

Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - PLACE

Executive Director - Place - Barry Rowland

PROPOSED 'RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING ZONES' - VARIOUS STREETS

ASHINGTON

Purpose of report:

To consider introducing "Resident permit Parking Zones" at various locations in Ashington

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Executive Director - Place agrees the proposals set out in the report relating to;

1) The provision of 'Resident Permit Parking Zones' at various locations in Ashington

Key issues

1) Residents are experiencing external parking pressures from nearby businesses and schools.

Report Author

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PROPOSED 'RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING ZONES' - VARIOUS STREETS ASHINGTON

BACKGROUND

Introduction

- 1) Langwell Crescent Back Lane has 25 residential properties backing onto it from the South side and businesses operating from the North. It averages 5 metres in width and as a result 'Single Yellow Lines' restricting parking from 8am 6pm Monday to Saturday is in operation.
- 2) South View is slightly wider at 5.5 metres and benefits from a turning head at the bottom. It is mainly residential in nature aside from a Family Centre at the entry point. It also provides access to Dairy House car park and has 'Single Yellow Lines' in operation every day from 9am 6pm.
- 3) Both Laburnum Terrace Myrtle Street Back Lane and Poplar Street are situated in amongst businesses operating within the area and Ashington Central First School. Poplar Street has 'No Waiting at Any Time restrictions on the entry to protect visibility and Laburnum Terrace Myrtle Street Back Lane has 'No entry' sign located at its junction with First Avenue which are often ignored.
- 4) The current 'Single Yellow Line' system in operation on both Langwell Crescent and South View prevent external parking pressures but they also constrain the residents in terms of day time parking availability. Both Laburnum Terrace, Myrtle Street Back Lane and Poplar Street operate on a largely unrestricted basis therefore staff from businesses park for long periods and parents make use of the areas during school pick up and drop off times. Should they be there for a short time only then the situation may be manageable but often they leave their vehicles and visit the town centre.

Consultation

5) After receiving a number of requests from residents of the area and with the support of the local member, individual consultations for each street took place throughout 2013. This involved the option of Resident Permit Parking Zones with varying times depending on the circumstances of the individual streets. (see Appendix 1).

6) The outcome of the individual consultations is as follows;

Street	For	Against	Neither
Langwell Tce Back Lane	21	2	2
South View	6	0	1
Laburnum Tce Myrtle St Back Lane	17	1	1
Poplar Street	4	0	3

Table 1 Consultation Summary (See Appendix 2 for consultation comments)

- 7) Table 1 shows a positive response for all potential schemes. The proposals were then advertised in the press to indicate the intention to introduce the schemes throughout January 2014. A further two objections were received in relation to Laburnum Terrace Myrtle street Back Lane. It is argued the problems should be less serious because the areas involved are not major through roads and that the proposals conflict with Council Policy. They go further to suggest a delay of 6 months and mention work that is currently on-going in relation to shared spaces. The proposals for Resident Permit Zones should not have an adverse impact on any studies into shared spaces. In fact the two can operate concurrently if required. Such work is likely to take longer than 6 months to come to fruition and therefore the suggested timescale is unlikely to serve any real purpose. Whilst free parking is available for the south east area and has been proposed for the rest of the County this is entirely separate to the provision of Resident Permits. The £15 charge is to cover the cost of administering the scheme rather than a charge for parking.
- 8) Throughout the consultation process residents of Laburnum Terrace Myrtle Street Back Lane and Poplar Street have felt that the permit operation time of 9.30am 3pm does not warrant the cost of the permit or solve the problem of business parking on an evening. Therefore it is proposed to extend those times of operation from 9.30am 2.30pm and then 3.30pm 8.30am. This will allow 1 hour on a morning and 1 hour on an evening for parents to drop off and pick up their children.
- 9) The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making a traffic regulation order. Such an inquiry might enable disputed evidence to be tested under cross-examination and the need for an order to be critically examined by an independent inspector. In this particular case, officers believe that the extensive consultation process and involvement with interested parties, means that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.

