



Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CORPORATE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES: BARRY ROWLAND

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS COLLYWELL BAY ROAD, SEATON SLUICE

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding proposed parking restrictions on Collywell Bay Road, Seaton Sluice, (see attached consultation plan in appendix A).

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1) The proposed parking restrictions on Collywell Bay Road are not provided.
- 2) The proposed parking restrictions at the Collywell Bay Road/Beresford Road junction are provided.
- 3) Appropriate signage is provided to direct visitors to the Community Centre car park.

Key Issues

- 1) Representations have been received about parked cars causing congestion and safety issues in Collywell Bay Road.
- 2) Some short sections of double yellow lines were provided in the area in 2014 following receipt of a residents petition.
- 3) Indiscriminate parking also occurs at the junction of Collywell Bay Road and Beresford Road by users of the nearby chip shop.

Report Author

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Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the *Places and Environment Aim* in the Corporate Plan:

Our aim is to maintain and further improve the quality of our towns, villages and countryside and make it easier for residents to access services and high quality, affordable homes and to travel using different modes of transport. To achieve this, we will keep Northumberland clean, green and safe from detrimental impacts of climate change, build more houses to benefit those most in need and provide a convenient, integrated public transport network.

Background

1. Parked cars on both sides of Collywell Bay Road can make it difficult for oncoming vehicles to pass, with the road width often reduced to one lane.
2. In 2014, following receipt of a petition and subsequent consultation with local residents, some small sections of double yellow lines were provided in order to create sections where vehicles can pass.
3. Further representations have since been received requesting that these small sections of double yellow lines be 'joined up' to create a continuous restriction.
4. It is claimed that traffic still cannot pass adequately, leading to safety concerns.
5. It is also claimed that access for emergency services is impeded; however, this claim is not backed up by the consultation responses.
6. As well as residents, visitors to the beach and local café also park in this area.
7. Parking also occurs at the junction of Collywell Bay Road with Beresford Road by visitors to the nearby chip shop. This parking affects visibility at the junction and blocks a cycle track.

Consultation

8. A scheme of additional double yellow lines was prepared and was the subject of a consultation which concluded on 5th January 2015
9. The consultation exercise involved the delivery of a consultation letter together with a plan showing details of the scheme to residents, statutory consultees; County Councillor Dungworth, Seaton Valley Council; road user organisations; and other interested parties. The proposal was also available to view and comment via the Council's website. A plan showing the scheme is attached as Appendix A. The consultation letter is attached as Appendix B.
10. 22 responses were returned. 8 were in favour of the proposal (36%), 13 against (59%), 1 neither (5%). A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix B.

11. Many of those who responded were strongly against the proposal, stating they did not consider there to be a problem, and that the sections of double yellow lines already provided were a suitable solution.
12. A number of respondents were, however, in favour of providing double yellow lines at the Collywell Bay Road/Beresford Road junction.
13. Seaton Sluice Community Association has offered the use of their car park in Albert Road for public parking, which would help reduce pressure on Collywell Bay Road. Some signage may be necessary to direct visitors to this car park.
14. One statutory consultee responded. The North East Ambulance Service recognised and appreciated the need for the scheme and supported the proposals. No other Emergency Services responded.
15. Seaton Valley Council stated that residents would be unlikely to agree to the proposals and there may also be an adverse impact on local businesses.
16. In addition to the formal consultation, a local resident undertook an informal survey of those residents directly affected by the proposal.
17. This survey asked residents if they thought there was a problem with parking or congestion, and whether they thought the proposed restrictions would have a positive or negative effect.
18. Thirteen households responded to this survey. 12 of the respondents stated there were no issues with parking or congestion and that the proposal would have a negative effect. Only one stated that there were problems and the proposal would have a positive effect.

Conclusion

19. It is recommended that, in view of the results of the consultation exercise:
 - 1) The proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions should not be provided on Collywell Bay Road.
 - 2) The proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions should be provided at the Collywell Bay Road/Beresford Road junction.
 - 3) Appropriate signage is provided to direct visitors to the Community Centre car park.

