

## APPENDIX C

### Calverley Square TRO consultation responses

(NB – numbering is for identification purposes only)

#### ORDER A

#### Mount Pleasant Avenue (No loading at any time) 7 comments

- 1. Comments:** Moving the taxis from Mount Pleasant Ave to Mount Pleasant will cause traffic chaos! Taxis will constantly moving down Mount Pleasant and make U-turns in the new space created by the loading bay. And/or large delivery lorries parked up - or wating to park will mean lack of visibility for all road users. Also, where will people be expected to catch a bus when the bus stops outside the Great Hall are moved? Moving these away from the station will cause great hardship to the elderly, infirm and school children. These are very disappointing proposals.

#### Vectos Response:

Note: None of the comments relate specifically to the effect of introducing loading restrictions on MPA.

“The potential impacts of the proposed relocation of the taxi feeder rank from Mount Pleasant Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road were considered by Kent County Council in their assessment of the planning application. They agreed that there would be no unacceptable impacts. Use of the proposed loading bay on Mount Pleasant Road will be monitored by TWBC to ensure it is only used for its intended purpose. Goods vehicles stopped in the loading bay will not affect visibility for drivers. As a result of the proposed raised table on Mount Pleasant Road the speed of vehicles turning into Mount Pleasant Avenue will be low and so inter-visibility between drivers and pedestrians waiting to cross will be good. Kent County Council have not expressed any safety concerns regarding the principle of the proposed loading bay. The bus stops outside of the Great Hall are being moved around 17 m south of their existing position. This will not materially affect their ease of access for any user”.

- 2. Comments:** How are people who live in Mount Pleasant Avenue supposed to have any deliveries, move in or out of the properties or even have their rubbish collected? Also any disabled or elderly residents will not be able to have food delivered and so how are they supposed to live. This is very badly thought out and is actually against people’s human rights as they will not be able to get anything delivered, collected or even be able to move when they want too.

**Vectos Response:**

Note: the suggestion is that some servicing of properties along the north-south section of MPA takes place from the east-west section on which loading restrictions are proposed. We can't say definitively that this doesn't happen so the comments need to be given a degree of weight.

"From on-site observations and kerbside activity surveys, refuse collections and deliveries relating to properties on Mount Pleasant Avenue, between Carluccios and TSB, are undertaken from the north-south section of Mount Pleasant Avenue. This section of Mount Pleasant Avenue is not affected by the proposed loading restrictions".

3. **Comments:** I fear that the area subject to this consultation will be used as an exit for HGVs servicing the theatre, which will compromise the safety of pedestrians. Ideally the area should be pedestrianised, but the decision to locate the new theatre at the entrance to Calverley Grounds means Mount Pleasant Avenue must be used for HGV access. The exemption for the Council to permit waiting, loading or unloading could also be used to permit lorries servicing the theatre to wait and load / unload, which would again compromise the pedestrian entrance to Calverley Grounds.. On these bases I oppose the proposal

**Vectos Response:**

Note: None of the comments relate specifically to the effect of introducing loading restrictions on MPA.

"The approved servicing strategy for the theatre requires all servicing vehicles to exit the theatre service yard onto Grove Hill Road. Under the permitted development the section of Mount Pleasant Avenue between The Great Hall Arcade and Carluccios will become one-way eastbound. This means it would be illegal for theatre servicing vehicles to exit this way. The exemption to the loading restrictions for local authorities only applies for vehicles used in the pursuance of statutory powers and duties. Servicing the theatre does not fall under either of these and so theatre related servicing vehicles would not be exempt from the loading restriction".

4. **Comments:** So not only ruining a Grade 2 listed park, the Vanity Project spreads out to cause chaos in Mount Pleasant with even less short term parking to visit what shops are left trading. Get a grip TWBC - you are trying to build a theatre in the WRONG PLACE! It simply won't fit and trying to make it fit will have significant detriment to the area. Approving this nonsense in Mount Pleasant Avenue would be yet another reason for visitors to not come to Tunbridge Wells

**Vectos Response:**

Note: None of the comments relate specifically to the effect of introducing loading restrictions on MPA.

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks”.

- 5. Comments:** This parking restriction is dependent on the Civic Centre (Calverley Square) Development proceeding, and must only come into force if the development is to proceed. A number of decisions have still to take place before these restrictions should be imposed: CPO public enquiry outcome, project cost review after the lead contractor receives all tenders from potential subcontractors and undertakes project cost reengineering, final decision to proceed from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. This parking restriction must include a dependency on the Civic Centre Development project. If a dependency is not added to the parking restriction there will be a major impact on a number of businesses including the taxis, Sainsbury's, Sofa Workshop, Sunniva Carpeting, BBC and others.

**Vectos Response:**

Note: None of the comments relate specifically to the effect of introducing loading restrictions on MPA.

“The proposed loading restrictions will only be implemented in the event that all other consents necessary to enable the permitted development to commence have been secured. The only business whose servicing is directly affected by the proposed loading restriction is Sainsbury's and a suitable alternative loading location will be provided for them”.

- 6. Comments:** Please advise where the overflow station Taxis will go?

**Vectos Response:**

Note: The comment does not relate specifically to the effect of introducing loading restrictions on MPA.

“The taxi feeder rank will be relocated to the east side of mount Pleasant Road, to the north of Carluccios”.

7. **Comments:** The road infrastructure is not good enough to support this project. It will cause further congestion in a problematic area this is a ridiculously stupid concept

**Vectos Response:**

Note: The comments do not relate specifically to the effect of introducing loading restrictions on MPA.

“The potential traffic impacts of the permitted development were assessed by Kent County Council as part of the planning application process. They concluded that there would not be any unacceptable impacts as a result of it”.

**ORDER B**

**Mount Pleasant Avenue (Swap single yellow lines for time limited waiting) 3 comments**

8. **Comments:** These no waiting and parking amendments are wrong. Together with the other amendments where are the businesses who already exist on Mount Pleasant Road supposed to park? Where are they who live above those businesses supposed to park? How are they supposed to receive deliveries so their businesses can continue? How are emergency people like doctors supposed to visit them or or contractors who work on their properties supposed to park? No provisions is being made for anyone who lives in these businesses or works in these businesses who is disabled or not able bodied. This is entirely discriminatory and totally against the equality act.

