



**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY
SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES**

Paul Jones

**Proposed Resident Permit Parking Zone,
Acacia Terrace, Ashington**

Cabinet Member: Councillor Glen Sanderson

Purpose of Report

To consider the introduction of proposed resident permit parking zone on Acacia Terrace, Ashington.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the following parking restrictions are introduced:
Resident Permit Parking Zone.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"
Enjoying - "We want you to love where you live"

Key Issues

1. Residents have raised safety concerns for both pedestrians and motorists caused by parked cars on Acacia Terrace.
2. The scheme is to be funded by Councillor Wilson, through his Members' Local Improvement Scheme allowance.

Delegated decisions

Background

1. Residents contacted their local Ward member with concerns regarding safety issues for both pedestrians and motorists caused by parked cars on Acacia Terrace.
2. Indiscriminate parking on the road is making it difficult for residents and visitors to negotiate this road safely.
3. After meeting with Councillor Wilson, officers proposed that resident permit parking zone restrictions be introduced in order to alleviate these concerns.
4. A consultation letter was sent to 38 residents and 18 statutory consultees on the proposed resident permit parking zone. A copy of the consultation letter and plan are attached in Appendix A.
5. 7 responses were received as a result of the consultation letter, with 6 in favour 0 against and 1 neither for nor against the proposal. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix B.
6. The results of the consultation were discussed with Councillor Wilson, who agreed that the restrictions should be introduced.
7. The scheme is supported by Councillor Wilson and funded through his Members' Local Improvement Scheme allocation.
8. We will continue to monitor the situation once the resident permit parking zone has been installed.
9. A letter was sent to residents on the 11th March 2019 to inform them of the increase to £25 per permit. Residents were still happy to proceed with the scheme.

Delegated decisions

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	Funded through the Members Local Improvement allocation for Councillor Wilson
Legal	Preparation of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)
Procurement	
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
Risk Assessment	
Crime & Disorder	Traffic safety concerns i.e. Obstruction / congestion of the highway
Customer Consideration	Scheme is anticipated to improve road safety for pedestrians, residents and road users in the area
Carbon reduction	
Wards	Ashington Central

Background papers:

File ref: 2018/171

Appendix Index

Appendix A - Consultation Letter and Plan

Appendix B - Consultation Responses

Delegated decisions

Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

	initials
Finance Officer	
Monitoring Officer/Legal	
Human Resources	
Procurement	
I.T.	
Director	
Portfolio Holder(s)	

Author and Contact Details

Report Author ***Sarah Hudson Technical Assistant (M.S.S)***



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref: 2017/091_02

Enquiries to: Ms Sarah Hudson

Email: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel: 0345 600 6400

Date: Monday 28th January 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Resident Permit Parking Zone Acacia Terrace / Laburnum Terrace, Ashington

Concerns have been raised by residents of Acacia Terrace in Ashington about indiscriminate parking by non-residents, causing obstruction issues and parking problems.

Councillor Wilson has therefore agreed to fund the introduction of a residents permit parking zone subject to favourable consultation with residents.

Please note: **Only residents of Acacia Terrace will be eligible for parking permits**

I am therefore writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to formally ask for your comments on the proposals, to introduce a 'Residents Parking Zone' at U6527 Laburnum Terrace, Ashington as shown on the attached plan.

Signs would be erected as necessary indicating where Resident Permit Parking is in operation. Bays would not be provided within the zone as they are not required for this type of restriction. To cover administrative costs, residents will be asked to purchase Resident Parking Permits. (Currently £15 a year per permit, equivalent to £1.25 per month). A maximum of 2 permits can be provided per household with one permit reserved for residents and one for visitor parking.

A freepost response form is enclosed for you to return your views, or you can email them to HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk. I would welcome a reply by **Friday 15th March 2019**. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to all individual comments. You may also wish to note that any comments received may be included in a Decision Report and may be available for public inspection.