APPENDIX INDEX

Appendix 1 - Consultation Plan

Appendix 2 - Langwell Tce Back Lane - Consultation Summary

Appendix 3 - South View - Consultation Summary

Appendix 4 – Laburnum Tce Myrtle St Back Lane – Consultation Summary

Appendix 5 - Poplar Street - Consultation Summary

Appendix 6 - Proposal

BACKGROUND PAPERS

File Ref: M/F/2/107/2

IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT

Policy: None

Finance and value for To be financed by Local Transport Plan Fund

money

Human Resources:NonePropertyNoneEqualitiesNone

Risk Assessment Residential and business use

Sustainability None.
Crime & Disorder None

Customer Considerations: Motorists will be required to comply with the

restrictions imposed.

Consultation Emergency Services, Road User

Organisations, County Councillor for the area.

Wards Central Ward

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Executive Member

Ian Swithenbank - Policy Board Member,

Streetcare and Environment

Subject:

PROPOSED 'RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING ZONES' - VARIOUS STREETS ASHINGTON

Consultation

Street	For	Against	Neither
Langwell Tce	21	2	2
Back Lane			
South View	6	0	1
Laburnum			
Tce Myrtle St	17	1	1
Back Lane			
Poplar Street	4	0	3

Decision Taken:

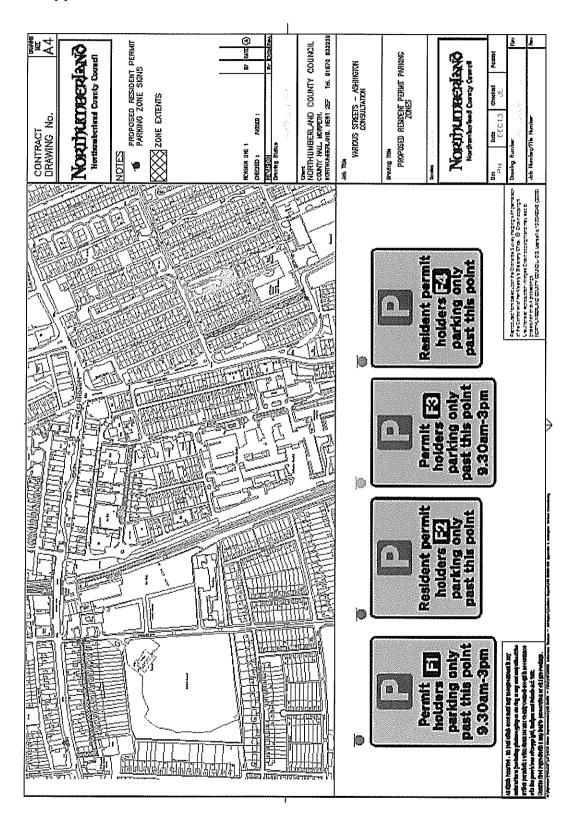
TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR 'RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING ZONES' - VARIOUS STREETS ASHINGTON

Signature of Executive Director - Place

Date

4.3.14.