**Vectos Response:**

“The effect of the proposed changes to waiting restrictions on Mount Pleasant Avenue is to swap the existing resident/short stay spaces from one side of the road to the other. As such there will be no reduction in parking opportunities. From on-site observations and kerbside activity surveys, refuse collections and deliveries relating to properties on Mount Pleasant Avenue, between Carluccios and TSB, are undertaken from the north-south section of Mount Pleasant Avenue. This will remain the case when the permitted development is occupied”.

9. **Comments:** I struggle to understand the rationale for spending money moving parking from one side of Mount Pleasant Road to another (this may be apparent to TWBC but not immediately to the respondent). The only reason would be to facilitate the building of a new office complex, which I would not support. As an aside, I feel the time period for this consultation was very short at 3 weeks. It should have been open for longer to allow a wider level of engagement with the public

**Vectos Response:**

“The TRO will in effect swap existing parking bays from one side of Mount Pleasant Avenue to the other which is needed in order to facilitate the permitted development. There will be no such swapping effect on Mount Pleasant Road”.

**10. Comments:** I strongly object to providing taxi-only parking along the lower part of Mount Pleasant Road. We (over 60's) often need to make short visits to this area for brief transactions eg at the bank, pharmacy, railway station, solicitors or one or other shop on Mt Pleasant Rd. It is already increasingly hard to find space to park for a short time; if there is space on the other side of the road, let's have more not less short term parking space. We pay Council Tax in the Borough and would like to be able to park for short periods in the town. T Wells has a massive problem of the town centre dying as shops close because customers can't park. Other taxi-only spaces are dotted around (eg at Fiveways ) and are permanently empty, but residents & shoppers can't park there. Why give in to the enormous numbers of taxis which flood the town just twice a day?

**Vectos Response**

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks”.

**ORDER C**

**Mount Pleasant Avenue (Zone C parking bays move from east to west side) 0 comments**

**ORDER D**

**Mount Pleasant Road (Taxi bays, disabled bays and car club bay in place of time limited waiting) 28 comments**

**11. Comments:** I object to proposals in the KCC (Mt. Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells) (Traffic Restrictions Order) 2018 Article 1 which restricts any parking or waiting at any time save taxis. This will reduce the number of parking spaces, especially for the disabled, in this part of town, and unless more disabled parking spaces are being provided elsewhere, I feel that taxis have sufficient spaces on the west side outside the railway station or on Lime Hill Road near Five Ways. I also object to the whole of the Mt. Pleasant Avenue, cross hatched area in red, being "proposed no waiting, no loading and unloading at any time" because the area is designated for the building of the new Theatre and Offices on Mt. Pleasant Avenue and will become the most suitable access for such purpose. Any other location will be a hazard to pedestrians and vehicles using Mt. Pleasant Road for day to day travel. How else will heavy goods vehicles be able to deliver their goods to the shops on the east side of Mt. Pleasant Road?

### Vectos Response

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks. 11 of the spaces in the new car park will be designated for disabled use. Whilst Mount Pleasant Avenue will be used by goods vehicles relating to the construction of the permitted development, they will be unloaded/loaded within the construction site not on Mount Pleasant Avenue. From on-site observations and kerbside activity surveys, refuse collections and deliveries relating to properties on Mount Pleasant Road/Avenue, between Carluccios and TSB, are undertaken from the north-south section of Mount Pleasant Avenue. This section of Mount Pleasant Avenue is not affected by the proposed loading restrictions”.

- 12. Comments:** Very disappointed to lose so much short-term on-street parking in Mount Pleasant. These spaces are constantly in use supporting local shops and cafes. Shoppers will not turn to car parks as an alternative, rather they will shop elsewhere. A very disappointing suggestion by TWBC which only serves to further decimate Tunbridge Wells as a shopping destination.

### Vectos Response

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks”.

- 13. Comments:** The transfer of the taxi bay to Mount Pleasant Road and the addition of one disabled bay will reduce one-hour public parking spaces on Mount Pleasant road, by my estimation, from 19 to 12. These parking spaces, together with those on the High Street, are already heavily used by people visiting local shops for example to the pharmacy and to Brittons for music lessons. The loss of parking spaces will greatly inconvenience residents and visitors and put further pressure on businesses in the area, contributing to the continuing decline in the town centre. Moreover, the taxi spaces are only used at certain times of day and are likely to be empty for much of the time, denying parking opportunities to the public for no reason. This consultation is flawed because the summary on TWBC's consultation page hides the main issue, the loss of parking spaces. Had this been clearly stated, more objections could have been expected. Compare this with the previous two orders: Kent County Council (Mount Pleasant Avenue, Tunbridge Wells) (Prohibition of Waiting) No.6 Order 2018 and Kent County Council Zone C (Residents Parking)(Tunbridge Wells) Order 2009 (Amendment) 2018, where the summary specifically states that there would be no loss of parking spaces.

### Vectos Response

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks”.

NOTE: the loss of short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant was shown on plans submitted with the planning application, including within our Transport Assessment. In terms of reference to consultation and comparing orders we cannot comment.

**14. Comments:** Yet again the people of Tunbridge Wells are coming last in the decisions being made about the town. Recently the bus stops were moved for a short space of time from outside the station, and it was chaos for residents, trying to get from the station to other parts of TWells. If you also take away the taxi rank, and relocate it across the road, then the already very busy road will become an accident hotspot. What about disabled and infirm people? How will they cope? How will all the shops cope if they cannot have deliveries? Please reconsider this proposal and put the residents of TW at the forefront of your thinking. Having to walk up the hill to get a bus is a non-starter.

### Vectos Response

“The existing bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade will remain on the same side of the road but will be moved south of their existing position by around 17 m. The taxi rank outside the station is not affected. The taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will however be relocated onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley. Whilst the permitted development will affect deliveries to some premises suitable alternative arrangements will be provided”.

**15. Comments:** I object to the relocation of the taxi spaces from Mount Pleasant Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road. The existing taxi rank arrangement is cumbersome, and involves conflict not only between taxis but other traffic on Mount Pleasant Road. Manoeuvres are often made to cut across oncoming traffic, and sharp turns made at the roundabout at the south end of the road. The addition of another rank on Mount Pleasant Road will generate further conflict, especially with private vehicles leaving the theatre after a performance. I have no objection to the moving of the car club space. I feel it is regrettable that we are moving disabled spaces further up a hill than taxi spaces, making them less accessible than they currently are. I would oppose this.