I would urge you to take the opportunity to comment on this important matter as any decision taken will be based upon the responses received from residents who take time to return the consultation form.

Yours faithfully

S Hudson

Sarah Hudson

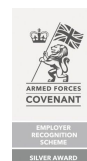
Technical Assistant (Members Small Schemes)

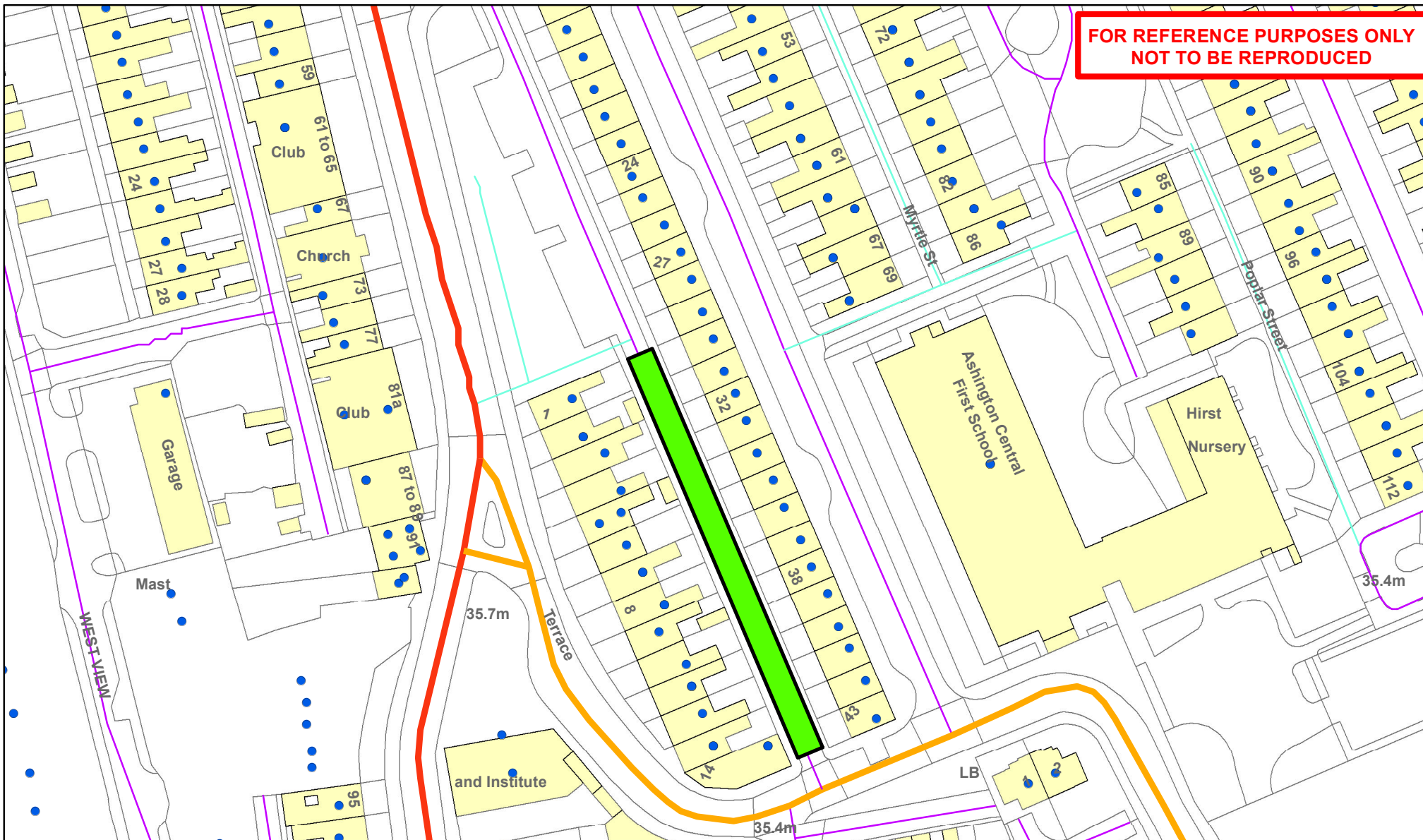



County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF

E: highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk

www.northumberland.gov.uk





<p>Northumberland Northumberland County Council</p>	<p>Network Management Information System</p>	<p>Title: Proposed Residents Parking Scheme Acacia / Laburnum Terrace Ashington</p>			<p> Proposed Residents Permit Parking Scheme</p>
<p>Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 01670 533000</p>	<p>This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. License no. 100049048 (2009).</p>	<p>Drn: AW</p>	<p>Date: Dec 17</p>	<p>Scale: NTS</p>	

Appendix B

Post Code	F O R	A G A I N S T	N E I T H E R	Other Relevant Comments
NE63 0AQ	1			If and when the scheme is introduced, who would then police it. Who ensures that only the residents of this street park in this street and it is not just left so those without permits still feel they can park here without the appropriate repercussions. What will also be done about the numerous drivers who drive down this one way street the WRONG way, including local taxi drivers who should know better. Do I as a resident have to actually step out in front of one of them and sue them (and the council for their inaction) before anything will be done to stop them. What happens if a pedestrian is hit or maybe another car by one of these drivers going the wrong way? Obviously the NO ENTRY signs at the top of the street (Rickards Estate Agent end) are not big enough for people to see and take notice of. Will the cars that park in the public spaces also STOP parking on the little 'island' areas separating some of the bays. That is just inconsiderate to other drivers and potentially dangerous as it blocks sight for drivers pulling out of the proper bay.
	1			Hi. Whilst I understand the need to introduce the restriction I do strongly believe that the parking area to the north of number 1 needs to be organised to enable a safe parking environment. This is the next place to which drivers will migrate to after being prevented from parking in Acacia Terrace. This area will also need to be enforceable as there is a "free for all" at the moment which causes problems for many.
			1	I would inform you that as an Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) 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.
NE63 0AQ	1			The problem is that the residents from the other side of the road are parking in front of our house / drive as they do not want to pay for a permit in their own lane. Some days I am blocked in and I have to leave for work at 5:40am this is not acceptable
NE63 0AQ	1			Having lived on this street for 5 years we have witnessed our yard doors being blocked daily and the parking spaces outside of the house taken from 8am till 6pm everyday while people these to park for work or park to go shopping on Ashington Street. Having two young children is clearly a challenge when not being able to park outside or at least close to the house. This permit system is well overdue. Our cars have been damaged on numerous occasions.
