Objections to the Traffic Order

Who	Objection / Support	Comment
Resident	Objection	As a frequent user of New Road and being blind with a guide dog I strongly object to the reducing of the four blue badge parking bays in New Road, Brighton. New road is an absolute hazard for those of us who are not only visually impaired with white canes or guide dogs but for those whom are disabled and use wheelchairs or have reduced mobility and have to navigate around the hundreds of tables and chairs that already exist. Are you seriously thinking about taking blue badge parking bays out completely just because the businessman is moaning about the fact he can't get more tables and chairs onto the street? This is discrimination against those of us whom are disabled and who rely on blue badges to park in accessible areas. There are so few disabled parking bays in the city and here the council goes again reducing a service that is desperately needed for those who rely on easy access to shopping areas and restaurants. I hope that you seriously think about allowing this to go ahead as it will only make the chaos on that street even worse. The other aspect to this is that New Road is what is called a shared surface and for those of us whom are disabled shared surfaces are really bad to navigate when they are fairly uncluttered, however now this restranteur is going to be adding to the street clutter. How, prey tell me, do you expect disabled people to navigate that road with even more tables, chairs and A frame boards outside? I would love for you to attempt that road blindfolded with either a
		white cane or a guide dog and see just how difficult it is as the road's not even pedestrianised and thus we the disabled have to navigate being aware of traffic too. Come on wake up and look at this proposal again, properly
Resident	Objection	I object to this proposal the leaseholder knew what was the situation was already the safety reasons (unspecified) are a smoke screen for more tables and chairs. The needs for the disabled far outweigh the commercial needs of this new café.
Resident	Objection	I was most upset to see in a small part of Thursday's argus that there is a proposal to remove all but one disabled parking bay in new Road. As a person confined to a manual wheelchair due to Spina Bifida from birth I'm really fed up about this. More often than not the mexican restaurant owners blatently park in these spaces anyway, apparently with no fear from the parking staff. Most people who have blatently abuse their badges anyway, as highlighted by the police recently who warned people that these were being stolen & it's a nightmare to park in the City centre anyway, especially as one parking space in Jubilee street & is now a loading bay (I had a stand up row with a lorry driver whom blatently parked in the other available disabled bays 2 months ago as he didn't see what he was doing wrong).
		I feel really passionate about the blude badge matter as if I get to a supermarket & there are no spaces, I simply cannot do my shopping as I need the car door wide open to get the chair out & I cannot stand at all. People also sit in their cars in these spaces, waiting for their alleged disabled partner to come out of shopping. I use the bus if I can at weekends, but the ramps on Brighton buses rarely work & the bus drivers refer to you as "a wheelchair".

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		There is enough benches & places in pavilion gardens for people to sit, we don't need more seating, we need more disabled parking & better policing of them (they should have the car owners/disabled persons carer's registration number on them & parking attendants should have something to scan them to check they are legitimate. Ok rant over but as you can tell, I wish to lodge my objection to this proposal
Resident	Objection	I have just read in the Argus that you are considering removing two of the three disabled parking bays in New Road, Brighton to accommodate additional seating. I am disappointed at this move as I feel that the already limited availability of disabled parking is essential to allow those who are less mobile the opportunity to enjoy the many facilities that Brighton has to offer. The spaces in New Road are in close proximity to the Theatre, the Corn Exchange and the Dome, and allow less able people to take
		advantage of the cultural and popular events that are held at those venues. The spaces always seem well used and I feel it would be doing a great disservice to disabled people to reduce the number of spaces merely to accommodate extra seating when there are already many benches nearer the Theatre, together with cafe's and bars which also offer outside seating. Please re-consider the proposal and leave the disabled bays for their proper use.
Resident	Objection	In reply, I would say that the change in parking bays in New Road, will make it even more difficult for me to get to that area of Brighton, as for the excuse that disabled parking of our essential cars is making an already wealthy restaurant owner lose business, is no reason at all to change existing arrangements. When will the day come when the powers that be realise how very important it is to have not only a place to park when one is disabled, but also the slightly larger space that is given to us - I for one would have even more difficulty trying to park in a smaller allotted area. Hence becoming housebound once again. Please be kind enough to forward my points to the relevant person, who hopefully will deny the restaurant owner his request, there are enough outside dinning places in New Road, priority for us disabled people please, just for once, and stop this attitude that we are not important, and an easy target. I never thought that I would become registered disabled, so perhaps this request would be denied - please bear in mind the extra room needed to manoeuvre the car as well as being able to get in and out. So very important to us all. It is unbelievable that someone would be so selfish as to request the removal of disabled parking spaces outside his restaurant, I wonder whether the Argus would be interested in know about this person's establishment, and selfish and arrogant attitude - I think many people would boycott this place , and may I add that I am certain we do not need even more pavement space taken by outside restaurants in New Road. There can be no valid reason to allow this to happen.
Resident	Objection	In reply, I would say that the change in parking bays in New Road, will make it even more difficult for me to get to that area of Brighton, as for the excuse that disabled parking of our essential cars is making an already wealthy restaurant owner lose business, is no reason at all to change existing arrangements. When will the day come when the powers that be realise how very important it is to have not only a place to park when one is disabled, but also the slightly larger space that is given to us - I for one would have even