### Vectos Response

“The potential impacts of the proposed relocation of the taxi feeder rank from Mount Pleasant Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road were considered by Kent County Council in their assessment of the planning application. They agreed that there would be no unacceptable impacts. The existing disabled parking spaces on the east side of Mount Pleasant Road are on a hill. Wherever they are located they will be close to some shops and less close to others. Moving the spaces up the hill does not make them less accessible”.

**16. Comments:** My comments are as per my response to the Kent County Council (Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells) (Provision of Goods Vehicle Loading Bay) No.1 Order 2018 – **these were :- Comments:** I object to the removal of bus stops from this convenient location for the station. The proposed lorry parking and movements will increase congestion on Mount Pleasant Road adjacent to the station, and pose a safety threat to pedestrians from goods being transported across the footway and the obstruction of visibility for those needing to cross the road. I note that no alternative bus stop locations are indicated.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result”.

**17. Comments:** This proposal (and those associated with it) is so ill-considered, it is hard to imagine anyone seriously contemplating it ! How can these changes be of benefit to anyone except TWBC's hare-brained theatre and office scheme ? Relocating a loading bay from the side of Sainsburys to the front will presumably entail removal or relocation of one or more bus stops. Has anyone considered the effect this will have on the disabled or indeed anyone wishing to access this part of town. To rub salt in, it doesn't even suit the proposed new theatre, and I hear you are even proposing to relocate the bus stops outside the Town Hall ? The proposal also removes another area of short-term parking for the public, replacing it with taxi and disabled spaces. Why are you changing the status quo ? No sensible reason has been provided, why not ? Surely we should be trying to improve the town, not turning this street into a taxi and lorry filled area, where crossing the road will be a nightmare, assuming anyone bothers to venture there, seeing as you can't park. The disabled won't be too happy either, parking halfway up a hill - they will have issues in either direction ! Please think again

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks. 11 of the spaces in the new car park will be designated for disabled use. The existing disabled parking spaces on the east side of Mount Pleasant Road are on a hill. Wherever they are located they will be close to some shops and less close to others. Moving the spaces up the hill does not make them less accessible”.

**18. Comments:** This proposal (and the No.1 Order associated with it) is so ill-considered, it is hard to imagine anyone seriously contemplating it ! How can these changes be of benefit to anyone except TWBC's hare-brained theatre and office scheme ? Relocating a loading bay from the side of Sainsburys to the front will presumably entail removal or relocation of one or more bus stops. Has anyone considered the effect this will have on the disabled or indeed anyone wishing to access this part of town. To rub salt in, it doesn't even suit the proposed new theatre, and I hear you are even proposing to relocate the bus stops outside the Town Hall ? Surely we should be trying to improve the town, not turning this street into a taxi and lorry filled area, where crossing the road will be a nightmare, assuming anyone bothers to venture there. Please think again (From the same person as comment no.17 above but slightly different wording)

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. The permitted development introduces a raised table on Mount Pleasant Road which will reduce vehicle speeds and make it easier to cross”.

**19. Comments:** There is no relation between the money that is being thrown around and the questionable benefits. All that is being done is expose residents and visitors to obstructions and noise in the shape of roadworks and building sites.

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**20. Comments:** Current taxi rank arrangements are adequate for the convenience of residents, visitors and commuters. I object to this proposal because it will cause unnecessary expense and disruption in the main road of the town centre which is already marred by pot-holes, empty shops, and deplorable signs of inadequate social and housing policies which will not be cured by grandiose, wasteful building projects, wasting tax-payers' money without bringing any wealth to town.

**Vectos Response**

“The potential impacts of the proposed relocation of the taxi feeder rank from Mount Pleasant Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road were considered by Kent County Council in their assessment of the planning application. They agreed that there would be no unacceptable impacts”.

**21. Comments:** There is less space for taxis and what there is is farther from the station. It is a long way from the station to the disabled parking space. One bus stop appears to be going. Having a total restriction in Mount Pleasant Avenue seems a bit much.

### Vectos Response

“The taxi rank outside the station is not affected by the permitted development. The taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will however be relocated onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley. There are four disabled parking spaces immediately outside the western entrance to the railway station. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of any bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. All of them will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position”.

- 22. Comments:** I object to the re-location of taxi rank and other bays out of Mount Pleasant Avenue, and the associated blocking of Mount Pleasant Avenue to any loading. There is already a taxi rank outside the station - though very badly catered-for. This proposal will block much-needed short-term parking for the businesses on Mount Pleasant Road. The associated loading bay outside Sainsbury's will remove a much-used bus stop and create potentially very bad bus manoeuvring just opposite the station taxi rank with it's bad traffic-flow. Thus making it much more dangerous for pedestrians crossing from the station to the bus stops. The "Statement of Reason" makes no sense. The whole area needs a proper re-think, but not this bad shuffle of large vehicles out of Mount Pleasant Avenue. What happens to vehicles delivering scenery for the new theatre?

### Vectos Response

Note: Whilst there is specific reference to the proposed loading restrictions, none of the comments actually relate to the impacts of it.

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result. Vehicles delivering scenery to the new theatre will do so from the dedicated service yard at its southern end.”

- 23. Comments:** So not only ruining a Grade 2 listed park, the Vanity Project spreads out to cause chaos in Mount Pleasant with even less short term parking to visit what shops are left trading. Get a grip TWBC - you are trying to build a theatre in the WRONG PLACE! It simply won't fit and trying to make it fit will have significant detriment to the area around this bay as busses won't be able to turn in infront of lorries to use the stop properly thereby leaving their rear end sticking out restricting traffic.

### Vectos Response

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don't stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops.”

**24. Comments:** These changes concerning the area of Mount Pleasant Road are unnecessary and will be detrimental to the ambience of that part of the town.

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**25. Comments:** Again a proposal which will impact on commuters, local businesses and this part of town negatively. I would happily support plans to ease or improve traffic flow through town but this seems to do the opposite. I object.

**Vectos Response**

“The potential transport impacts of the permitted development were assessed in detail by Kent County Council at the planning application stage. They concluded that there would be no significant adverse effect on traffic flow”.

