



Northumberland County Council

**DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING IN CONSULTATION
WITH PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTION, MAIN STREET, SEAHOUSES

Cabinet Member: Councillor Ian Swithenbank

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding a proposal to implement a parking restriction in Main Street, Seahouses.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1) The proposed parking restriction should not be implemented.

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."

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Key Issues

1. Concerns were raised about parking outside the Old Cemetery in Main Street, Seahouses.
2. These concerns stated that parked cars made it difficult for the householders opposite to exit their driveways.
3. Two consultations were carried out on proposed parking restrictions, neither of which had a sufficient majority in favour.
4. Following a complaint by a resident, it was decided that a final consultation be carried out on a simple proposal, in order to clearly understand residents views.

Background

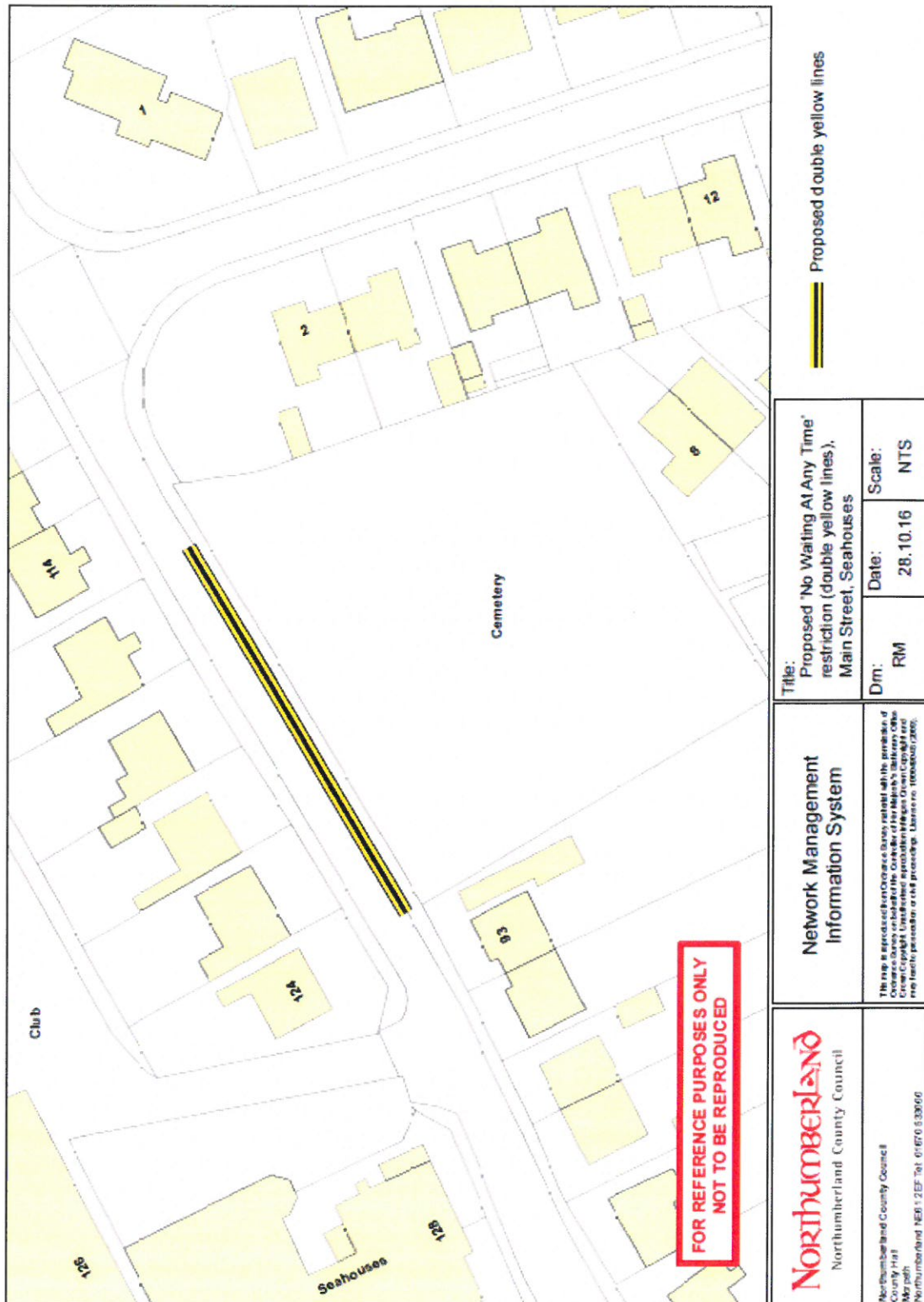
1. Concerns were raised about parking outside the Old Cemetery in Main Street, Seahouses.
2. These concerns stated that parked cars made it difficult for householders opposite to exit their driveways.
3. In order to address these concerns, residents were consulted in April 2015 on various potential parking restrictions, including single or double yellow lines.
4. In response to comments received a second consultation was carried out in November 2015 on a further option of providing seasonal restrictions which would only apply during the tourist season.
5. There was an insufficient majority in favour of any of the options for the proposal to proceed, however, some responses were unclear on which option, if any, was preferred.
6. Following a complaint from a resident it was decided that the complicated nature of the consultations, with various different options, may have caused difficulties for consultees when deciding how to respond. A further consultation would therefore be carried out on a simple proposal in order to clearly understand residents views.
7. Consequently, a consultation on providing double yellow lines was carried out. This consultation ended on 30th November 2016. A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A.
8. The results of this consultation were 4 in favour, 7 against and 1 neither. The responses are shown in Appendix B.