Appendix 1 - Consultations



Appendix 2,3 4 and 5 – Consultation Summary

	ľ	ĺ	APPENDIX 2 - Langwell Terrace Back Lane - Consultation Summary
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	AGAINST	NEITHER	
FOR	Ϋ́	🔚	
L L	¥	뿔	
		1	I do not have any problem with what is being proposed. There is a problem
			which needs addressing in my opinion. On the north side of the lane there are
			many local businesses. Will they be allowed a permit? If not we could
1			encounter problems as shop owners are in the street on a frequent basis.
			Would it be possible to keep the SYL on the north side and have a permit
1			scheme on the south side for residents?
1			It has long been known how awkward it is for residents in this area to be told
			no parking with zero tolerance. As I know a lady trying to load up two young
			children into car and had going back for second one in car and was told to
		•	move on.
1			THOTO OIL
1			Very good idea as I have all ready had one parking ticket for parking outside
			my property which I think was totally unfair.
1			Whole heartily, the sooner the better.
1			• ·
'			I don't see why we should pay for permits when we pay road tax you should be able to park at your own home. Sometimes we cant get out of your drive for
			strangers parking in the lane people park on both sides of the lane emergency
1			vehicles would not be able to get up.
1			The no waiting Mon-Sat has caused me a lot of difficulties. I have received 2
			parking tickets during this time and when myself or my husband have spoken
			to your parking attendants we have found them to be unco-operative even
			telling us that if our car has broken down that we would have to move it even if
			unsafe to do so. The only problem we have is people parking in teh back lane
			to use the post office which affects my house (as well as no. 1 & 2) As we are
			next to teh post office. I hope this matter can be resolved as soon as possible
			and I fully back the proposed resident permit parking zone.
	1		If permits are allowed we will have the same problem of people parking in front
			of garages and blocking access to our own property. We have enjoyed lately
			the novelty of not having to call around neighbours houses to see who's car is
<u></u>			blocking our access in and out.
1			
1			At long last common sense. But why! Oh why another £60 fees to be paid, we
			pay our rates and taxes, so for god sake make these permits free to residents,
			or print 1 and we can photo copy them ourselves.
1			Mr McKenna has ample knowledge of my views on the scheme via emails I
			have sent to him and I should like to record my thanks for his prompt and
			informative responses. Before the current enforcement of parking restrictions
			in Langwell Crescent it was besieged on a daily basis, but now with minor
			exceptions, the enforcement has completely solved our problem of the feral
			parkers who once infested the street, to this I say 'well done!' Although I am
			aware that some might not see the benefit of such a scheme, there should be
			no reason why that would affect those of us who do. My apologies for stating
			the obvious, but while it may be impossible to please everyone it is possible to
			bring relief to those of us who at present have to spent a great deal of time
			and much inconvenience to gain reasonable access to our properties without
			breaking the parking restrictions rules. For example, the situation where we
			return from the supermarket with a host of bagged groceries and while
			unloading into teh house a warden appears and not for the first time, must
			explain that we have just arrived! Or I am doing repairs in the yard and must
			park my car in Wilkinson's car park or else park at my door and become like a

	1	Т	11-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1
			'jack in the box' looking for the arrival of the warden! A visitor, relative or
			tradesman call and must be sent off to park where they can. These may
İ			appear trivial but are actual examples and I am sure others have similar
			stories to tell, it is an intolerable state of affairs not helped by our geographical
			location of the cricket ground to the south frontage of Langwell leaving only
			the rear street as our sole means of access. Parking permit schemes are
			perhaps quite novel in and around Ashington but are in operation all over teh
			nation so it would not be setting a precedent. It would also simplify teh work of
			teh wardens and free them to concentrate on other more congested areas. In
			relation to the placing of signs, the west end of the street is connected to
			Station Road by a short stretch of road which is two way. Despite a no entry
			sign it is common for cars to enter form teh main road, reverse and park ready
			to exit back the same way, it might be advisable to place a sign at that point. I
	•		urge the planning committee to introduce a fair and sensible system of
			residents permits in Langwell Crescent and peace should prevail.
1			I need 24 hour access to my garage due to myself and lodger working shifts.
			Would only I have the right to park outside my garage with a permit or could
			anyone with a permit park outside of it? If so, this could potentially cause me
	L.		problems due to others with permits restricting my access.
	1		I have not spoken to Cllr Wilson, nor anyone from NCC re parking in my
			street; so I do not understand how you can claim, as you do, that the current
			situation is causing "difficulties". On the contrary!! I am satisfied with the
			existing restrictions, and am delighted that they are being strictly enforced. I
			can get my car out of the garage whenever I want to, without having to track
			down (when possible) car owners, and asking them to move their vehicles.
			When you were less conscientious in your enforcement of the parking
			restrictions, I often found access to my garage restricted by the very people
			you wish to issue with permits. Polite requests for access were not always
			received with good grace. I would suggest that almost every residents in this
			street, moved in when the 'waiting restrictions were already in force; but
			moved in, nevertheless; accepting these restrictions, and that the so called
			'difficulties' have not resulted in a glut of house for sale signs. Visit our street
			any Mon-Sat during the daytime, and you will see that the residents are
ĺ			perfectly able to comply with the current rules. Residents in Langwell Crescent
			= 26 x 2 (parking permits) = 52 cars, not counting those belonging to people in
			Station Road. How this can possibly facilitate the passage of vehicular traffic
			on the road needs to be explained.
1			We think this is a good idea. This should have been done years ago.
1			A long overdue proposal. We have lived here for over 13 years, we have
			already received one parking ticket, and at the re-introduction of traffic
			wardens, several months ago have narrowly missed getting several others.
			Fully support parking zone measures, but still amazed that we have to pay
			£15 for parking outside our own front door!!
1			
		1	I would inform you that as an emergency service we may be required to use
			the above road for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend
			an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for out-patient
			appointments. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer
			our support for the on-going road safety programme.
1			We wholeheartedly support the proposal for residents parking permits. I try to
			use my garage every time I arrive home. However on many occasions I am
			prevented access by a van, emblazoned with 'Designs in Signs', parking
			directly opposite. The van belongs to a business on Station Road and they
			know they shouldn't park there but don't seem to care! I also have my 18m old
			granddaughter staying on a twice weekly basis and the 5 minutes allowed for
			getting her in and our of the car is rushed and is not always enough time.
			That's if they can even park outside my property depending on the 'Designs in
			Signs' van being there. We will of course be applying for 2 permits.