**26. Comments:** I have reservations about doing away with parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road and making a taxi rank on what is a steep hill and not easily accessible for the disabled and elderly. Taxis stopping and pulling out will add to the congestion on an already busy road. Taking away parking bays could have a detrimental effect on businesses on Mount Pleasant Road.

**Vectos Response**

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park. The potential impacts of the proposed relocation of the taxi feeder rank from Mount Pleasant Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road were considered by Kent County Council in their assessment of the planning application. They agreed that there would be no unacceptable impacts”.

**27. Comments:** Leave things as they are. You are just trying to clear the area to bomb it with your expensive unwanted theatre. No. Just no.

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**28. Comments:** The amendments to existing restrictions to stopping and parking will make an already congested Mt Pleasant Road even more user unfriendly and all to facilitate the unwanted Vanity Project.

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**29. Comments:** The taxi rank needs to be as close to the station as possible and at the foot of a very steep hill. If you are coming off a train as a visitor to this town going to a hotel carrying cases you need taxis to be close at hand not halfway up a steep gradient which is dangerous and slippery during inclement weather. To move the taxi rank would cause untold problems for these visitors. It would cause problems for disabled, elderly, infirm, people carrying heavy shopping, parents with children.

How would a disabled person with a stick who may have difficulties walking those extra 20 metres with balance issues manage walking up a steep gradient which could be extremely slippery so they would be at risk of falling and then try with these issues to get into a taxi? Disabled parking is already being removed from outside the Amelia Scott so in order to resite the taxi ranks more disabled parking for blue badge holders is once again being removed making access for those who are more vulnerable and less able more and more difficult into the town. Surely we do not want to alienate the disabled or vulnerable? Then there is the issue of parking for those who wish to access those very shops on Mount Pleasant like the chemist or the bank. And how will these shops get deliveries with the road being blocked by taxis and disabled car parking and club car parking? Without any way of these shops being able to get deliveries to their stores footfall will decrease to these shops and they will close? Or are they expected to share the delivery road to the back of their stores - the same road that will be used for access to the new underground car park? Altogether this will increase in tenfold the congestion on this side of the road - double parking on this side whilst shops try to continue with their businesses as delivery drivers double park to offload their delivery. This will then cause tailbacks and congestion. It will also block drivers and pedestrians views causing future accidents.

#### **Vectos Response**

“The taxi rank outside the station is not affected by the permitted development. The taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will however be relocated onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley. The existing disabled spaces and Car Club space will be moved further up the hill as a result. From on-site observations and kerbside activity surveys, refuse collections and deliveries relating to properties on Mount Pleasant Road/Avenue, between Carluccios and TSB, are undertaken from the north-south section of Mount Pleasant Avenue. This section of Mount Pleasant Avenue is not affected by any proposed loading restrictions. The majority of this section of Mount Pleasant Avenue will not be used to access the new car park. The potential transport impacts of the permitted development were assessed in detail by Kent County Council at the planning application stage. They concluded that there would be no significant adverse effect on traffic flow”.

**30. Comments:** From this proposal I note that apart from provision for parking for taxis, 2 disabled spaces and a car club space there is no parking on Mount Pleasant for people who need to park outside the shops to deliver or collect big or heavy items. Also how are these businesses going to get deliveries if they can’t park outside the business? Also this will reduce footfall in these businesses and more shops and restaurants will close if customers can’t get to them and this will cause even more traffic congestion in the town as people drive around trying to find somewhere to park.

### Vectos Response

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park. From on-site observations and kerbside activity surveys, refuse collections and deliveries relating to properties on Mount Pleasant Road/Avenue, between Carluccios and TSB, are undertaken from the north-south section of Mount Pleasant Avenue. This section of Mount Pleasant Avenue is not affected by any proposed loading restrictions. The potential transport impacts of the permitted development were assessed in detail by Kent County Council at the planning application stage. They concluded that there would be no significant adverse effect on traffic flow”.

**31. Comments:** I strongly object to this proposal. The taxi rank outside the station appears to be removed under these proposals - there are massive implications for anyone who is disabled, or infirm departing from the station and having to walk up an extremely steep hill to access a taxi. This surely discriminates and cannot be allowed?! There is no clear rationale as to why these changes are being proposed and so one is left assuming this is to pave the way for the new Civic Centre - which is not wanted by the majority of residents. These proposals seem to indicate the loss of about 50% of parking outside shops on Mount Pleasant Road. This will have a major implication on these shops and businesses. If the loading bay for Sainsbury's etc is now over the road - doesn't this have safety implications. It would be helpful had the reasons and rationale for this proposal been set out.

### Vectos Response

“The taxi rank outside the station is not affected by the permitted development. The taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury's, will however be relocated onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley. There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result”.

**32. Comments:** I support this proposal as being disabled an additional disabled parking bay will be helpful.

### NO RESPONSE NEEDED

**33. Comments:** This is a ridiculous suggestion. The proposed bays will not accommodate sufficient taxi bays. Persons will have to cross a very busy road to access taxis. Seems like an ill thought out plan.

**Vectos Response**

“The taxi rank outside the station is not affected by the permitted development. The taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will however be relocated onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley.”

**34. Comments:** More changes associated with the proposed civic centre development which is yet to be finalised , mount pleasant will grind to halt with the increased congestion due to these changes .

**Vectos Response**

“The potential transport impacts of the permitted development were assessed in detail by Kent County Council at the planning application stage. They concluded that there would be no significant adverse effect on traffic flow”.

**35. Comments:** As a Taxi driver in Tunbridge Wells for 25 years the amount of Hackney plates have gone up. We have problems parking all the Hackney Vehicles on the ranks near the station. We need more spaces as there is a over spill of taxis since we have come one zone from only 70 vehicles now 107 which most work in Tunbridge Wells (80%). So I would like to see more spaces as Population is going up so the number of taxis will go up so TWBC make sure there is enough spaces. So I am objecting because there is not enough spaces.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposal is to relocate the existing taxi feeder rank from Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley. The relocated feeder rank will have the same capacity as the existing one”

**36. Comments:** (Submitted twice)I totally object to the plans to remove parking bays for private vehicles along Mount Pleasant Road. These parking spaces are for local residents / visitors to TW to shop, bank, dine. What will removing this parking spaces create, other than more High Street shops to suffer the loss of customers. An appalling decision by the local council.