	1			1. Policing of the system. Who will be responsible for ensuring that the only people parked in the street are residents of Acacia Terrace, or visitors to residents of Acacia Terrace? A parking permit system is of no use if there is no policing of the system and drivers without permits can take the chance to park in the street knowing there is little or no chance of them being 'caught'. 2. One Way Street. Everyone knows that Acacia Terrace is a one-way street yet we see on a daily basis, a number of vehicles driving the wrong way down that street. We have even had local taxi drivers going the wrong way down this street and they should know better than most. I have sent a few pictures to Mr Wilson when I have seen cars parked facing the wrong way but it appears that nothing gets done (I never get a response from Mr Wilson and he is supposed to be my local councillor). The signs at the top of the street near Rickards Estate Agent are no good as no one takes any notice of them and drivers coming out of the public spaces at the top of the street also think they can just drive out the bottom (Chinese Takeaway end) to get to Milburn Road. We need "No Entry" sign painted in white on the ground as per Laburnum Terrace so it is plain below eye level as it is above, that Acacia Terrace is one way. Blue signs with white Arrows placed on poles or fences opposite the public spaces directing drivers to the top of the street (Rickards end) so they know they can only go one way when they leave those bays. Again these are ideas I put to Mr Wilson and again, no response. If it takes myself, as a resident to jump out in front of a car going the wrong way and get 'hit' by that driver to wake the council up to this fact, I will do that. I will then take legal action against the council for not taking any action to stop this happening as well as legal action against the driver for going the wrong way and hitting a pedestrian. Please explain to me what would happen if it was a completely innocent pedestrian just passing through Acacia Terrace that got hit by one of these drivers going the wrong way? What would be the council stance then? Does it take an 'accident' to happen before something is done by this inept administration? The residents of Acacia Terrace are of no more or no less importance than those in Laburnum Terrace, Poplar Street or Myrtle Street, but we seem to get treated a lot less favourably by our council. It's time that stopped. We are all equal and should be afforded the same privileges.
NE63 0AQ	0			See letter I returned with my acceptance of the proposal and my concerns, which are too many to place in this box. I will say that this is 'too little too late' My local councillor never responds to any of my concerns, not even an acknowledgement. Residents of Acacia Terrace are treated as second class citizens compared to Laburnum Terrace, Poplar St and Myrtle St, just because we have a public parking area, so I might add does Poplar St, but they still get permit parking, This council and its councillors are totally inept. WE ARE NOT SECOND CLASS - WE ARE EQUAL AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS EQUAL.

