

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS – GREENHEAD VILLAGE

Executive Director of Local Services, Barry Rowland
Executive Member, Ian Swithenbank, Streetcare and Environment

Purpose of report:

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise regarding the introduction of No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions around Greenhead Village Hall, together with the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to enable enforcement.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that in view of the consultation exercise, and later comments made by Councillor Sharp following discussions with Greenhead Parish Council, No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions should be provided around Greenhead Village Hall only, together with the necessary Traffic Regulation Order to enable enforcement.

Key issues

The scheme was prepared and consultation has taken place. Five responses were received with two in favour and two against the proposal. One consultee expressed no preference.

Report Author

Neil Snowdon – Transport Projects Officer
(01670) 624128
Neil.Snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS – GREENHEAD VILLAGE

BACKGROUND

- 1) Concerns have been raised by local residents, Greenhead Parish Council and Councilor Sharp about road safety in Greenhead Village. Of particular concern is the area around Greenhead Village Hall, and the volume of parked cars at this location.
- 2) In response to these concerns a site visit was undertaken and proposals for No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions in the vicinity of the Village Hall and surrounding area were drawn up. These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise that involved the delivery of a consultation to 12 households / businesses, and approximately 25 statutory consultees, such as the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations. A plan showing the proposals is attached together with a copy of the consultation letter (see Appendix 1).

CONSULTATION

- 3) The consultation exercise ended on 10 December 2013, and responses were received from five consultees with two in favour and two against the proposals. One consultee expressed no overall preference. A summary of these responses is attached as Appendix 2.
- 4) North East Ambulance Service was the only statutory consultee who responded to the consultation, indicating that they were in favour.
- 5) Some of the consultation responses indicated that the extent of the markings was a little excessive and could potentially lead to further problems in the village. Following discussions between Councillor Sharp and Greenhead Parish Council, Councillor Sharp requested that the No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions be implemented outside the Village Hall only. A plan showing these revised proposals is attached as Appendix 3. The proposals have also been advertised on site, and no objections have been received.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6) From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concern over road safety in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. Following the consultation exercise it is clear that all residents and businesses who have responded are in favour of parking restrictions around Greenhead Village Hall only. From a road safety point of view, these restrictions will significantly improve the safety of all road users in the area. It is therefore recommended that the parking restrictions are introduced around Greenhead Village Hall only, together with the necessary TRO to enable enforcement.

- 7) The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any 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.
- 8) Accordingly it is recommended that the Committee agree to advise the Corporate Director of Local Services to note the objections but agree to proceed with the introduction of the following Traffic Regulation Order;
 - West Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order 2011 Amendment No. 7 Order 2014.

APPENDIX INDEX

Appendix 1 – Consultation Letter and Plan

Appendix 2 – Summary of Consultation Responses

Appendix 3 – Plan showing amended proposals

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Road Traffic Act 2004

Local Government Act 2000

File Ref: M/C/1/110

IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT

Policy:	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will cost approximately £3,000 and will be financed from the 2013/14 Minor Improvements Programme (LTP)
Human Resources:	None
Property	None
Equalities	Correct lines and signs will help improved enforcement
Risk Assessment	Residential area, route to school, speeding traffic and associated visibility issues.
Crime & Disorder	The proposals will assist in contributing towards a reduction in disorder and disruption and help promote a safer environment.
Customer Considerations	The proposals will lead to better managed road space and improved road safety.
Sustainability	None
Consultation	Greenhead Parish Council, the emergency services, nearby residents, and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.
Wards	Haydon and Hadrian

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Executive Member and Executive Director:

Executive Director of Local Services, Barry Rowland
Executive Member, Ian Swithenbank, Streetcare and Environment

Subject:

Proposed Parking Restrictions – Greenhead Village

Consultation:

Greenhead Parish Council, the emergency services, nearby residents, and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.

Decision Taken:

It is recommended that in view of the consultation exercise, and later comments made by Councillor Sharp following discussions with Greenhead Parish Council, No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions should be provided around Greenhead Village Hall only, together with the necessary Traffic Regulation Order to enable enforcement.

Signature of Executive Director



Date

14 / 7 / 14

APPENDIX 1 – CONSULTATION LETTER AND PLAN

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF
• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

The Occupier

Our Ref: M/E/14/110
Your Ref:
Contact: Mr Neil Snowdon
Direct Line: 01670 624128
Fax: 01670 626136
E-mail: Neil.Snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk
Tuesday 29th October 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Parking Restrictions – Greenhead Village

Concerns have been raised by local residents, Greenhead Parish Council and Councilor Sharp about road safety in Greenhead Village. Of particular concern is the area around Greenhead Village Hall, and the volume of parked cars at this location.

In view of this, the County Council is consulting on proposed No Waiting at Any Time Parking Restrictions in the vicinity of the village hall and surrounding area, which can be viewed on the attached plan.

It is anticipated that the introduction of these restrictions will improve road safety by offering increased visibility throughout the day.

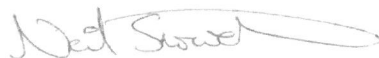
The County Council is seeking your views on the proposals and a freepost response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. It should be stressed that this is a genuine consultation and that all comments received will be carefully considered.

Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is shown on the response form. If no comments are received by that date it will be assumed that you do not wish to make any representations regarding the above proposal.

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.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully



Neil Snowdon
Assistant Engineer

APPENDIX 2 - SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Initial	Name	No	Thoroughfare	Post Code	FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
					1			
	North East Ambulance Service				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 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			Although I am not totally opposed to double yellow lines on the B6318, I only see a huge volume of parked cars once a month on farmers market day. I think that the areas you are wishing to yellow line around the village hall will push people to park in my customer car park. This will have a great negative impact on my business.
					1			Agree some form of parking restrictions needed outside village hall but a no waiting anytime restriction would have major implications to our village. An except for loading/unloading restriction may be more apt allowing equipment: exhibits: displays etc to be dropped off at the hall before the vehicles are then moved to a safer area. The proposed yellow lines on the north side of the village would force parking onto the south side which could impede the bus stop, hotel entrance and access to our home. Cars already park on the road and grass verge outside our house as it is. Yellow lines throughout the village would be a huge eyesore and a real deterrent for potential visitors and tourists. If parking seems difficult they will just drive on, essentially depriving the village of passing trade. Traffic already ignore the 30mph restriction within the village as well as the no overtaking restrictions on Glenwhelt Bank - maybe these should be addressed and then parking in the village would be safer.
	Greenhead Parish Council					1		Greenhead parish council support the proposal of no parking around the village hall area however they do not support the area opposite Greenhead hotel to be included.
					2	2	1	

APPENDIX 3 – AMENDED PROPOSALS

CONTRACT DRAWING No.	1 OF 1	DRAWING SIZE A3												
<h1>Northumberland</h1> <p>Northumberland County Council</p>														
<p>KEY:-</p> <p>— PROPOSED DOUBLE YELLOW LINES</p>														
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<p>Client</p> <p>NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL COUNTY HALL, WORTHINGTON NORTHUMBERLAND, NE81 2EF Tel. 01670 533000</p>														
<p>Job Title</p> <p>PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANY TIME RESTRICTIONS</p>														
<p>Drawing Title</p> <p>APPENDIX 3 - GREENHEAD VILLAGE HALL - AMENDED PROPOSALS</p>														
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