**Vectos Response**

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park”.

**37. Comments:** The parking for residents and visitors for an hour is well used and restriction to taxis will effect local retailers and businesses and make it impossible for community to simple access amenities in T. Wells. There is already very little parking and this would restrict it further.

**Vectos Response**

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park”.

**ORDER E**

**Mount Pleasant Road (Goods Vehicle Loading Bay) 43 comments**

**38. Comments:** To whom it may concern

I object to the above proposed Order information as to the relocation of the bus stops. It is also not possible to know whether the provision of the proposed loading bay is acceptable.

The relocation of the bus stops must take into consideration amenity for all bus travellers, the impact on traffic congestion and the availability of space to site sufficient shelters.

In addition, there needs to be a clear statement about whether coaches delivering theatregoers to the proposed new theatre will be allowed to stop in this loading bay and the adjacent bus stops (if they are to remain in this stretch of road) and if so, for how long they will be allowed to stop. Coaches stopping in this stretch of road could severely disrupt the use of the loading bay and the public bus service.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. Coaches will not be allowed to stop in the proposed loading bay outside Great Hall Arcade or the bus stops”.

**39. Comments:** I object to the loading bay proposed in the KCC (Mt. Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells) Provision of Goods Vehicle Loading Bay) No 1 Order on the grounds that it should be located on the south side of Mount Pleasant Avenue which was formerly taxi rank waiting bays to the north side of the building that forms the Great Hall. I also object to the whole of the Mt. Pleasant Avenue cross hatched area in red being "proposed no waiting, no loading and unloading at any time" because the area is designated for the building of the new Theatre and Offices on Mt. Pleasant Avenue and will become the most suitable access for such purpose. Any

other location will be a hazard to pedestrians and vehicles using Mt. Pleasant Road for day to day travel. How else will heavy goods vehicles be able to deliver their goods to the shops on the east side of Mt. Pleasant Road?

**Vectos Response**

Note: Whilst there is specific reference to the proposed loading restrictions, none of the comments actually relate to the impacts of it.

“Whilst Mount Pleasant Avenue will be used by goods vehicles relating to the construction of the permitted development, they will be unloaded/loaded within the construction site not on Mount Pleasant Avenue. From on-site observations and kerbside activity surveys, refuse collections and deliveries relating to properties on Mount Pleasant Road/Avenue, between Carluccios and TSB, are undertaken from the north-south section of Mount Pleasant Avenue. This section of Mount Pleasant Avenue is not affected by the proposed loading restrictions”

**40. Comments:** Very disappointed to lose so much short-term parking in Mount Pleasant. These spaces are always full of shoppers for the top and bottom of town. Losing these will mean shoppers will be encouraged to the industrial estate and beyond rather than having to drive into car parks. A retrograde step for the viability of shops in Tunbridge Wells Town Centre.

**Vectos Response**

“There will be a reduction in short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car park”.

**41. Comments:** Yet again the people of Tunbridge Wells are coming last in the decisions being made about the town. Recently the bus stops were moved for a short space of time from outside the station, and it was chaos for residents, trying to get from the station to other parts of TWells. If you also take away the taxi rank, and relocate it across the road, then the already very busy road will become an accident hotspot. What about disabled and infirm people? How will they cope? How will all the shops cope if they cannot have deliveries? Please reconsider this proposal and put the residents of TW at the forefront of your thinking. Having to walk up the hill to get a bus is a non-starter.

**Vectos Response**

“The existing bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade will remain on the same side of the road but will be moved south of their existing position by around 17 m. The taxi rank outside the station is not affected by the permitted development. The taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will however be relocated onto the east side of Mount Pleasant outside Russell & Bromley. Whilst the permitted development will affect deliveries to some premises suitable alternative arrangements will be provided”.

**42. Comments:** I oppose the addition of a vehicle loading bay outside Great Hall Arcade on the following grounds; It will make bus access far more difficult, disincentivising public transport use; it will create conflict with motorists and cyclists on an already busy main road; it will make Mount Pleasant Road far less pleasant for pedestrians to use; it will lead to materials for the proposed theatre being carted across Mount Pleasant Avenue; it will impact on the appearance of the street scene in a prominent location in the town, the first view people have as they leave the railway station. I also oppose the civic development scheme which is the driving factor behind this proposal

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsburys has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don't stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. Goods vehicles relating to the construction of the permitted development will be unloaded/loaded within the construction site not on Mount Pleasant Avenue or from the proposed loading bay”.

**43. Comments:** Why is there a sudden need for a loading bay? I assume this is in preparation for the ill-thought-out Calverly Square development (to which I am vehemently opposed). Please - listen to residents' views - do not build on / adjacent to our wonderful town centre park.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay has resulted from discussions with occupants of Great Hall Arcade about how to improve the permitted servicing arrangements for them”.

**44. Comments:** ( From same person who submitted comment above) I can see no reason to make the changes proposed. Why are you wasting public money (our money)?

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**45. Comments:** I object to the removal of bus stops from this convenient location for the station. The proposed lorry parking and movements will increase congestion on Mount Pleasant Road adjacent to the station, and pose a safety threat to pedestrians from goods being transported across the footway and the obstruction of visibility for those needing to cross the road. I note that no alternative bus stop locations are indicated.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury's will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result”.

**46. Comments:** This proposal (and those associated with it) is so ill-considered, it is hard to imagine anyone seriously contemplating it ! How can these changes be of benefit to anyone except TWBC's hare-brained theatre and office scheme ? Relocating a loading bay from the side of Sainsburys to the front will presumably entail removal or relocation of one or more bus stops. Has anyone considered the effect this will have on the disabled or indeed anyone wishing to access this part of town. To rub salt in, it doesn't even suit the proposed new theatre, and I hear you are even proposing to relocate the bus stops outside the Town Hall ? Surely we should be trying to improve the town, not turning this street into a taxi and lorry filled area, where crossing the road will be a nightmare, assuming anyone bothers to venture there. Please think again

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre.

