

General Purposes & Highways Committee 15th July 2024

Agenda item: 6 - Armed Forces Covenant Resubmission

Background:

The Armed Forces Covenant was signed and submitted in December 2023 but was rejected by the Regional Employer Engagement Director as it was not detailed enough. Officers took advice from the Director and drafted the attached Covenant.

For reference, the original stated the following:

- Promoting the Armed Forces when appropriate
- Maintenance of the War Memorial
- Civic duties: continuing to support and participate in Remembrance Day Services

The revised wording states:

- Promoting the Armed Forces by continuing to support and participate in the two Remembrance Day Services the town council holds.
- Assisting with funding of the Remembrance Day Parades
- Nominating a Councillor to act as representative to the Cadet Forces
- Nominating a Councillor to act as Armed Forces Champion
- Providing stalls for the Army and RAF cadets at the annual May Fayre to promote their organisations
- Maintenance of the War Memorial

In addition, the council needs to nominate an Armed Forces Champion which the Armed Forces Covenant website explains as follows:

The term 'Armed Forces Champion' is not defined in legislation and is used slightly differently by different organisations. Other terms are also used, such as 'Armed Forces Advocate' or 'Service Pupil Champion'. Broadly, it is an individual, or a team of individuals, who:

- advocates for the Armed Forces community and the Covenant within their organisation,
- co-ordinates their organisation's internal and external activities relating to the Armed Forces and the Covenant, and/or
- is the point of contact for members of the Armed Forces community who want to raise issues with someone in the organisation who will understand the unique circumstances of their Service life.

Proposed resolutions:

Members are to:

- a) review and, if agreed, sign the redrafted Armed Forces Covenant.**
- b) nominate and agree a member to be the Royston Town Council Armed Forces Champion**



Royston Town Council

We commit to uphold the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the contribution that Service personnel, both regular and reservist, veterans and military families make to our organisation, our community and to the country.

Signed on behalf of: Royston Town Council

Signed:

Name:

Position:

Date:



The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between
The People of the United Kingdom
His Majesty's Government

– and –

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown
And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most, such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

Section 1: Principles of The Armed Forces Covenant

1.1 We, Royston Town Council, will endeavour to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant:

- *Members of the Armed Forces Community should not face disadvantages arising from their service in the provision of public and commercial services.*
- *In some circumstances special provision may be justified, especially for those who have given the most, such as the injured or bereaved.*

Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

2.1 We recognise the contribution that Service personnel, reservists, veterans, the cadet movement and military families make to our organisation, our community and to the country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant by:

- **Promoting the Armed Forces by continuing to support and participate in the two Remembrance Day Services the town council holds.**
- **Assisting with funding of the Remembrance Day Parades**
- **Nominating a Councillor to act as representative to the Cadet Forces**
- **Nominating a Councillor to act as Armed Forces Champion**
- **Providing stalls for the Army and RAF cadets at the annual May Fayre to promote their organisations**
- **Maintenance of the War Memorial**

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Armed Forces Community and our customers on how we are doing.

Agenda item: 7 - Royston Green Award

As a community, we all play a role in making our environment a healthier and more sustainable place to live in. There are those among us who go above and beyond in their efforts to protect the environment and promote green living. These individuals and groups deserve recognition for their exceptional contributions to the environment.

The Climate & Biodiversity Working Party would like to propose setting up the Royston Green Award.

The Royston Green Award is an initiative that recognizes the efforts of individuals and groups that help to make our town a cleaner, greener or more environmentally friendly place to live.

This includes activities such as:

- Organising litter picks
- Reducing the amount of paper and plastic that they use
- Recycling
- Reusing items such as furniture and clothes.
- Enhancing the biodiversity of the town for example by planting trees, wildflowers or creating wildlife areas.
- Walking or cycling initiatives to reduce car use.

This award, in the form of a framed certificate, would be presented to an individual or group at the Annual Town Meeting.

Conditions:

Nominees must be living, attending school or working within the town of Royston. Nominations will also be accepted from those who live outside the town boundary but the activity for which they are being nominated took place within the town or was of benefit specifically to the town.

