

## **SHERINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL PARKING TASK & FINISH GROUP – INTERIM REPORT**

Summary: The Sheringham Primary School Parking Task & Finish Group was established to address traffic and parking issues in the residential vicinity of Sheringham Primary School. This Report aims to address the immediate concerns, but accepts that the work of the Task & Finish Group must continue in order to deliver a wider solution to similar issues across the district.

Options considered: A number of possible options have been considered by the Task and Finish Group. At present some of these options are still under review or awaiting further information.

Conclusions: The Sheringham Primary School Parking Task & Finish Group is yet to agree its final recommendations to address traffic and parking issues in the vicinity of Sheringham Primary School. It would therefore be beneficial if the Task & Finish Group continued to meet post-election in order to conclude its work.

Recommendations:

- 1. To recommend that the 2019/20 Overview & Scrutiny Committee allow the Task & Finish Group to continue to meet as a sub-Committee for 3 months following the election, in order to finalise its work and issue final recommendations.**
- 2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee note the work of the Task & Finish Group to date.**

Reasons for Recommendations: To offer a realistic solution to address traffic and parking issues in the vicinity of Sheringham Primary School.

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AS REQUIRED BY LAW**

*(Papers relied on to write the report, which do not contain exempt information and which are not published elsewhere)*

Cabinet Member(s): Ward(s) affected:  
Upper Sherigham/Sheringham South

Contact Officer, telephone number and email:  
Matt Stembrowicz [Matthew.Stembrowicz@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:Matthew.Stembrowicz@north-norfolk.gov.uk) 01263 516047

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 The Sheringham Primary School Parking Task & Finish Group was established as a result of a Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to address traffic and parking issues in the vicinity of Sheringham Primary School.

- 1.2 The Task and Finish Group was established as a politically balanced Group that voted to co-opt two further Members in order to have a representative from both the school and residents effected by the issues.
- 1.3 The Task and Finish Group was given three months to identify a possible solution to the issues and have met a total of five times during this period.

## **2. Issues Identified**

- 2.1 The key issues identified as causing major problems in the vicinity of Sheringham Primary School include:
  - Limited staff and visitor on-site parking
  - Two dead-end routes with no effective turning area for vehicles as a result of the school turning area being used for buses only due to safety concerns
  - Limited parking in the immediate vicinity of the school
  - Aggressive parking practices including the blocking of residents driveways, obstructing traffic/pedestrian walkways and junctions.
  - Limited access for emergency vehicles during peak periods
- 2.2 The Task & Finish Group commissioned a travel plan survey that was sent to primary schools across the district to determine the number of schools suffering from similar traffic and parking, or other related travel issues. Out of the 40 schools surveyed, a response was received from 6 schools that identified similar significant parking, traffic or other concerns that arose in their vicinity during the school's start and finish times.
- 2.3 It has been noted that the issues identified do not routinely fall under the jurisdiction of NNDC. As a result, the Council is limited in its capacity to respond and suggestions have been made that expectations must be managed as a result.

## **3. Options Considered**

- 3.1 To consider the creation of an additional parking area in the designated land area adjacent to the school – Work must continue in order to fully understand the implications of this work. It is noted that this is a designated open land area and planning permission would have to be sought in order to pursue this option. In addition, Sheringham Woodfields School are currently in the process of improvement works and will be using the area for site access until next year. Anglian Water have also expressed concerns that underground assets may limit any development of the area for access purposes.
- 3.2 To consider the implementation of a scheme to encourage alternate methods of travelling to school that limit the use of cars during peak times – Broadland District Council were invited to provide a briefing on a similar scheme organised in conjunction with Norfolk County Council's Road Safety Team. Approval has been given by BDC to use the ethos/concept of the scheme, but have requested that if NNDC were to pursue, then a specific name and branding must be sought to differentiate the scheme. In addition, for the scheme to be successful, it is likely that alternate parking arrangements must be sought within walking/cycling distance of the school. An initial proposal to ask the Town Council for permission to offer the Community Centre's parking

facilities was rejected, however an appeal has been made for the decision to be reconsidered.

- 3.3 To create a through-road from Cooper Road to Childs way – A cost estimate was pursued and determined to start from approximately £150k, though it was suggested that it was likely that this cost could be expected to rise.
- 3.4 Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) were considered as a possible solution to limit or stop inconsiderate parking in the immediate vicinity of the school. Concerns were raised that this could cause issues for residents, and that it would be difficult to regularly police the TROs if implemented.
- 3.5 To liaise with the school to obtain the necessary data required to create a Travel Plan that can be issued to parents in order to identify concerns and offer alternative travel and parking arrangements.
- 3.6 Movement of existing bollards to edge of road to limit parking on pavements and restricting of pathway for pedestrian use.

#### **4. Conclusion**

At present it is necessary for the Task & Finish Group to continue to pursue the multiple options that may offer some solutions to the persistent issues taking place at schools across the district. Whilst the Group accepts that these solutions may not completely resolve these issues, Members are inclined to offer recommendations that could help to reduce their prevalence. It is therefore recommended that the Task & Finish Group be allowed to continue its work in order to bring together a final set of recommendations.

#### **5. Implications and Risks**

To leave the issue unresolved could result in reputational damage to the Council.

#### **6. Financial Implications and Risks**

None identified as a result of this Report.

#### **7. Sustainability**

No issues identified as a result of this Report

#### **8. Equality and Diversity**

There are no equality or diversity considerations

#### **9. Section 17 Crime and Disorder considerations**

Traffic and parking issues may create the possibility of minor issues.