



Northumberland County Council

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CORPORATE DIRECTOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES: BARRY ROWLAND**

**PROPOSED RESIDENTS PERMIT PARKING, TOWN CLOSE, HIGH
NEWTON-BY-THE-SEA**

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding a proposed residents permit parking scheme at Town Close, High Newton-by-the-Sea, (see attached consultation plan in appendix A).

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1) Residents Permit Parking is implemented at Town Close, High Newton-by-the-Sea.

Key Issues

- 1) High Newton-by-the-Sea experiences severe parking pressure, particularly during the tourist season.
- 2) This pressure is due to the presence of a pub, hotel and the village's position in the coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- 3) Residents are experiencing congestion, indiscriminate parking and obstruction.
- 4) A separate project to provide a new car park to ease parking pressure in the village is currently at the design stage.

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. High Newton-by-the-Sea is situated in the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and is a popular visitor destination.
2. The village contains a pub, the Joiners Arms, and a hotel, Newton Hall, which caters for weddings and other functions.
3. These factors all lead to severe parking pressure in the village.
4. The village consists of narrow roads surrounding a village green. Parking along these roads causes congestion and makes it difficult for vehicles to pass, particularly larger vehicles such as buses.
5. Indiscriminate parking is also obstructing residents and making it hard to park near their properties.
6. A project to provide a new car park for visitors is currently at the design stage. Once complete, parking in the village will be restricted to protect the local environment and relieve the parking problems.
7. Due to its proximity to the Joiners Arms pub, Town Close suffers from indiscriminate parking by visitors, and is likely to continue to do so unless restrictions are provided.
8. Newton-by-the-Sea Parish Council therefore requested that residents permit parking be considered for Town Close.

Consultation

9. A scheme was prepared and was the subject of a consultation which concluded on 19th February 2015.
10. 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 K Cairns, Newton-by-the-Sea Parish 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.

11. 16 responses were returned with 14 in favour of the proposal (88%) and 1 against (6%). 1 response failed to state a preference.
12. One statutory consultee responded. The North East Ambulance Service recognised and appreciated the need for the scheme and supported the proposals.
13. Newton-by-the-Sea Parish Council supports the proposal.

Conclusion

14. It is recommended that, in view of the results of the consultation exercise, residents permit parking should be provided at Town Close.

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	Hexham East

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Executive Member or Officer(s): Barry Rowland: Executive Director of Local Services

Subject: PROPOSED RESIDENTS PERMIT PARKING, TOWN CLOSE, HIGH NEWTON BY THE SEA.

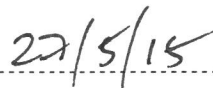
Consultation 16 Responses
14 For
1 Against
1 Neither

Decision Taken: 1) Residents Permit Parking is implemented at Town Close, High Newton-by-the-Sea.

