

22. ARTHUR STREET PARKING RESTRICTION

The Community Engineer sought Board approval to restrict parking on the south side of Arthur Street.

In August 1998 a public meeting was held at Middleton Grange School. The topic of discussion was the development of a Local Area Traffic Management Scheme (LATMS) for the Upper Riccarton Area. One of the issues raised by residents was the extreme congestion in Arthur Street during the times parents dropped off and picked up their children. The favoured solution to the problem suggested by residents was the banning of car parking along the south side (opposite the school) during peak times (8am to 9am and 230pm to 330pm Monday to Friday). It was also suggested that parking on either side of the two bends in Arthur Street should be banned at all times due to poor visibility.

There is a greater proportion of children arriving and departing by motor vehicles than most schools. The result is that Arthur Street is almost completely full of parked vehicles from Middleton Road to Hansons Lane particular during the after school peak. Residents wanting to gain access to and from their properties during these times face extreme difficulties and inconvenience.

A publicity leaflet outlining this proposal to ban parking on the south side of Arthur Street during the period described above as well as banning parking around both bends was circulated to residents in September 1998. The school has adopted a neutral stance but have emphasised a willingness to work with the community and the Council to resolve any issues of concern.

Implementing the proposal as described will significantly reduce the current level of congestion. This will improve ingress and egress for residents as well as reducing the likelihood of parents needing to manoeuvre into residents' driveways. Access for emergency vehicles will also be improved. As the ban would only apply during peak school arrival and departure times there will be minimal disruption to the ability of residents to park outside their properties during the day.

Removing the opportunity for parents to park on the south side of Arthur Street will effectively halve the available car parking stock in the street.

One of the alternatives raised by parents responding to the leaflet was making Arthur Street "One Way". The concept has merit in theory. The difficulty is that it would be extremely difficult to enforce. It is not possible or practicable to have the "One Way" system operating for only parts of the day. Also the proposal did not have the same support as the parking ban had from residents during the public meeting.

The Board **resolved**:

1. That the parking of vehicles be prohibited on the south side of Arthur Street between Hansons Lane and Middleton Road from 8am to 9am and 230pm to 330pm Monday to Friday except in the locations described in “2” below.
2. That the parking of vehicles be prohibited at all times on Arthur Street at the following locations:
 - The north side 170m east of the Hansons Lane intersection and extending 64m in an easterly direction,
 - The north side 275m east of the Hansons Lane intersection and extending 30m in an easterly direction,
 - The south side 160m east of the Hansons Lane intersection and extending 59m in an easterly direction,
 - The south side 275m east of the Hansons Lane intersection and extending 42m in an easterly direction.
3. That the restrictions be reviewed in six months from the date of installation.