1			Although I support the proposals a restriction should be imposed on refuse collection days so the collectors can access the street without vehicles
			obstruction. Also if residents purchase two permits one should only be used
			for resident parking so there are not two cars per household in the street all
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	teh time.
1			I would welcome this proposal but I will recommend following proposals.
			Issued pass is only valid in front of their (landlords/owners) premises otherwise people come and park in front of neighbours (gate) entrance.
		İ	Please let us know once this is approved and effective so that we will
			purchase the pass. If possible please keep the car registration number on
			passes to prevent any misuse.
1			I support parking permits on Langwell Crescent, because as a resident of
			Station Road I understand the urgent need for residents to park outside their
			own home without fear of a ticket, or moving my car over a mile away from where I live. I have two very young children and I have a parking space in
			close proximity, is a life line. Over the course of an average day, nursery run,
			shopping etc I am for limited spaces available, so as not to incur a fine. I fully
			support this scheme and I hope you will make the correct decision. I think the
			permit charges are fair and entrust the county council to support residential
<u> </u>		ļ	permit parking zone.
1			I think one permit per household is more than adequate. Any more will still
			lead to parking problems, where residents cant park near their property because of visitors especially at weekends. Visitors should still use car parks
			at the end of Langwell Crescent. There is only enough room for one car per
			household on the street.
1		İ	
1			The parking problems currently experienced at Langwell Crescent is No
			waiting 8am-6pm is causing huge difficulties for my family and friends work. I
			would more than welcome permit parking 2 permits per household. My views
			are nobody visits only yesterday I got a parking ticket at my door. As a disabled driver was parked at my door obstructing my garage. I took children 2
			in car seats shopping into house them removed the pushchair into the house.
			The dog and one child still in the car present while the traffic warden could
			hear me in the garage - house give me a ticket. I can not unload my car of
]	children, dog and pushchair shopping in time limit due to safety of my children
			also people park in front of my garage all the time to go to the post office at
			the end of the street and when I pull up to get into my garage I have to sit and
			wait or go and find them to allow me to get off the yellow lines and I myself have suffered abuse to ask somebody not to park in front of my garage. This a
			huge safety issue to myself and family members.
1			As am registered disabled and have a badge parking causes real problems for
			myself and family.
21	2	2	

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	APPENDIX 3 - South View - Consultation Summary
1			A responding yes!!!
1			Fantastic idea.
1			A long awaited problem will be solved. A well done to all involved.
		1	The building is used for business purposes and has its own car park therefore we would not be involved in the parking scheme.