Background Papers

File Ref: HE141320

Implications Arising Out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	None
Risk Assessment	None
Crime & Disorder	None
Customer Considerations	None
Sustainability	None
Consultation	The relevant people and organisations were consulted
Wards	Hartley

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Executive Member or Officer(s):

Barry Rowland: Executive Director of Local Services

Subject:

**PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS
COLLYWELL BAY ROAD, SEATON SLUICE**

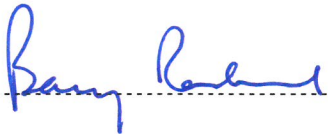
Consultation

22 Responses
8 For
13 Against
1 Neither

Decision Taken:

- 1) The proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions should not be provided on Collywell Bay Road.
- 2) The proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions should be provided at the Collywell Bay Road/Beresford Road junction.
- 3) Appropriate signage is provided to direct visitors to the Community Centre car park.

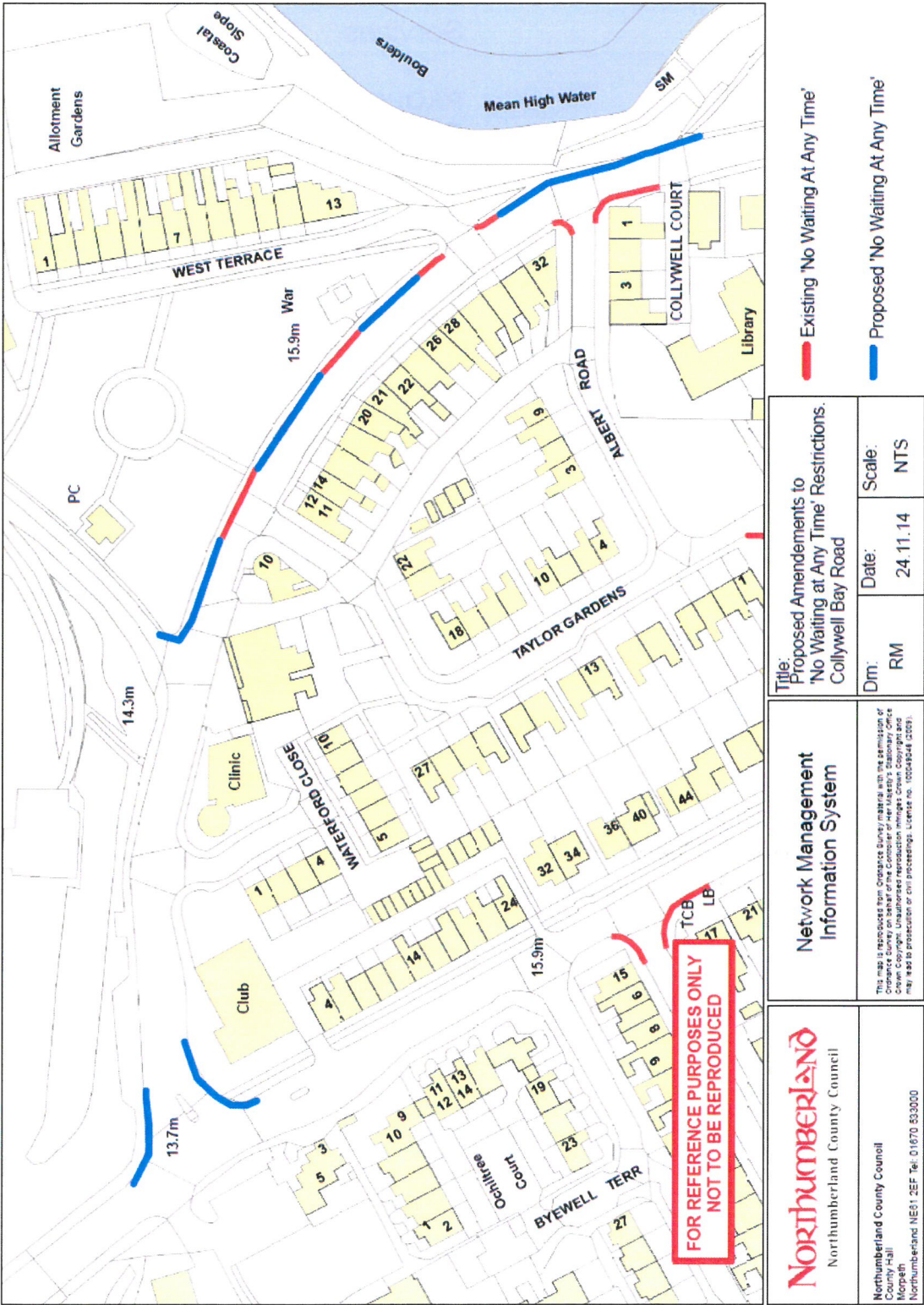
Signature of Executive Director



Date

30/03/15

Appendix A – Consultation Plan



Appendix B – Consultation Letter

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF

• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

The Occupier

Our Ref: HE141320

Your Ref:

Contact: Richard McKenzie

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E-mail: Richard.Mckenzie@northumberland.gov.uk

Monday 24th November 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Amendments to Parking Restrictions – Collywell Bay Road, Seaton Sluice

Concerns have been raised by residents regarding parking problems in Collywell Bay Road. Some short lengths of double yellow lines were provided recently, in order to provide room for traffic to pass. However, it has come to our attention that parked cars are still causing congestion and access issues. With this in mind, I am writing to you to find out your views on extending the existing 'No Waiting At Any Time' parking restriction so that it forms a continuous length, as shown on the enclosed plan. Restrictions are also proposed at the junction with Beresford Road in order to keep the junction and the cycle track free of parked cars.

I am therefore writing formally in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to ask for your comments on the proposals as above and shown on the enclosed plan. The proposal is being considered to improve the amenities of the area.

A free post response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. I would welcome a reply by Monday 5th January 2015. 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. Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to all individual comments but staff will be on hand to clarify any queries you may have. You may also wish to note that any comments received may be included in a Decision Report and may be available for public inspection.

Please visit the following web address

<http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/> if you wish to respond to this consultation online.