**47. Comments:** I object to this proposal because it is unnecessary (there is already ample unenforced parking space) and will cause massive disruption to residents, visitors, retailers and users of public transport. It smells of "Jobs for the Boys", and as a late addition to Civic Development proposal, of an ill-conceived, badly researched, money wasting project that will cause more hardship than benefit to the historic and modern town.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay has resulted from discussions with occupants of Great Hall Arcade about how to improve the permitted servicing arrangements for them. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsburys has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops”.

**48. Comments:** I presume these traffic proposals are to accommodate the proposed building of the new civic and theatre complex? In my view this is an unnecessary project which carries severe financial risk. Cancel the project and use the money saved on social and environmental needs.

**Vectos Response**

“Goods vehicles relating to the construction of the permitted development will be unloaded/loaded within the construction site not on Mount Pleasant Avenue or from the proposed loading bay”.

**49. Comments:** The majority don't want this theatre!!!!!! Why are the council ignoring the many people who are against the idea?? And to have big lorries in an area which clearly isn't big enough for them to go through. Just plain stupid!! So there's going to be even more traffic jams, bus services all over the place, taxi's losing business's because of one complete utter idiot who thinks having a new theatre is such a great idea! He's causing nothing but chaos!!

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**50. Comments:** I write to object to the above proposed Order on the grounds that until specific information is provided as to the relocation of the bus stops, referred to on TWBC's website [here](#) (1), but not mentioned at all in the draft Order, it is not possible to establish whether the provision of the proposed loading bay will be acceptable.

The relocation of the bus stops must take into consideration amenity for bus travellers, including the aged, the infirm and disabled, and the impact on traffic congestion and the availability of space to site sufficient shelters for those waiting for buses in inclement weather.

In addition, there needs to be a clear statement about whether coaches delivering theatregoers to the proposed new theatre will be allowed to stop in this loading bay and the adjacent bus stops (if they are to remain in this stretch of road) when dropping off and picking up their passengers, and if so, for how long they will be allowed to stop. Coaches stopping in this stretch of road could severely disrupt the use of the loading bay for Sainsbury's, and the public bus service.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. Coaches will not be allowed to stop in the proposed loading bay outside Great Hall Arcade or the bus stops”.

**51. Comments:** I object to the proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury's. It will remove a much-used bus stop and create potentially very bad bus manouvering just opposite the station taxi rank with it's bad traffic-flow. Thus making it much more dangerous for pedestrians crossing from the station to the bus stops. The "Statement of Reason" makes no sense. The whole area needs a proper re-think, but not this bad shuffle of large vehicles out of Mount Pleasant Avenue. What happens to vehicles delivering scenery for the new theatre? This is too far away for sensible delivery and removal at night. What goods will be delivered, where, from this bay? It will only block the bus stops.

### Vectos Response

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. Vehicles delivering scenery to the new theatre will do so from the dedicated service yard at its southern end. The proposed bay is intended to benefit occupants of Great Hall Arcade. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops.”

**52. Comments:** So not only ruining a Grade 2 listed park, the Vanity Project spreads out to cause chaos in Mount Pleasant with even less short term parking to visit what shops are left trading. Get a grip TWBC - you are trying to build a theatre in the WRONG PLACE! It simply won't fit and trying to make it fit will have significant detriment to the area around this bay as busses won't be able to turn in infront of lorries to use the stop properly thereby leaving their rear end sticking out restricting traffic.

### Vectos Response

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops.”

**53. Comments:** Mount Pleasant Road is already a busy, congested road and putting a loading bay on it will only make matters worse. Large articulated lorries parked on the road will make manoeuvring difficult for vehicles and pedestrians. Where will the bus stops be relocated to? They are currently in a prime position opposite the railway station. If they are moved to the top of the very steep hill this will cause access problems for the disabled, elderly and those with prams. A loading bay instead of bus stops is of no benefit to the residents of the town/borough.

### Vectos Response

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. The proposed loading bay is not designed to accommodate large articulated lorries as these vehicles are not regularly used by Great Hall Arcade occupants and other premises on Mount Pleasant Road”.

**54. Comments:** This whole project is ill-conceived and as a local resident I object.

NO RESPONSE NEEDED

**55. Comments:** Will cause many more issues for the existing traffic.

### Vectos Response

“The potential transport impacts of the permitted development were assessed in detail by Kent County Council at the planning application stage. They concluded that there would be no significant adverse effect on traffic flow”.

**56. Comments:** I just sent an email against this proposal and thought I had seen it in TW Alliance post on Facebook - was in fact on TW Past & Present ([Refers to message below](#))

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**57. Comments:** This is a totally inappropriate request by TWBC. Many people use the bus stops outside the Great Hall - particularly school children and old people. Also people leaving the station and catching buses home. Elderly people and disabled people find it easier to get picked up by taxis down the side of Sainsburys if they have shopped there too. TWBC are going ahead with this ridiculous scheme in Calverley Park which is going to bankrupt this town - I am angry as I am sure most people in this town have no idea what they are planning to do and will only find out when they have pushed this plan through behind peoples backs. Shame on TWBC and shame on you if you let them do this!! I see the closing date is 23 November - well I have only just been made aware of this through the facebook placement of the news by TW Alliance - thank goodness - I saw it - will now try to pass on to as many people as possible so they can have their say too.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The permitted development will have no effect on any other bus stops in the town centre. The existing taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will be relocated to Mount Pleasant Road outside Russell & Bromley a short distance north of its existing position”.

**58. Comments:** I object on the grounds that this is an extremely busy thoroughfare opposite the railway station. Having a loading bay here on the main road would be dangerous. People crossing from the station to Sainsbury’s would be at risk at being hit by a vehicle due to sight lines being blocked by a vehicle unloading in the bay. A lot of young children from nearby nurseries also cross the road to access the park in Calverly Grounds and I fear for their safety. To have a loading bay directly opposite the exit the of the railway station would also present a negative image of the town to visitors. Who wants to see a heavy goods vehicle unloading when you could see the Great Hall? A better location for the loading bay would be the side road by Carluccios. That would mean no unnessecary cost of relocating the bus stops. The bus stops are in the perfect place for people who want to continue their journey after exiting the railway station; their location is easy to find. Putting them elsewhere would require extra signage telling people where to find them.

**Vectos Response**

“Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position”.

