

Castle Street, Clitheroe – Public Realm Improvements

Public Engagement Event Information

Overall proposal

Lancashire County Council, working in partnership with Ribble Valley Borough Council, is undertaking a series of improvements of Castle Street in Clitheroe as part of a £600,000 public realm improvement project.

The planned improvements will include widening of the footways where possible into the existing carriageway, to improve pedestrian safety and access to shops and businesses. Footways will receive high quality block paving that complements the surroundings, and the carriageway will be resurfaced with a robust hot rolled asphalt surface with buff-coloured chippings to complement the block paving used on the footways.

There will be changes to the current parking arrangements to prevent illegal parking and improve access for blue badge holders. The aim of the scheme is to provide a better environment to pedestrians whilst positively influencing driver behaviour.

The £600,000 project is being jointly funded by Ribble Valley Borough Council and Lancashire County Council, with the works being undertaken by Lancashire County Council as the Highway Authority.

Footways

The footway paving blocks will be laid in a way that makes them easier to take up and replace when maintenance works are needed to buried utilities; this should avoid a repeat of the present 'patchwork' of tarmac reinstatement occurring in the future.

The longitudinal step on the western side of Castle Street, outside Nos. 1 – 5 (Clitheroe Foot Clinic to Mortimers Estate Agents) is being removed to enable the available footway to be widened. The widening of the western footway will continue to outside No. 15 Castle Street (Boots).

Bollards will be installed along the length of the footways to deter illegal parking. Benches will also be added to provide seating at intervals along Castle Street.

Carriageway

The main section of carriageway is being re-graded and narrowed to approximately 3.25 metres (10 feet 8 inches) in width to reduce vehicle speed and give less width for pedestrians to cross at key points. The existing uneven granite setts at the uncontrolled crossing are being removed, and the existing zebra crossing will also be taken out and replaced with a new courtesy crossing.

The carriageway on Castle Gate approaching its junction with Castle Street will be narrowed, and the junction of Castle Gate and Castle Street will be realigned to encourage through traffic to continue along Parson Lane.

Parking Bays

The existing parking and loading bays on Castle Street will be retained, but their use will change.

Southernmost bay

This is currently available for limited waiting for all road users (1-hour limited waiting, no return within 1 hour, Mondays to Saturdays between 9am and 7pm). Following completion of the works, it will become a dual-purpose goods vehicles loading and blue badge holder parking bay. Loading by goods vehicles will be permitted between 6am and 9am daily, with parking for blue badge holders only between 9am and 6pm for 2 hours, no return within 2 hours. Between the hours of 6pm and 6am, no restrictions will apply.

Central bay

This is currently for use by blue badge holders only, 24 hours a day, will have identical restrictions to those planned for the southernmost bay, as listed above.

Northernmost bay

This is currently for loading only between 6am and 6pm and for taxis between 6pm and 6am daily, will now be available for goods vehicles loading only for 30 minutes, no return within 2 hours, between 6am and 6pm daily, and for taxis between 6pm and 6am daily. Blue badge holders will no longer be able to park in this bay.

New loading bay on Castle Gate

A new loading bay will be introduced outside Nos. 7 – 9 Castle Gate (Willows & Co and Abu Gypsy & Fig). This will be available for goods vehicles loading only for 30 minutes, no return within 2 hours, between 6am and 6pm daily. Between the hours of 6pm and 6am, no restrictions will apply.

'Goods vehicles loading only' bays may be used by any vehicle, as long as the vehicle is being used to convey goods to or from a nearby property. Therefore, business owners and residents will still be able to use these bays for their own vehicles (including cars) as long as goods are in the process of being loaded or unloaded, during the times of operation of the restrictions.

There will be no parking, waiting or loading permitted anywhere on Castle Street outside of these signed bays.

Additional parking enforcement will commence shortly after the completion of the works to ensure that the bays are being used correctly and that footways are not obstructed by illegally parked vehicles.

The works

Work is due to commence on Monday 15th April and completion is expected by the end of July, in good time for Clitheroe Food Festival.

Due to the reconstruction of both footways and carriageway, a full road closure will be in place throughout the works. However, we will endeavour to work with businesses and residents to enable loading and access when needed, and disruption will be kept to a minimum.

The primary works compound will be on Queensway with materials being transported to Castle Street as needed with a small amount kept on site.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact the team looking after the works by e-mail via:

castlestreetclitheroe@lancashire.gov.uk