. The decision has been made on the basis of the local surveys, support and objections and has not taken in to consideration short to mid-term developments approved by the council.
10. Additional roads have applied for PPA which will put more pressure on Alpha road.
11. This all will cause unprecedented stress on local residents.
12. Newent House was used by commuters, local businesses and residents during the surveys. This has now been closed off, therefore these surveys did not reflect a new picture of the demand for parking in the area or the use by local residents.