Yours faithfully



Richard McKenzie
Senior Programmes Officer

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			I support these proposals. I do think it will introduce better traffic flow at busy times.
1			
1			I vote yes, if it's a question of safety, but it would mean everyone paking on the same side of the road, and that would mean the residents would be restricted especially in the summer time. Maybe parking permit holders for residents?
			Mr Mckenzie, My name is John Greener and live at 32 Collywell Bay Road Seaton Sluice where myself and my wife run a small tea shop called Castaways. We received your letter yesterday regarding the proposed extending the existing 'No Waiting At Any Time' for Collywell Bay Road. Firstly is there any evidence regarding the parking problems ? We have been here now for 7 years and have never heard of any complaints from any of the residents of Collywell Bay Road, there has as far as I am aware been no accidents and even in the height of the summer season when many people flock to Seaton Sluice to enjoy our fantastic Northumberland coastline there never seems to be a problem, it all seems very confusing. Secondly We strongly disagree with your proposal. I would have posted this on the website address but the website is unavailable I look forward to hearing from you in the near future Mr John Greener, 32 Collywell Bay Road, Seaton Sluice is there any evidence to suggest that the residents of collywell bay road feel parking is a problem ? We have lived here for 7 years and have never heard of anyone from collywell bay road complaining about parking, even in the height of summer when the coastline is thronged with local visitors and tourists there never seems to be a problem, as far as I am aware there has never been an accident so why do you feel it necessary to target this area
	1		looking at the plan accompanying the proposed amendments, shouldn't the restrictions be on the other side of the road? This will leave much more room for cars on the other side of the street, i.e. parking spaces for visitors to Seaton Sluice, which residents are expecting as the place becomes more attractive to tourists. Please think about this. If the parking restrictions are put on the other side of the street the residents could perhaps be allowed to get a resident's permit to be able to park outside their own door.
1			Thank you for your letter of 24th November 2014 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. 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.
	1		This proposed action is a total waste of funds. This is a village. This is not London. This is a place that people want to visit and the visitors spend time and money in the village. It is totally over the top. Even the lines at present are extreme. What evidence do you have to support this action? I live at number 17 Collywell Bay road. There are spaces basin front of the propperness and behind the back lane to park. if you need further information please contact me on 07801314373 or email. I strongly believe this is totally unjust. Seaton Sluice is a village not on the north circular in London.
1			The only part I do not support is the area opposite Collywell Court - Albert Road; Yes the corner of Albert Road and Collywell Court. No problem with the corner outside our club.
	1		The new proposals will perminately create further problems for residential parking as we do not have garages or garage space. I don't think we needed these short lengths of double lines, I have lived here for 25yrs and there have never been any parking issues. As we are a coastal resort we need to be amore welcoming to visitors and passing trade for the local ports and capes. The problem seems to be from 1 resident or Collywell Court, who seems to have a bee in his bonnet concerning parking! Why is he being taken notice of?
	1		My name is David Hall, my wife and myself have lived at 31 Collywell Bay Road for over thirty five years, I am writing in response to your current proposal to extent the current no parking restrictions in front of our home and further on down the street. I simply cannot understand your reasoning behind this proposal, I was angered, frustrated, and taken totally by surprise when I was confronted by the work team laying down the current yellow lines. I certainly do not agree with any further restrictions to parking in our area. I do recognise that some folk don't have the sense to park correctly near corners, but it is regretable that the rest of us have to suffer because of the stupidity of others. In all the years I have lived here I have rarely noticed congestion in the street being a major problem, on some occasions when there are particular events on like Seaton Sluice Harbour day there are more than usual visitors vying for a parking space, but other than that everything was quite acceptable, and in no way necessitates the draconian extended parking restrictions that you are proposing. If you are concerned about the residents well being, please consider how the new parking restrictions effect us, the spaces in front of our homes are in even more demand from visitors to the coast than they were previously. Arriving home to unload shopping or when our family visit with small children can mean an awkward hike from wherever we can find a space. I do not wish to deprive those who are not fortunate enough to live in such a panoramic location the opportunity to explore our area and discover what it has to offer. Not being able to park outside of ones home is an inconvenience that can generally be rectified later in the day. The current parking restrictions have made things worse for this resident and his family, I would hope that you are satisfied that you have at least covered dangerous parking near corners and appeal to you not to follow your plan to extend further.
	1		Visitors to my flat often park on the opposite side of the road where you wish to extend the 'no waiting at any time'. Also I sometimes park on that side of the road if for any reason I cannot park outside my front door. Please do not extend the no waiting at any time. Thank you PATait. P.S. If I cannot park outside my front door - where on earth will I be able to park!!!
1			
1			Thank you for your letter of 24th November 2014 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. 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.