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Resident	Objection	I most certainly object. I use these spaces frequently and with parking already very tight in the area any loss of blue badge parking spaces with a real blow.
Resident	Objection	Ridiculous! I don't know all the details but I'm sure he's only complaining because they're renovating the area anyway. What was there first, his restaurant or the parking spaces? Does he have any idea how little disabled parking there is in the city?! Also, if he's talking about having tables and chairs outside his restaurant and their view being limited, I bet he has had no consideration for pavement width and obstacles restricting pavement width for disabled people. This has really irritated me!"
Resident	Objection	I know New Road well and can be very clear about the nuisance caused to disabled people by the current level of street furniture, let alone if there is any increase, as is suggested below. Whilst I do not underestimate the possible loss of the disabled parking bays, please do not overlook this other important point.
		New Road is a very challenging environment for all disabled people, as it is a popular and busy street. The use of "shared space" between pedestrians and vehicular traffic causes constant and various problems, which are only exacerbated by the current large volume of street furniture blocking the "pavement" areas. The current bars, cafes and restaurants along New Road seem to have given no consideration to the disabled in the layout of their chairs and tables. Indeed, many seek to insist that certain parts of the road are their private property and that people should be walking in the road (where the ambulant disabled will be particularly at risk from vehicular traffic) rather than continuing on the pavement where this requires a walk through a seated area.
Resident	Objection	I've heard that there is a proposal to reduce the amont of disabled parking as a resturant owner feels that the spaces are having a detremental affect on his property. That may be so, as I don't like looking out at a vechile and would prefere a view, but so many spaces are being lost, (often to the rubbish bins), but the number of disabled people is rising with the aging population. Please consider relocating and prehaps even increasing the disabled parking, on the other side of the street. I'm sure you are aware, there are often cars parked, illegally, on the park side of the road, so there is space which could be made into disabled bays. We use disabled badges because we can't walk far, so if we can't

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		get close to where we want to go, we don't spend our money. We go to another area or another town, where we can park
Resident	Objection	I am contacting you in regards to reducing the disabled bays in new road. I am a disabled driver with a wheelchair accessable car where i have a tail lift that open out the back to allow me to get my chair in and out and therefore i need appoximately 3 meter behind my car once parked. I would therefore course me great problems in parking if you we to reduce parking spaces and amount of spaces avalible as it is already quite a hard place to park and it it hard enough to find avalibled disabled spaces in that part of town never mind the rest of the city. I can understand the restaurant owners concern but do not feel it is fair to put commercail needs above the needs of disabled residents, i think there is enough outside city especaily as the wheather means afew more table would only may be be used outside afew month a year and we need the parking spaces all year around, I have many friends who also drive and we regularly meet on this street as its one on the few accessabled areas in brighton and it would limit us greatly and efect our independance. I therefore as you to look again at this proposel and ask you to table disabled peoples needs into account and not make getting into town and socailing harder then it already is.
Resident	Objection	I am writing to express my extreme concern that the council is considering the removal of bays for disabled people in order for a business to put out additional tables. The business at 20 New Road already has some tables & chairs outside, and the application is obviously an effort to increase profit at the expense of less able bodied people.
		Although I live in Hove, I am a regular visitor to the area - I enjoy not only our wonderful library, but the open space around the Pavilion. However parking is already extremely difficult for disabled people in New Road (and the surrounding area). To reduce the disabled parking bays from three to one for a greedy business owner is not one I feel the council should support. I would hope that the new Green administration would support disabled people in our city and be looking at ways in which disabled bays can be increased, not eliminated.
		I am not sure whether the council consults with disabled groups on such changes, or indeed whether the Equality Commission would have a view on a council which is removing disabled bays and thus making it more difficult for disabled people to access and enjoy our city. After all, this is a form of discrimination.
Dome, New Road	Objection	Firstly, many customers rely on the Blue Badge parking bays and feedback suggests that ideally more, rather than less provision is required. Secondly, the bays are sometimes temporarily suspended to enable large vehicles to access the Dome. This would be more difficult to manage if the area outside the Courtyard was given over to seating.
PPD	Objection	See appendix 4 and 5
Federation of Disabled People	Objection	See appendix 6