EXHIBITION INVITE
You may wish to attend one of our public exhibitions to be held at:
Links Primary School, Frinton Road, London, SW17 6EH on
Saturday, 1 October 2011 from 1pm to 5pm

Graveney Ward Councillors
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Dear Resident / Business

The purpose of this leaflet is to seek your views on proposals to extend the existing GC Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) to include Deal Road, Eastbourne Road, Frinton Road, Gunton Road, Hailsham Road, Ipswich Road, Jersey Road, Victis Gardens, Victis Road and the remainder of Links Road and Seely Road. This proposal is in response to representations and a petition received from local residents who are experiencing parking difficulties in their road(s). This issue was also discussed at a residents’ meeting held on 19 July 2011 and it was agreed that the Council would carry out an informal consultation to seek your views on proposal to control parking in the area shown on the plan attached. Generally, residents feel that the problem is being caused by:
• Commuters who park and complete their journey by public transport from either Tooting Station or working in nearby businesses.
• Existence of nearby Wandsworth CPZs displacing parking into the surrounding area.
• Residents and staff of nearby businesses within the neighbouring CPZs avoiding parking charges.

When making your decision please take into account that if your neighbouring roads have a CPZ introduced it is likely that the vehicles displaced (commuters and residents avoiding charges) from your neighbouring roads could increase pressure for parking on your road. This could be seen in the roads immediately adjacent to the existing GC CPZ. Eg. Deal Road, Eastbourne Road, Frinton Road, parts of Links Road and Seely Road, which are currently bearing the brunt of the parking displacement.

WHAT IS A CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE (CPZ)
A Controlled Parking Zone is an area where parking controls are introduced to protect the parking needs of residents and their visitors, as well as those of local businesses. Parking bays are marked on the carriageway to indicate to motorists where they can park. Yellow line restrictions are also introduced to improve safety by removing dangerous or obstructive parking. In a CPZ the operational times for the single yellow lines are indicated on signs as you enter the zone. In some cases there may be single yellow lines that operate at different times and these must be signed separately. Double yellow line restrictions do not require signs. In the absence of loading restrictions you may stop on a yellow line to load or unload goods for a limited period of time.

All parking places within a CPZ are individually signed to ensure that motorists are aware of the operational times and conditions. This ensures that the bays are fully enforceable. To help reduce the number of new posts required for these signs, every effort is made to ensure that signs are placed on existing street furniture, such as lamp columns or combined with other street signs.
In a CPZ, residents, local businesses and their visitors are given priority to use the appropriate parking places by displaying a valid permit in respect of that zone. However, a parking permit does not give the holder the right to park outside a particular premise, and does not guarantee an available parking space.

The enclosed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) sheet gives further information on the operation of CPZ’s.

HOW WILL IT WORK?
All road space in a CPZ is managed by the introduction of parking controls. Parking is only permitted where safety, access and sightlines are not compromised. It is therefore, normal practice to introduce double yellow lines at key locations such as at junctions, bends, turning heads and at specific locations along lengths of roads where parking would impede the passing of vehicles. It is also necessary to provide yellow lines (effective during the CPZ hours of operation or at any time) where the kerb is lowered, i.e. accross crossovers for driveways.

The key objective of managing parking is to reduce and control non-essential parking and assist the residents, short-term visitors and the local businesses. Within any CPZ, only those within the zone are entitled to permits. This means that long-term parkers will not be able to park within the permit bays during the operational times. An incremental pricing structure for 2nd and subsequent permits also assists in minimising the number of permits issued to individual residents and help discourage unnecessary multiple car ownerships.

CPZs comprise of various types of parking bays such as permit holder bays (for use by resident or business permit holders and those with visitor permits); shared use bays (for permit holders and pay and display) and pay and display only bays (permits are not valid). Council appointed Civil Enforcement Officers will enforce the controls by issuing fines/Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) to vehicles parked in contravention of the restrictions. Outside the controlled times the restrictions are not enforced. However, Civil Enforcement Officers will issue PCNs for any other parking contravention such as parking on double yellow lines, footways and parking across individual crossovers without the property owner’s consent.

The Council aims to reach a balance between the needs of the residents, businesses and the safety of all road users. In the event that the majority of those consulted do not support a CPZ in their road or area, and the Council agrees, officers may recommend that only the proposed double yellow lines identified at key locations are introduced to improve safety and maintain access.

PROPOSALS
It is proposed to extend the existing Zone GC to include Deal Road, Eastbourne Road, Frinton Road, Gunton Road, Hailsham Road, Ipswich Road, Jersey Road, Victis Gardens, Victis Road, parts of Links Road, Seely Road and Streatham Road. Please see the enclosed plan. The extension will be subject to the same days and hours of operation as the existing Zone GC, which are Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 6.30pm.

The following parking measures are also proposed:
- Double yellow lines at junctions, bends, ends of culs-de-sac and to create passing gaps. (This will improve safety and access at all times by reducing obstructive parking that is currently taking place)
- Shared Use Pay and Display bays are proposed in Vectis Road, Seely Road, Frinton Road and Gunton Road. (This will increase parking provisions in the area for use by pay and display customers whilst still maintaining parking facilities for permit holders)

LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS
The decision on whether or not to proceed with the next stage, which would involve a statutory consultation on the proposals, will be subject to the responses received during this consultation. We would ask if you could submit your questionnaire online using the link provided www.merton.gov.uk/cpzgce. The online system has been created to keep costs down and allow the Council to process your views more efficiently. Alternatively you can complete and return the enclosed prepaid questionnaire (no stamp required), with any comments or suggestions you may have by 7 October 2011.

We regret that due to the number of responses received during a public consultation it will not be possible to individually reply to each respondent. We welcome your comments on this proposal, which will be noted and included within the proposed measures where appropriate. You are also invited to speak to officers at the public exhibition on 1 October 2011 at Links Primary School as detailed overleaf. It should be noted that subject to the responses received, a recommendation may be made to only include those roads where there is a majority in support of the proposals, unless it is felt that any excluded road would be adversely affected.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
It is envisaged that the results of the consultation along with officers’ recommendations will be reported to the Street Management Advisory Committee before a decision is made by the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration. Once a decision is made you will be informed accordingly.

CONTACT US
If you require further information please contact Paul Atie on 020 8545 3214 or email paul.atie@merton.gov.uk. Alternatively you can visit our website using the following link www.merton.gov.uk/cpzgce. You may also view the plans in Merton Link at Merton Civic Centre, Morden during our working hours, Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.