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9. Only 2 of the 4 responses in favour came from residents. The other 2 were North Sunderland Parish Council and Seahouses Social Club who are not affected by the proposal.
10. The local ward member, Councillor Woodman, does not consider the proposal a priority.
11. Given the results of the consultation exercise it is recommended that the proposed parking restriction is not provided.

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Appendix A - Consultation Plan



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Appendix B - Consultation Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	COMMENTS
	1		<p>It is not in our interest to have parking restrictions as during the Summer months we provide B&B and occasionally guests park on the road beside our house or near our house beside the cemetery wall. The village is busy during the Summer and holiday makers, on day visits, park where they can. What is to stop them parking on the other side of the road? Who is wanting this restriction? Why is it a problem? The people in the cemetery are certainly not causing this issue!!! Cars parking along this road also slow the speed of the passing motorists which is a problem that certainly needs "looking into!" We returned our response form stating we wished for no parking restrictions beside the cemetery wall. However, on reading a previous letter dated 27th April 2015 we now presume the reason for further correspondence is as before: - residents unable to exit their drive. A gentleman lives opposite our house, does not drive and carers assist him approximately 3 times a day (parking beside the cemetery wall.) Two holiday homes, which are not always occupied and use the parking when needed. On ehouse was for sale for approximately 2 years and is unoccupied at present. Therefore there is only one house with permanent residents. As stated on the response form it is not in our interest to have parking restrictions as in the summer months we are a B&B. 95 Main Street also a B&B but they did not receive information we informed the,. Trust this will assist in your decision. We have already forwarded a form (dated Wed 2nd Nov). But decided to complete another as perhaps you did not receive the former. Our reasons against are as follows:- 1. We are a B&B in the summer months and our guests park (beside our house) occasionally beside the cemetery wall. 2. Cars parked beside the cemetery wall slow the speed of traffic - which can resemble a racing track. 3. Regarding the complaint of residents unable to enter or exit their properties with their vehicles - as far as we are aware there is only one property with full time occupants who drive. (Information given Mon 27th April 2015). We were informed in this information that was the reason for yellow lines to be introduced. My husbands comments was you could get a bloody bus in and out of there. Hope this meets with your satisfaction.</p>
	1		<p>I would consider that:- Double yellow lines on the cemetery side would only encourage people to park on the "residential" side of the road. This would make my access to my property difficult and at times impossible. Parking on the residential side would give severely restricted vision up Main Street - especially important when the school is in session. Potentially a very dangerous situation. I appreciate when a burial is likely to commence that cemetery access is required - this could be undertaken by the use of traffic cones as a temporary solution. With the school changing from First to Primary we can expect an increase of traffic anyway. Therefore it is vital that the North side of Main street be kept clear. I would suggest:- Either leave things as they are or incorporate double yellow lines on both sides of the proposed site.</p>
1			(no comments made)
	1		<p>Cars parked outside cemetery slow traffic people visiting cemetery and maintenance of cemetery will then park on the other side of the road and will make it dangerous for residents getting out of our drives. We think the present situation is fine and when the junior school moves it will make Southfield ave even more difficult than it is now. Southfield ave is bigger problem than Main Street. We live permanently on this present situation we do not want the situation</p>