You must be a minimum of 13 years of age to make a nomination.

Nomination forms should include a short summary about the activity or project being undertaken.

Permission will be sought from nominees to use photographs to be included in publicity.

Nominations will be evaluated by a judging panel comprising:

Mayor of Royston

Chair of General Purpose and Highways Committee

Three councillors from the Climate & Biodiversity Working Party

Deputy Town Clerk

Individuals/groups can be nominated by filling in the Royston Green Award nomination form (attached).

Members are to resolve to approve the establishment of the Royston Green Award and approve the award nomination form.

Cllr Elizabeth Freeman

Royston Town Council Green Award Nomination



The Town Council wishes to acknowledge the contributions made by individuals and groups whose actions have gone above and beyond to impact the local environment by helping to reduce CO2 emissions, or to reduce/recycle more waste, or to increase biodiversity. This could be through conservation projects, green initiatives, fundraising, or awareness raising.

Conditions

Nominees must be living, attending school or working within the town of Royston. Nominations will also be accepted from those who live outside the town boundary but the activity for which they are being nominated took place within the town or was of benefit specifically to the town. You must be a minimum of 13 years of age to make a nomination. Nomination forms should include a short summary about the activity or project being undertaken. Permission will be sought from nominees to use photographs to be included in publicity.

Your details

Your name:	
Address:	
Contact phone number:	
Email address:	

Details of nomination

I wish to nominate:	Name:	
	Address:	
	Contact phone number	
	Email address:	

Please give details of why you feel this nomination deserves recognition, detailing the contribution they have made (maximum 250 words).

Please complete and return this nomination either by email to deputytownclerk@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk or by post to the address below.

Royston Town Council will process your personal data and the personal data of those you nominate for the purpose of the Green Award. You or those you nominate may ask us to remove your data at any time by contacting us at Royston Town Council, Town Hall, Melbourn St, Royston SG8 7DA or calling 01763 245484.

Agenda item: 8 - Removal of abandoned bicycles from Market Place bike rack

It was reported to RTC in February 2024 that a number of bicycles had been abandoned at the cycle racks on the Market Place.

There are four bikes, two with flat tyres, locked to one of the racks and to each other. The Deputy Town Clerk (DTC) took photographs of the bikes in February and more pictures were taken in May. She also contacted North Herts Council for advice on how to get them removed and has researched how other councils tackle this problem.

It is suggested to do the following:

Identify that the bicycles have been abandoned or are not roadworthy.
(We have photographic evidence)

Secure a notice to the bikes warning that if they are not removed within 14 days they will be removed by the council as abandoned.
(DTC has prepared a notice)

If there is anything about the bicycles that identifies the owners, the council will attempt to contact them.

The council will remove the bicycles after 14 days and store for a further 14 days after which they will be recycled as scrap metal or otherwise recycled.

Anyone claiming a bicycle that has been removed should call or email the council and will be asked to prove it is theirs by providing a description of the bicycle (for example, make, colour and model) and the location where the bicycle was left.
(A notice will be attached to cycle rack after bicycle removal)

If an individual cannot provide this basic information, the bicycle will not be released.

Going forward the council could attach a notice to the bicycle rack stating that it is inspected regularly and any bicycles which appear to be abandoned will be removed.

Resolution:

Members are to resolve to agree the proposal for dealing with abandoned bicycles on the Market Place.

Councillor Elizabeth Freeman

Agenda item: 9 - Chalk Streams

The children of Barley and Barkway First School Federation have written a letter (copy below) to the Environmental Minister to ask for action on pollution of our Chalk Streams. I would like to propose that Royston Town Council send a supportive covering letter to the Environmental Minister to add weight to their request.

Members are to resolve to write to the Environmental Minister supporting the request for action to be taken on the pollution of chalk streams.

Cllr Elizabeth Beardwell

Barley Barkway VA (CofE) First School Federation

Barley, Church End, Royston, SG8 8JW

Wednesday 24th February 2024

Rt Hon Steve Barclay House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Dear Rt Hon Steve Barclay,

We are the children at Barley and Barkway Federation school and we are writing to you about the sewage going into rivers.