Appendix C

		<p>My name is David Hall, my wife and myself have lived at 31 Collywell Bay Road for over thirty five years, I am writing in response to your current proposal to extent the current no parking restrictions in front of our home and further on down the street.</p> <p>I simply cannot understand your reasoning behind this proposal, I was angered, frustrated, and taken totally by surprise when I was confronted by the work team laying down the current yellow lines. I certainly do not agree with any further restrictions to parking in our area.</p> <p>I do recognise that some folk don't have the sense to park correctly near corners, but it is regretable that the rest of us have to suffer because of the stupidity of others.</p> <p>In all the years I have lived here I have rarely noticed congestion in the street being a major problem, on some occasions when there are particular events on like Seaton Sluice Harbour day there are more than usual visitors vying for a parking space, but other than that everything was quite acceptable, and in no way necessitates the draconian extended parking restrictions that you are proposing.</p> <p>If you are concerned about the residents well being, please consider how the new parking restrictions effect us, the spaces in front of our homes are in even more demand from visitors to the coast than they were previously. Arriving home to unload shopping or when our family visit with small children can mean an awkward hike from wherever we can find a space.</p> <p>I do not wish to deprive those who are not fortunate enough to live in such a panoramic location the opportunity to explore our area and discover what it has to offer. Not being able to park outside of ones home is an inconvenience that can generally be rectified later in the day.</p> <p>The current parking restrictions have made things worse for this resident and his family, I would hope that you are satisfied that you have at least covered dangerous parking near corners and appeal to you not to follow your plan to extend further.</p>
1		
		<p>Dear Mr McKenzie -Proposed amendments to parking restrictions CWBR - The parking along Collywell Bay Road, Seaton Sluice, has been a continuous problem, especially during the summer months. We have a front car park with seven parking spaces and a bike rack which would accommodate some parking, especially during weekends when we do not have any events booked. We would be happy for members of the public to use the car park in our 'off periods'. However we would need some signage to direct drivers to our centre. If you would like to discuss this proposal with the Trustees of the Community Centre please do not hesitate to contact us at the above address. Yours sincerely Alison Thomas, Secretary.</p>
		<p>Dear Mr McKenzie -Proposed amendments to parking restrictions Collywell Bay Road Seaton Sluice - Thank you for your letter dated 24th November, we would be grateful if you could consider the following comments from Seaton Valley Council. The council considers that residents may not be happy with double yellow lines amendment proposed on Collywell Bay road, there will be an impact on businesses, and they are asking if it would be possible to consider a trial of a one-way system along Collywell Bay road as an alternative, please. Yours sincerely - Lorraine Fox service Officer.</p>
1		
		<p>I have lived here for 22 years, lived in Seaton Sluice 37 years I've never had a problem until they put in yellow lines. Just recently had 2 hip operations I'm now back at work part times when I get home how do I carry my shopping when cars are parked outside my doors I'm not able to carry heavy stuff. One person (George Wilson) should not be able to change our street, as he's the complainer. People are coming from other areas and parking on yellow lines. If yellow lines appear we want parking permits as back lane is dark and congested. Blyth valley was a good council but Northumberland are letting us down. We will have protest if you change our parking plus remove the yellow lines that you have put down, your spoiling a coastal resort SHAME!</p>
1		
		<p>I do not support the councils proposals of yellow lines. Congestion is worse since the council placed the yellow lines at the war memorial statue, without the views of residents in the first instance on Collywell Bay road. I do not know anyone in Collywell Bay who is supporting this proposal. Why does the council look at building a car park??? or extending the car park at the bottom of the avenue. What needs to happen is a sign post informing visitors not to park on the residents side of the road - e.g. Parking meters, passes for residents (free) surely other proposals can be implemented instead of being negative towards residents. After you review all the residents views are you going to reconsider???? Let us know what you decide. is this area not a conservation area? Is yellow ines within the restrictions?</p>
1		
		<p>I have never had any issues</p>
		<p>We strongly oppose this suggested amended scheme. Even after 'day visitors' have left there is often insufficient parking space for residents and their guests. I have occasionally had to park on double yellow lines opposite my home using my 'Blue Badge' as I have walking difficulties. Any further reduction in parking space would make life very difficult for many residents as there is simply nowhere else to park. A simple way to reduce the problem for residents would be to impose 'Residents Only' parking but this would have a detrimental impact on businesses in the area. However this did not seem to be a consideration when residents of West terrace and Waterford close had their parking spaces protected.</p>
1		
		<p>This proposal does not include any provisions for rate payers and residents of Collywell Bay road. How will 'The amenities of the area' be improved by punitive proposals that favour occasional parking over resident parking? As residents we are aware of a strong strength of feeling against existing and further parking proposals. We would be interested to learn about the 'congestion and access issues' you refer to. since we believe these to be entirely without foundation. As in your previous consultation on this matter, you have introduced a second area of proposed change (Beresford Road). This facilitates inaccurate and invalid conclusions - Collywell Bay road should be considered in a separate way. A freedom of information request will be submitted in which you can explain the rationale behind these proposals.</p>
1		
		<p>We support the proposal for double yellow lines at the junction with Beresford Road. We do not support the proposal for additional double yellow lines anywhere along Collywell Bay road. The park side should be left clear for anyone visiting or delivering, or working on the houses on CB rd. We have never had any parking problems in this area during our time here form 1974, but as the volume of cars parking has increased considerably since that date it may be time for the housing side to be made limited to residents only parking certain times and most definitely at all times if the proposal is past!!</p>
1	1	
8	13	1