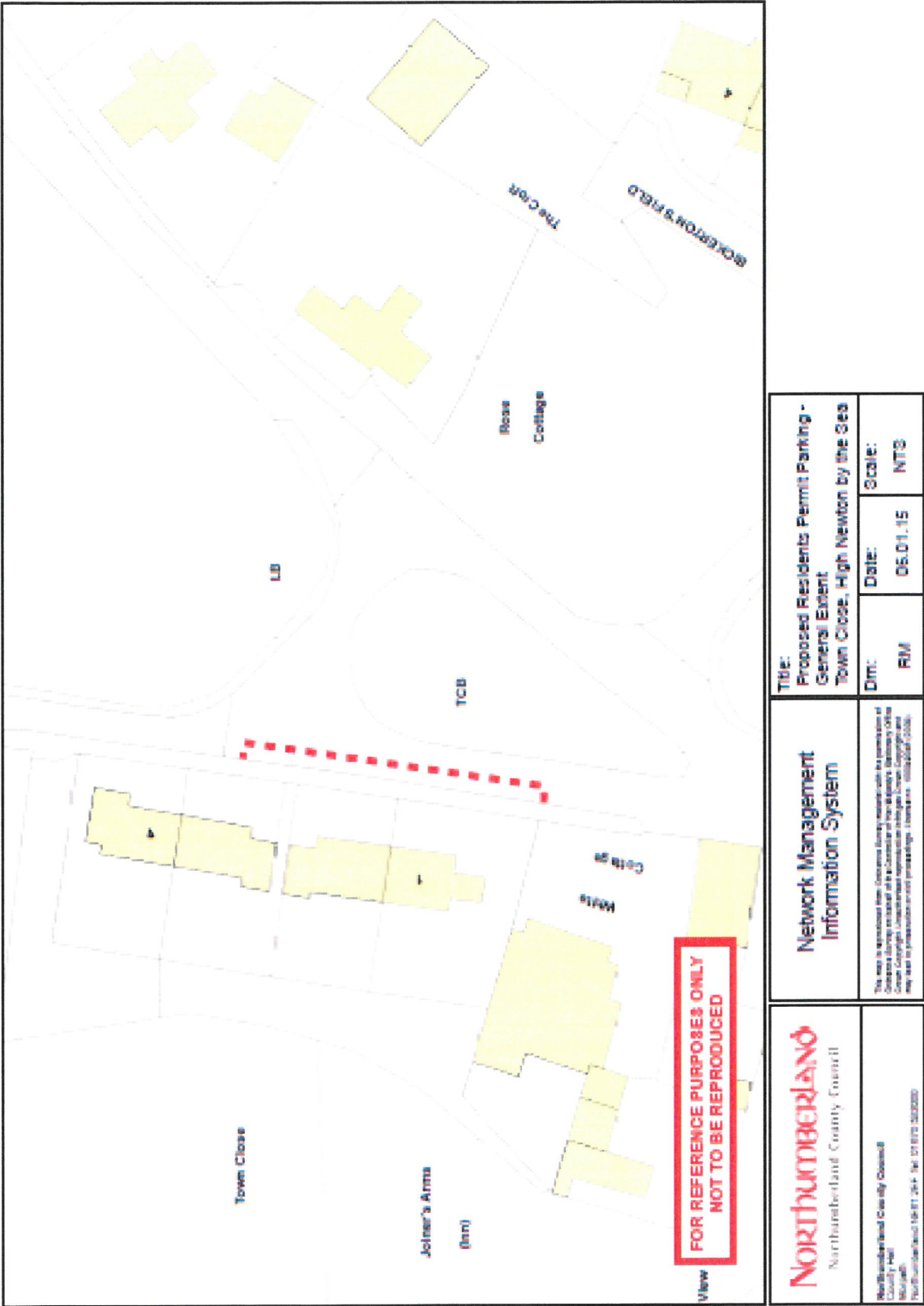
Signature of Executive Director



Date



Appendix A – Consultation Plan



Appendix B - Consultation Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			<p>Although I am not directly affected by the scheme, I live close to the Green and know the frustration experienced by the residents at Town Close. The visitors to the Joiners are often inconsiderate and rude to the residents seriously detracting from their enjoyment of living in Newton. I realise that enforcement will be a problem, but at least it will give residents some backing in their dealings with this problem.</p> <p>These houses have very little scope for off road parking and even those with driveways are liable for these to be blocked by visitors' cars.</p> <p>Other houses, such as ours, have greater area for off road parking and visitor parking is not such a problem for us as it is for the Town Close residents. In general, I think this scheme will go some way towards balancing the needs of residents and visitors.</p>
	1		<p>Please be informed that as a resident of ■ Town Close, that I have dropped kerbs allowing access to my drive. On a rare occasion I will park across my entrance for short periods. My main concern is that the occupiers of ■ Town Close have four cars and park between the phone box and the start of my dropped kerbs. On occasions they have placed bollards or wheelie bins into the road to discourage visitors from parking. On receiving this letter I was visited by the owner of ■ Town Close and asked if I would purchase 2 parking permits for my address and then sell them to him, for his family to use in there vehicles. Paint RESIDENTS PARKING ONLY on the road between the phone box and my dropped kerbs.</p>
1			It will go some way to help the residents in the immediate area
1			I strongly support the proposal but it should extend to other parts of the village.
1			The parking is ridiculous- the residents have been harassed for 4 years by pub visitors.
		1	<p>Thank you for your correspondence dated 8th January 2015 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 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.</p>
1			<p>We also urgently need double yellow lines around the Green at High Newton and along the roads in and out of the Village to make access safe. I live and work here and I have had some 'close shaves' walking and driving through the village trying to get past parked cars that block the carriageway.</p>
1			So that local long term residents of Town Close can park outside of their homes, unobstructed. To protect amenity for local residents
1			<p>Could you please advise - will there be any road markings or any signs put up stating that spaces will be for permit holders only?? There is an ongoing problem with visitors to the pub in the village parking outside my property. Also, I have a drop down kerb on my property already, so would I be correct in assuming that I wont be paying for the actual spot outside my property but the one next to it at the front gate.</p>
1			<p>Sad that residents have to buy permits because of indiscriminate parking but once permits are in where will the traffic go? It will pass the problem onto someone else, so more parking permits in the future. It is possibly time for the whole problem to be addressed.</p>
1			A great idea
1			<p>We own No ■ Town Close and use it as a holiday let. Our driveway is very narrow and only accommodates 1 very small car. We would therefore need to be included in the residents permits to be able to park on the road outside the other houses and to have access to two permits for our house. This is imperative in order for our business to continue to flourish.</p>
1			<p>I Think this should include No ■ and also double yellow lines around the green and a the bus stop to allow the bus access.</p>

1			<p>We are a family of five (inc 2 teenage daughters). We are the full time residents of number [REDACTED] Town Close and fully support residents permit parking. However, we own four vehicles, which when parked together, can fit in the width of space in front of our property. We therefore would ask , that under these circumstances, that we be allowed to purchase four permits. We have nowhere else to park, other than outside our home! We totally rely on our transport, living as rurally as we do, for work, education, shopping etc. as well as social and pleasure purposes.</p>
1			<p>I support the introduction of permit parking in High Newton, but believe it should apply to the whole settlement. If only a short stretch of road has restrictions it will presumably exacerbate the problem elsewhere. There are similar parking problems in Low Newton – especially as the double yellow line as inexplicably disappeared – and I think the traffic/parking issues in both High and Low Newton need to be urgently addressed so that a sustainable solution can be found ahead of the busy summer season. Visitors should only be allowed to park in the public car park at the top of the hill in Low Newton - nowhere else!</p>
1			<p>We support this proposal on the understanding that plans to provide a new parking facility for visitors to the village are underway and will come to fruition. Our property is adjacent to the Joiners Arms and for over 25 years we have been able to park on the roadway in front of the house. We consider that given the serious parking problems, particularly during the summer months that we should also be granted a permit.</p>
14	1	1	