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			made worse by the addition of yellow lines. There is no need for yellow lines. People have to park somewhere while visiting cemetery.
1			No affect to our premises. Would ease congestion on Main Street.
	1		We would support restricted parking during the day time only Eg, from 08.45 through to 17.30 to reduce the congestion caused by parents dropping off children at the school etc.
	1		<p>I am not sure what has prompted this proposal. I assume it may be the effect of school traffic just prior to 9am, or end of school day, because of potential danger to children ?</p> <p>I frequently catch the 8.51 X18 bus to Berwick, so have observed the effect of parents parking adjacent to the old cemetery. The pinch point is not adjacent to the cemetery wall-but further up, opposite the turning into the large car park by the Social Club, behind the school-with cars going in and out. The Main road narrows here, cars also of course park opposite the school buildings, and this is the more dangerous area with congested traffic and potential danger.</p> <p>I see no merit in restricting parking adjacent to the cemetery wall. I think parents dropping off children would ignore double yellow lines, and take a chance for the brief period of off loading children and seeing them into school.</p> <p>If the objective is to preserve some tranquility for those visiting the graves in the cemetery, I see absolutely no point, as the number of visitors must be very few, due to the age of the graves.</p> <p>Overall I see little benefit to restricting parking on this stretch of road. If any restriction is needed, for safety of children getting to and from school, I suggest it is further up, from the end of the cemetery wall up to about 103-105</p>
1			North Sunderland Parish Council fully support the proposal. Properties on the opposite of the road are often unable to exit by car due to parked vehicles.
		1	Thank you for your letter dated 2nd November 2016 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. I would inform you that as 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 outpatient appointments. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the ongoing road safety programme.
	1		I run a bed and breakfast business from 95 Main street and the proposed parking restrictions will have an adverse effect on my business. I have parking space for three cars at the property but in the height of the summer season I need capacity for a possible 6 vehicles. At present we use the available parking outside the cemetery. As the tourist industry is a vital source of income to the village I find it wrong to restrict parking for local tourists. I also think that this will only serve to prompt people to park in other areas which will be outside residential properties, which will cause nuisance to residents. If the restrictions are introduced the traffic flow will be much faster which would cause a danger outside the school, at present the cars parked outside the cemetery slow down the traffic.
1			I would like to point out that Southfield Avenue is becoming impossible to get down even in the winter months. As is James Street. If double yellow lines are put along the proposed stretch outside the Old Cemetery these streets will become more

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			congested. Double yellow lines down one side of both of the about streets would be helpful Emergency Vehicles would have problems getting down these streets. I would also like to say the Main Street leading out of Bamburgh should have double yellow lines on both sides.
	1		I quite understand the people in the houses opposite would like double yellow lines but people need to park somewhere so other parking should be provided. I will get more cars parking in front of my house and although i park in my drive people parking on the road make a blind spot for me to get out.
4	7	1	

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Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	The proposal will be funded through the Local Transport Plan
Legal	None
Procurement	None
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	None
Crime & Disorder	None
Customer Consideration	Local property owners/occupiers have been consulted.
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Bamburgh

Background papers:

File ref: HE141320

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Report sign off.

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

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

Author and Contact Details

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DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer(s) and Portfolio Holder (where appropriate):* Acting Director of Local Services & Housing

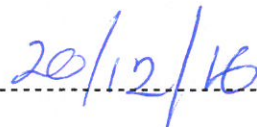
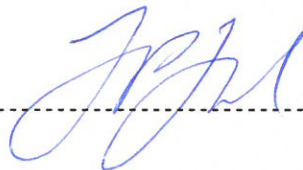
Subject: Proposed parking restriction, Main Street, Seahouses

Consultation* (if the Corporate Director is required to consult a Portfolio Holder summarise the outcome of that consultation opposite and its impact on the decision)

Decision Taken: The proposed parking restriction should not be implemented.

Signature of Director/
officer/Portfolio Holder where
appropriate)*

Date



* delete as appropriate