**59. Comments:** Mount Pleasant is a busy, congested road I feel this plan for a loading bay and therefore large articulated lorries stopping there will only add to this congestion. It will also make the road more dangerous for both motorists and pedestrians if they are faced with manoeuvring around lorries. Where will the bus stops that are currently there be relocated? They are in a prime spot opposite the railway station and if relocated further up the hill, will be an issue for the elderly and disabled to access.

**Vectos Response**

“Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position”.

**60. Comments:** This seems crazy. Where are the buses meant to stop? How are the shops going to get their deliveries? What about the taxis? This seems utterly unthought out and will just be a complete mess. What on earth are you thinking of? Please reconsider.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The loading requirements of existing shops were considered carefully and where existing locations were affected suitable alternatives are provided. There will be no reduction in taxi facilities. The existing taxi feeder rank on Mount Pleasant Avenue, just to the north of Sainsbury’s, will be relocated to Mount Pleasant Road outside Russell & Bromley a short distance north of its existing position”.

**61. Comments:** I would like to express my serious concerns regarding the ludicrous proposal in the installation of a loading bay in front of the Great Hall and the following problems if the loading bay is going to be used by the theatre. A) There would be health and safety issues moving staging and scenery equipment that distance in a public area B) There can be up to 2 lorries that are required depending on current types of performances that are currently provided that would be required to be parked there for their duration of the performance. C) This would cause seriously restricted views for traffic coming out of the side Mount Pleasant Avenue, no doubt resulting in higher Road Traffic Collisions and injury to life. D) Finally, this would seriously infringe the bus stops located outside the Great Hall impacting the facilities that are enjoyed by the general public, that include those who are less mobile or those who are visually impaired. E) Moving the disabled bays further up the hill, where it is steeper will mean that it will discourage them from coming into town. I would strongly suggest that the council abandon these ridiculous proposals as this will create a no-go area in the heart of the town, no doubt causing even more financial hardship to the already struggling businesses. The council need to find

ways of bringing visitors into the town rather than creating more dead and decaying areas that remain unused for decades.

**Vectos Response**

“Vehicles delivering scenery to the new theatre will do so from the dedicated service yard at its southern end not from the proposed loading bay. The proposed bay is intended to benefit occupants of Great Hall Arcade. Under the permitted development the section of Mount Pleasant Avenue between The Great Hall Arcade and Carluccios will become one-way eastbound. This means no vehicles would be exiting out onto Mount Pleasant Road. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The existing disabled parking spaces on the east side of Mount Pleasant Road are on a hill”.

**62. Comments:** Having read these proposals I cannot believe you cannot see what traffic congestion this will cause on a very busy road. Taking away the bus stops which are used throughout the day and evening is a BIG error of judgement. Also what about the disabled, elderly and mothers with young children? Obviously they have not figured in the decision making. I am vehemently against this

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the bus stops outside Great Hall Arcade. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops.”

**63. Comments:** These proposals would do nothing but create considerable congestion and a potential death trap. It is apparent that those who propose this have absolutely no thought for the disabled. The Application should be considered by an independent panel and not the In house planning committee. Should be denied

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the bus stops outside Great Hall Arcade. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result”.

**64. Comments:** Our attractive town is fast becoming a user unfriendly zone for both visitors and residents as TWBC implements additional orders solely to facilitate the Vanity Project.

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**65. Comments:** This will further add to traffic chaos, make the area more unsightly and deter shoppers and therefore trade. The whole scheme is a unnecessary vanity project that does not solve the fundermental issues that the town has. Good retail in part cause and effect of high business rates poor parking and traffic flow. I object to the whole project. The theatre struggles to sell its existing shows and it's easy to get to the west end. Revamp existing civic centre and offices let's not ruin the towns geritage by destroying the parks!

**Vectos Response**

"The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury's has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don't stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the bus stops outside Great Hall Arcade. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion.

**66. Comments:** The council are trying to make life difficult. There is no way loading bays should be created at the front of a beautiful building. TW is now becoming more and more difficult to park and shop, I tend to go to Crowborough now as its easier to park and NO charges. Also anyone having difficulties walking, would not be able to negotiate Mount Pleasant.

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**67. Comments:** ABSOLUTELY BONKERS (Submitted twice)

**NO RESPONSE NEEDED**

**68. Comments:** I am opposed to the new loading bay at the Great Hall and resiting of the bus stops because firstly the bus stops need to stay at the bottom of steep and in times of inclement weather slippery hill. If you are disabled, infirm, elderly, a parent with children, a person with suitcases those bus stops being at the bottom of the hill directly opposite the train station and other bus stops are vital. To move them even 20 metres to someone with mobility issues especially onto somewhere which is has a steep incline isn't disability friendly. It's discriminatory. How would a wheelchair user who is then on a steep slope manoeuvre their wheelchair onto a bus which would also be on a slope independently? There are often over 5 buses in a line at any one time at these bus stops currently outside the Great Hall and also commuter coaches. The resisting of the bus stop doesn't allow for enough room for this so buses will be double and triple parked thereby causing gridlock. Taxis will be competing with buses to park and pedestrians trying to get buses run the risk of being knocked over by buses or taxis. Taxis do u turns causing further traffic hold ups coming into town and the possibility of road traffic accidents. There is insufficient room for all on Mount Pleasant road if you place a loading bay by the Great Hall. Having a loading bay by the Great Hall will cause many health and safety risks. Sainsbury's have upto five deliveries a day and their pallets cannot get through their front door meaning

pallets will be moved along a pedestrianised public footpath. This is a health and safety risk to the public. Also the amount of lorries delivering on a main road into the centre of Tunbridge Wells and those lorries parking up to deliver will cause tailbacks, traffic problems and congestion in an already congested town. They will cause problems for traffic and pedestrians to see round them clearly causing road traffic accidents and an accident hot spot. Town will become bottlenecked!

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion.”

**69. Comments:** The bus stop's removal will cause distress to the disabled, the elderly having to walk up the hill to the War memorial stops The chaos caused outside the station with taxis one side lorries the other for what? Jukes plush office and a theatre that the Town cannot afford and most do not want

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position”.