1			I am all in favour of resident parking in South View Ashington as I have been asking to be able to park at by door for quite some time now. On 22/11/2012 I had to park by the old hospital fence it was raining and by the time I got home I was wet through. This made me decide to log where I was able to park on Friday afternoons about 1.30PM when I get an early finish from work, rather than just say there was nowhere to park to give some evidence to the case. See table in file. As you can see it is not easy to find parking in this area and on some occasions it was impossible so I had to park in the car park behind Wilkinson's on the other side of the railway lines. This I find totally unacceptable. What I do not accept is that we should have to pay to do this. As a resident of Ashington I should be able to have the same privileges as nearly everyone else and at the same cost, free. When you look around our town there are some streets where proper parking bays have been built for resident parking. Do the people who benefit from these pay a fee. On North Seaton road between the Comrades club and the junction that leads into west view the double yellow lines have been removed allowing residents to park outside their door. Did they have to pay for this? This has created one of the most dangerous junctions in the town because you can no longer see if the road is clear, I have had a couple of near misses here. I know that there are other streets where parking is a problem where there are currently no restrictions and these residents are being offered permits at the same charge. Is this the way forward with NCC a new form of tax? Can you please advise why there has to be a charge?
1			Would permits be for residents only, and not for employees of social services? (Otherwise parking spaces would all be taken by social services employees). Would the turning bay be clearly marked as NO PARKING? AS some visitors already use this area to park. This is an excellent idea!!
1			Signs would be useful as we are anticipating parking problems / mistakes by attendees at proposed centre (ex num building). Have had a couple already.
6	0	1	g), late that a couple an odd j.

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	APPENDIX 4 - Laburnum Terrace Myrtle Street Back Lane - Consultation Summary
111111111111111111111111111111111111111	*		I'm against these plans as I can see more problems than it can solve. Some residents in this street use it as a right to park in front of their homes. With only one space available at the front of residents homes, allowing two permits will cause the same problems. Why should residents in this street have to buy a permit when you don't own a car and you don't in other streets? This will only shift the problem to other streets. How will this be enforced if parking officers are not here? The problems in this street are caused by some residents with no parking signs on one side of street, moving the problem over the road.
1			I have been informed of someone who has approached neighbours who do not have cars to purchase permits for her friends who work in hairdressers on Laburnum Terrace so they can park as residents whilst at work. I hope this will not be allowed as it will make a mockery of this scheme.
		1	I would inform you that as an emergency service we may be required to use the above roads for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for out-patient appointments. I do appreciate however the need for restrictions to improve road safety. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.
1			I hope people take notice of the signs as they don't take any notice of the one way sign now.
1			Too many cars trying to park in lane making it very busy and for people with small children. Cars driving down the lane when its meant to be one way