We are feeling really sad for the fish and animals in the streams, the dirty water in the chalk streams is hurting them. It is really really sad.

We really like to have fun in the rivers and go paddling in them and we want to be safe in the water. If we go under water we might get sewage in our mouths. We can't believe sewage went into the Cottered stream for 509 hours and 21 minutes, nearly three weeks day and night!

Could you use the money people pay as tax to buy more filtering systems for the water plants and then they could filter more sewage rather than put it in the water? Please can you say there should be separate the pipes for rainwater from the pipes for sewage. They need to build tanks with more capacity for the sewage.

Please can you slow down the sewage. We want to get trout in our schools to put in the streams and we don't want to put baby fish into sewage.

We really want the sewage to stop. We know it is hard for you because there are really old pipes from the Victorian times but you need to stop pumping sewage into the streams. Could you get new pipes?

It is really important to us and we hope it is important to you as well.

Please let us know how you are going to protect the streams and rivers.

Yours Sincerely

The Eco Council on behalf of
All the children at Barley and Barkway Federation

Agenda item: 10 -

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

THE HERTFORDSHIRE (YORK WAY, ROYSTON) (RESTRICTION OF WAITING) ORDER 2024

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council in order to improve road safety proposes under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce new waiting restrictions in parts of York Way, Royston as specified in the Schedule to this

Notice.

Documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposals may be viewed from 27 June 2024 during office hours, at Main Reception, Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, or on-line at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/trafficorders by selecting North Herts and looking at Ref: NH00624.

General enquiries relating to the proposals should be referred to the Highways Engineer concerned Ian Richardson tel: 0300 123 4047 or ian.richardson@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

Objections or other representations to the proposals should be made **in writing** to tro.team@hertfordshire.gov.uk or TRO Services Team, Postal Point (CHO242), County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DN by 18 July 2024 stating the grounds on which they are made.

SCHEDULE: No waiting at any time – those sections of road listed below and as set out in the Order and scheme plan:

Parts of York Way.

Consulting on this scheme is a statutory duty of the County Council. Any personal data you provide in responding to this Notice will be treated as confidential but will be shared with HCC Officers; County Councillors and contracted third parties who are involved in the statutory process. We will not share identifiable data with third parties outside of the statutory process. Guidance on your rights in respect of personal data are published in the Privacy Policy on our website, Hertfordshire.gov.uk

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Date of Order:

Order No:

**THE HERTFORDSHIRE (YORK WAY, ROYSTON)
(RESTRICTION OF WAITING) ORDER 2024**

The Hertfordshire County Council in exercise of their powers under Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (which said Act of 1984 is hereinafter referred to as “the Act of 1984”), and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as “The Hertfordshire (York Way, Royston) (Restriction of Waiting) Order 2024” and shall come into effect on
2. The Hertfordshire (York Way, Royston) (Restriction of Waiting) Order 2024 Plan numbered **NH00624P**, inclusive of its key, is incorporated into this Order, as listed in the Schedule to this Order.
3. **Interpretation –**
In this Order, except where the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meaning hereby respectively assigned to them;
“disabled person’s vehicle” has the same meaning as in Section 142(1) of the Act of 1984;
“disabled person’s badge” has the same meaning as given in Regulation 3(1) of The Local Authorities’ Traffic Orders (Exemptions for Disabled Persons) (England) Regulations 2000;
“parking disc” has the same meaning as given in Regulation 8(5) of The Local Authorities’ Traffic Orders (Exemptions for Disabled Persons) (England) Regulations 2000; and
“relevant position” has the same meaning as given in Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities’ Traffic Orders (Exemptions for Disabled Persons) (England) Regulations 2000;
“postal packet” shall bear the same meaning as in Section 65 of the Postal Services Act 2011;
“provision of a universal postal Service” shall bear the same meaning as in Section 65 of the Postal Services Act 2011;
“universal service provider” shall bear the same meaning as in Section 65 of the Postal Services Act 2011; and
4. Save as provided in Articles 5, 6 and 7 of this Order no person shall cause or permit any vehicle to wait, on areas of road or sides of the road as shown on plan **NH00624P**, where waiting is not allowed as identified and shown on the waiting restrictions plans and the keys thereof.
5. Nothing in Article 4 of this Order applies in relation to -
 - (a) a vehicle being used for Fire and Rescue, Ambulance or Police purposes.
 - (b) anything done with the permission of or at the direction of a Police Constable in uniform, or with permission of a Civil Enforcement Officer as defined by the Traffic Management Act 2004 and appointed by North Hertfordshire District Council.