NE63 0AQ	1			<p>I have been having problem with neighbour from the opposite street. There is a household in laburnum terrace, where the occupier has been knowingly in continuous bases parking their car that fully block the access to the garage of x Acacia Terrace. This happened starting from 2014-2019. I have not addressed the issue because my car was on sore from 2014 and has written my car off in 2016. x Acacia terrace had a different occupier Between 2016 and 2018. The previous occupier who wanted access to the garage have had many bad experience with the neighbour from laburnum terrace. The previous occupier tried to reason with kind gesture in regard to the parking issues, and was returned with foul languages and threats. and the previous occupier started to experience his car covered with soda drinks. And the problem neighbour intentionally blocking the previous occupier's car, front and back only for parking outside his own household. The offending household owns three vehicles. Currently I have no issues while they daily block the access to my garage because I don't own a vehicle, but that may change in the near future. Therefore, I have the follow questions and I would appreciate if you can answer.</p> <p>1: If someone who don't have a permit blocks the access to a resident's garage, what action would be taken? How often would the street be checked and of what time period? Can a resident report an obstruction issues?</p> <p>2: if I have a visitor who just want to park outside my house for 5 to 10 mins. Which naturally and normally wouldn't be a problem even if it blocks the access to my garage. Would become an issue if I didn't pay for a visitor permit? What if a car user using a visitor permit blocks the access to my garage who is not my visitor? For that matter what action can I take if a permit holder blocks the access to my garage?</p> <p>3: does having a permit allow users to block access to garages that they don't own? What stopping me from buying a visitor permit and sell or loan to non residents?</p> <p>4: I feel it can help to reduce random parking from car owners who want access to the high street. It might be less effective toward car owners living nearby depending how often it is checked and when. I believe the issue can't be fully solved and may rise other unwanted issues, unless the occupier has some degree of control over who can or cannot block the access to their garage. And what action can be taken to those who blocks other owner garage.</p> <p>5: I feel a sign declaring obstructing access to garage will result of fine or having the car removed, and only the owner of the obstructed garage has the right to report the issue. Either a photo with time and date, or a video recording can lead to fines. Perhaps a video steaming to a report site for authentic reason and can save manpower and generate revenue from offenders.</p>
	6	0	1	

Delegated decisions

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer:

Service Director, Local Services

Subject:

Proposed Resident Permit Parking
Zone be introduced on Acacia Terrace,
Ashington.

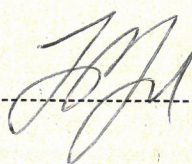
Consultation

For: 6
Against: 0
Neutral: 1

Decision Taken:

To introduce the resident permit parking
zone as proposed.

Signature of Director



Date

18/4/19