		Τ	system.
1			
1			
1			The sooner the better that this comes into affect. It can be highly annoying when you have to park in another street.
1			
1			I don't understand why you are wasting paper and asking us again if we want permit parking, the response that you indicated from the residents the last time should have been evidence enough. Please go ahead and introduce this scheme at you earliest convenience.
1			I agree with the proposals of parking restrictions being as I am disabled and don't drive myself now. I rely on my family to drive me now when I need hosp to doctors and it nearly always is difficult getting parked near my own door. I will certainly be applying for a resident parking permit in the near future.
1	To a contract of the contract	THE THE THE THE THE THE THE THE THE THE	As a resident of Myrtle Street, I wholeheartedly agree with the proposals as parking is an issue in our street. However, as a registered disabled driver, I need to have my motability car outside my property. I also need provision for people to be able to visit to provide care for myself when I am unable e.g. shopping, cleaning, personal care. Are there any exceptions in those circumstances? I propose all residents with a car should be allowed to park outside of their property free of charge, therefore each resident allocated a free residents permit and then have the opportunity to purchase a visitors permit at a price of £15, a maximum of 2 permits per household.
1			Indicated her support for the scheme via telephone.
1		T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T. T	I strongly support the proposal as on numerous occasions I have had to use the 101 phone number to report vehicles blocking the exit from my premises, where my car was parked and totally blocked in. The police found that it was mainly people parking up to go to work on Laburnum Terrace or visit the local businesses. Also adding to the parking difficulties are two large skips that have been on the street for 2 weeks and are still here.
1			
1			9.30am-3pm is not enough time. I would prefer it - 9.30am-7.30pm because teachers and parents are still parking till 5.30pm. (3-3.30 time allow parents to pick up children) just a suggestion.
1			
1			Great idea.
1	T PRINTED VICE.		I would support your proposals but really do not agree having to pay £15 for permit resident parking for the privilege of costing me for parking at my own door between 9.30am and 3pm. The resident parking times should be longer time period for example 8am-7pm or something around this time as I would be paying to park for only 5 1/2 hours in a day. Also what is this money going o be spent on if it comes in force, should be spent on the roads and not wasted by the council to subsidizing other cut backs. And if you only want 1 permit not 2 the cost should be halved to £7.50. And also as for to avoid dispersion into other streets for problems of pick up and drop off for school. Why should we as residents tolerate drop off and pick ups as when this top school yard gate had no access when work was been carried out couple years ago everyone had to use bottom gates and we didn't have parking problems at school times or very little.
17	1	1	

	AGAINST	EITHER	APPENDIX 5 - Poplar Street - Consultation Summary
1 For	AGA	H H	
1			Paul, as we have previously discussed I do support the proposals however I would recommend that the finish time be extended until 16.00 as parents could arrive at 14.55 and park to collect their children from the school. This would not alleviate one of the major concerns of the residents.
The second secon	T TOTAL CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF TH	1	The please note, part at the bottom of the letter about parking in turning areas. I agree with that, but this will not stop any body from using it as a car park will it. The council should double yellow line the problem areas just like they did at the top of Maple Street. When idiots are allowed to park in turning areas they stop everybody from using the footpaths leading through the turning points and make the whole street a no go area. This problem must be sorted now before any residents only goes ahead. When the council says we should let the parents still come in and out and not put the problem onto other streets, is utter rubbish. The problem was put onto the residents in our street by the council and the school by letting the school use three gates for exit and entry. The gate leading into our street was put on after the school was built it has not got any security buttons on so any body can get in. The gate should not be used it is a fire escape only gate. This should be sorted now.
		1	I would inform you that as an emergency service we may be required to use the above roads for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for out-patient appointments. I do appreciate however the need for restrictions to improve road safety. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the ongoing road safety programme.
11100000		1	Stop the idiots at drop off and pick up first. Yes residents only should mean residents only and not do what the council says put problem onto other streets. The council put this problem onto the residents after the school was built. This area has only one entry/exit so for safety reasons alone parents should not jam up this area with loads of vehicles as you can not move. Why don't the council tell them to use 2nd Avenue where there is a main gate and their is more options to move vehicles. There should be no parking in front of peoples gates and blocking access. The car park in Myrtle Street holds 7 cars and there is parking areas at the bottom of the street in front of residents gates for the residents. There is no space at all to let idiots in at drop off and pick up times as they block up the whole area. This should be stopped for safety reasons. The gate from the school that leads into the residential area Myrtle Street should be used for walking children only for safety reasons alone. Safety officers should come out on Thursday and Fridays at 3pm to see the problem.
~			It would also help if the parking bay markings where redone as cars are parking at all angles thus restricting the amount of cars that are able to park safely. Could the yellow lines be brought into the cul-de-sac as far as the end of the radius in the opening into this. It will stop cars from parking on the corner and restricting entry. Extend past first lamp post.
1			Big yes to permit parking. Thanks. Yes to permit parking zones to Myrtle Street back lane.
4	0	3	to to parting believe to my no otroot book faile.

Appendix 6 - Proposal