- (c) a vehicle which is being used for one or more of the following purposes and which cannot reasonably be used for such a purpose without stopping in the lengths of road restricted by that Article;
 - (i) any operation involving building, demolition or excavation;
 - (ii) the removal of any obstruction to traffic;
 - (iii) the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of a road;
 - (iv) constructing, improving, maintaining, or cleaning of any street furniture; or
 - (v) the laying, erection, alteration, repair or cleaning of any sewer or of any main pipe or apparatus for the supply of gas, water or electricity, or of any telecommunications apparatus kept or installed for the purposes of a telecommunications code system or of any other telecommunications apparatus lawfully kept installed in any position.
 - (d) a marked vehicle which, whilst used by a universal service provider in the course of the provision of a universal postal service, is waiting only for long as is reasonably necessary to enable postal packets to be delivered or collected.
6. Nothing in Article 4 of this Order applies to the lengths of road restricted by that Article, as identified on plan **NH00624P**, so as to render it unlawful to cause or permit any vehicle to wait only for so long as may be reasonably necessary –
- (a) to enable goods to be loaded on or unloaded from the vehicle from or to premises adjacent to the restricted area; or
 - (b) to enable a passenger to board or alight and to load and unload any luggage
7. Nothing in Article 4 of this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit a disabled person's vehicle which displays in the relevant position a disabled person's badge and a parking disc, to wait at any time in the lengths of road restricted by that Article for a period not exceeding 3 hours (not being a period separated by an interval of less than 1 hour from a previous period of waiting by the same vehicle in the same length of road).
8. The restrictions imposed by this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation from any restriction or requirement imposed by any other regulations made or having effect as if made under the Act of 1984 or by or under any other enactment.
9. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

SCHEDULE

Schedule plan – NH00624P

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Signed: Charlotte McKay
Assistant Chief Legal Officer Environment Law / Legal Services
Dated:

STATEMENT OF REASONS

THE HERTFORDSHIRE (YORK WAY, ROYSTON) (RESTRICTION OF WAITING) ORDER 2024

Hertfordshire County Council is proposing to introduce new waiting restrictions in parts of Royston.

The proposals will comprise of 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on parts of York Way.

The waiting restrictions are proposed to improve visibility around vehicle access.

Therefore, having also considered the duty imposed under Section 122 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, it appears to the Highway Authority that it is necessary and expedient to make an Order in the interests of facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).

The proposal has been subject to consultation with local and County Councillors representing the area and North Hertfordshire District Council. The local Police, Ambulance, Fire & Rescue Services, Hertfordshire County Council Passenger Transport Unit, Royston Town Council and local residents are also being consulted.

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Agenda item: 11 – Concessionary bus passes on the A2B bus service between Royston and Cambridge

The A2B bus service between Royston and Cambridge does not allow the use of concessionary passes before 9.30am. The second bus of the day (Mon to Fri) leaves the bus station at 9.22am and the next one doesn't leave until 11.02am. Anyone getting on the first bus in Melbourn, would be able to use their pass by the time the bus reaches them. Concessionary bus passes can be used in Hertfordshire before 9.30am. It is proposed that RTC writes to A2B bus services to request this be amended to 9am.

Members are to resolve to write to the bus company requesting that concessionary bus passes can be used after 9am on the service between Royston and Cambridge

Cllr Michael Harrison