**70. Comments:** Having a loading bay outside The Great Hall on Mount Pleasant will cause massive traffic congestion and Health and Safety problems. At the moment the lorries are unloaded in the alley by the side of The Great Hall and all merchandise is taken into The Great Hall via a side entrance straight into the store rooms of the various businesses. This is the best option as you are talking about cages and pallets of goods for Sainsburys, also carpets and sofas for the other shops. If you deliver everything to the front of The Great Hall then they will have to transport this all round the building by hand to access their warehouse entrances. This could cause accidents involving pedestrians who will also be using the footpath to access the various businesses. Also the pallets are too big to access Sainsburys by any door apart from the warehouse door on the side of the building and due to the height when fully laden it is difficult to see where you are going. Also where you are talking about moving the bus stop to will mean that the buses will be stopped on a hill and they will be very near to an idea which will at busy times of the day when there can be up to 6 buses at the stops with the shorter space will end up blocking the road and causing massive tailbacks.

**Vectos Response**

“Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position”.

**71. Comments:** This proposed change will cause more congestion outside the station and will create another problem for disabled residents trying to catch a bus.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion”.

**72. Comments:** This is quite nonsensical. Consider the usage of TW station - many commuters get off the train and straight onto a bus. Many elderly, with bus passes, use the bus and are known to use the bus up and down the hill. Clearly, the council are so bloated that they don't go by bus. We would suggest somebody goes to the station bus stops and monitors the usage throughout the day. Hopefully it will pour with rain. Has Cllr Jukes had anything to do with this bright idea, as most people we have spoken to think the man is not fit for purpose.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position”.

**73. Comments:** 1/ Moving the current bus stops will have a major impact on the traffic flow on Mount Pleasant Road. There is no safe place to replicate these bus stops. 2/ At any one time five buses could be at these stops. As it is the area is congested enough. 3/ Public safety would be put a risk . Valuable parking spaces would be lost . Local shops would suffer from the loss of the current road side parking on My Pleasant Road. 4/ I fail to see why a loading bay us required on a major road when any building's it would serve are set behind The Great Hall. I respectfully request that planning permission should be declined in the interest of Health and Safety to vehicle drivers public transport passengers and the general public. Thank you for your consideration.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result. There will be as reduction is short term parking spaces on Mount Pleasant Road as a result of the permitted development. However, the new car park provided under the offices will be operated as a public short stay car park. It has 261 spaces, which is 7 more than are currently provided by the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Great Hall car parks. The proposed bay is intended to benefit occupants of Great Hall Arcade. It will not be used by occupants of the permitted new offices or the theatre”.

**74. Comments:** I strongly object to this ridiculous proposal and the way that is being quietly pushed through. It will cause significant congestion in an area that is already extremely busy and also danger to the many passing pedestrians that frequent that part of the town. It is very busy with locals and also many tourists who walk between the upper and lower parts of the town. It will be a disaster waiting to happen.

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion. Kent County Council have agreed with the principle of the proposed loading bay and must therefore be satisfied that there will be no significant safety issues as a result.”

**75. Comments:** Having massive articulated lorries parked for some time will not look aesthetically pleasing in the town. There will be health and safety issues moving the equipment that distance in in a public areas - among the public and via a very busy well used area right by busy bus stops. Presumably lorries will be parked there for there duration of the performance which is simply unacceptable and will cause traffic chaos and chaos for the buses Lorries parked there will seriously restrict the views for traffic coming out of the side road onto the main road and is likely to cause accidents

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay is not designed to accommodate large articulated lorries as these vehicles are not regularly used by Great Hall Arcade occupants and other premises on Mount Pleasant Road. The proposed bay is intended to benefit occupants of Great Hall Arcade. It will not be used by occupants of the permitted new offices or the theatre. Under the permitted development the section of Mount Pleasant Avenue between The Great Hall Arcade and Carluccios will become one-way eastbound. This means no vehicles would be exiting out onto Mount Pleasant Road”.

**76. Comments:** I object the proposal on the following points; 1) Taking away the bus stop and taxi rank outside the station will be terribly inconvenient for those who are infirm and are unable to walk up the hill. 2) The bottom end of the station will become totally congested with cars and taxis. Mount Pleasant will resemble a parking lot. 3) Taking away parking on Mount Pleasant will reduce the number of customers to the shops

**Vectos Response**

“The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s will not result in the removal of the bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade. They will be moved around 17 m south of their existing position. The proposed loading bay outside Sainsbury’s has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don’t stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion. There will be as

**77. Comments:** Assuming that this provision is associated with the proposed civic centre development, it would appear to be somewhat premature and will create havoc with our already congested traffic in Tunbridge Wells

### Vectos Response

"The proposed loading bay is associated with the proposed civic centre development. It will only be implemented in the event that all other consents necessary to enable the permitted development to commence have been secured. The proposed loading bay has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don't stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion".

**78. Comments:** This will undoubtedly cause huge traffic and congestion problems at the bottom of the town. This proposal is as ridiculous as the proposed site for the new theatre and at very turn here seems to be yet another problem associated with the project. You are proposing to change the whole character of the town into some sort of industrial parking lot. I oppose this.

### Vectos Response

"The proposed loading bay has been designed such that vehicles stopped in it don't stick out into the road or prevent buses from getting to the relocated stops. As such, it will not result in traffic congestion".

**79. Comments:** The \*\*\*\*\* Group broadly supports the proposed Order which will clearly assist local businesses at the bottom end of Mount Pleasant Road. We did note that within the section dealing with "Exemptions from Waiting Restrictions", there was no mention of disabled people using their Blue Badge, but assume that this will indeed be the case. We noted that the loading bay may well affect the bus stops outside the Great Hall and assume that one or more may be relocated up the hill. The Group have asked me to congratulate you and the council on "forward thinking" regarding the location of the taxi rank, which will service the new civic centre and theatre complex.

### Vectos Response

"Whilst blue badge holders could be picked up or dropped off in the loading bay, they will not be able to park as the loading bay needs to be available at all times for existing businesses within the Town Centre. The new car park being provided under the civic centre includes 11 disabled parking spaces and a step free route from them to Mount Pleasant Road. The proposed loading bay means that the existing bus stops outside the Great Hall Arcade need to be moved but they will only be shifted around 17 m south of their current position. The reason for relocating the taxi feeder rank to Mount Pleasant Road was to maximise the attractiveness of the approach to the new civic centre and theatre for all non-motorised users".

## ORDER F

### Mount Pleasant Avenue (Reversal of one-way system and extension to include southern-most East/West arm) 0 comments