



Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

PAUL JONES

PROPOSED TIME LIMITED DISABLED BLUE BADGE HOLDERS PARKING PLACE ON BEAUMONT STREET IN HEXHAM

Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the consultation exercise which proposes to introduce time limited Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places (2 hours, No return within 3 hours) to Beaumont Street in Hexham.

Recommendations

It is recommended that in view of the feedback received from the consultation exercise that the following restrictions are introduced:-

- **Two Time Limited Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places 2 hours, No return within 3 hours outside Queens Hall**
- **Car Club bay is reverted back to time limited parking Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm, 2 hours, No return within 3 hours.**

Link to Corporate Plan

How - "We want to be efficient, open and work for everyone"

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"

Connecting - "We want you to have access to the things you need"

Delegated Decision Report

Key Issues

1. Concerns have been raised by members of the public, local County Councillor Trevor Cessford and Civil Enforcement Officers regarding the lack of parking available for those with mobility issues around Beaumont Street in Hexham.
2. Two potential locations were proposed on Beaumont Street. One outside of the Queens Hall and the other is the former Car Club bay.
3. The Queens Hall is located on Beaumont Street and houses the town's library, customer and visitor information centre and Arts Centre.
4. Car Club Parking Place on Beaumont Street is now redundant and due to the high demand for parking within Hexham Town Centre, the bay should be made available for use by members of the public.
5. The scheme is supported by County Councillor Trevor Cessford.

Report Author **Dan Fraser – Programme Officer (Highway Safety)**
(01670) 624125
Daniel.Fraser@northumberland.gov.uk

Delegated Decision Report

PROPOSED TIME LIMITED DISABLED BLUE BADGE HOLDERS PARKING PLACE ON BEAUMONT STREET IN HEXHAM

Background

1. A number of requests were made to review parking for those with mobility issues within Northumberland.
2. Beaumont Street in Hexham was identified as a location where parking for Disabled Blue Badge Holders could be increased to provide easy access to local outlets and facilities.
3. There is a Car Club bay on Beaumont Street with a Traffic Regulation Order attached that prevents anyone from parking there apart from a car club vehicle. This bay is no longer used by the car club and needs to be reverted back to a parking place that can be used by members of the public.

Consultation

4. The proposed introduction of time limited Blue Badge Holders Parking Places was the subject of a consultation exercise that involved asking residents/businesses who would be directly affected by the introduction of the restriction for feedback on the proposals.
5. In total 8 residents/businesses were consulted along with approximately 30 statutory consultees including the emergency services and various disabled and transport organisations/associations. A plan showing the proposals is attached with a copy of the consultation letter as Appendix A.
6. The consultation exercise concluded on Thursday 5th September 2018 and responses were received from 3 consultees, all being in favour of the proposal. The North East Ambulance Service were the only statutory consultees to respond and did not express a preference. A summary of responses has been attached as Appendix B.

Comments

7. One of those who provided feedback suggested that both Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places should be located outside of the Queens Hall as the proposed location where the Car Club is located is logistically quite difficult to park in and may cause problems.

Delegated Decision Report

Recommendations

8. From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns raised in this area and it is inevitable that some individuals in the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. However in this instance after taking on board comments made and all of the consultees who responded were in favour additional Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places, it is recommended that the following restrictions are added to Beaumont Street in Hexham. A plan showing the proposed restrictions is attached as Appendix C.
 - Two Time Limited Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places
2 hours, No return within 3 hours outside Queens Hall
 - Car Club bay is reverted back to time limited parking Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm, 2 hours, No return within 3 hours.

9. 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 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.

Delegated Decision Report

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	None
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	Benefit for those with mobility issues
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Hexham Central with Acomb

Background papers:

None

Delegated Decision Report

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)	

Delegated Decision Report

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer: Paul Jones - Service Director -Local Services

Subject: Proposed Time Limited Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places on Beaumont Street in Hexham

Consultation: 4 Responses Received
3 For
1 Neither

Decision Taken: To introduce the following restrictions are introduced:-

- Two Time Limited Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places 2 hours, No return within 3 hours outside Queens Hall
- Car Club bay is reverted back to time limited parking Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm, 2 hours, No return within 3 hours.

Signature of Director



Date

9/11/18



Northumberland County Council

Appendix A

Your ref:

Our ref: HE185325-17

Enquiries to: Dan Fraser

Email: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: (01670) 624125

Date: 23rd July 2018

Dear Sir/ Madam

Proposed Parking Disabled Blue Badge Holder Parking Place Beaumont Street in Hexham

Concerns have been raised by Disabled Blue Badge Holders who are finding it increasingly difficult to find a parking place on Beaumont Street when visiting the library and other outlets. It has been suggested that there is a need for additional Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places on Beaumont Street in Hexham, which will improve the quality of life for those within the community with mobility issues.

As part of the County Councils commitment to improve access to services for vulnerable road users within Northumberland, Council Officers have been working with County Councillor Cessford and have identified two potential Disabled Blue Badge Holder Parking Places on Beaumont Street in Hexham.

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 proposed introduction of a Disabled Blue Badge Holder Parking Place, 2 hours maximum stay, No return within 3 hours parking restrictions to Beaumont Street in Hexham, as shown on the attached plan.

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 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 Wednesday 5th September 2018. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

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.

**Dan Fraser, Programmes Officer (Highway Safety), Highways Programme
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 01670 624125 E: Daniel.Fraser@northumberland.gov.uk
www.northumberland.gov.uk**





Northumberland County Council

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

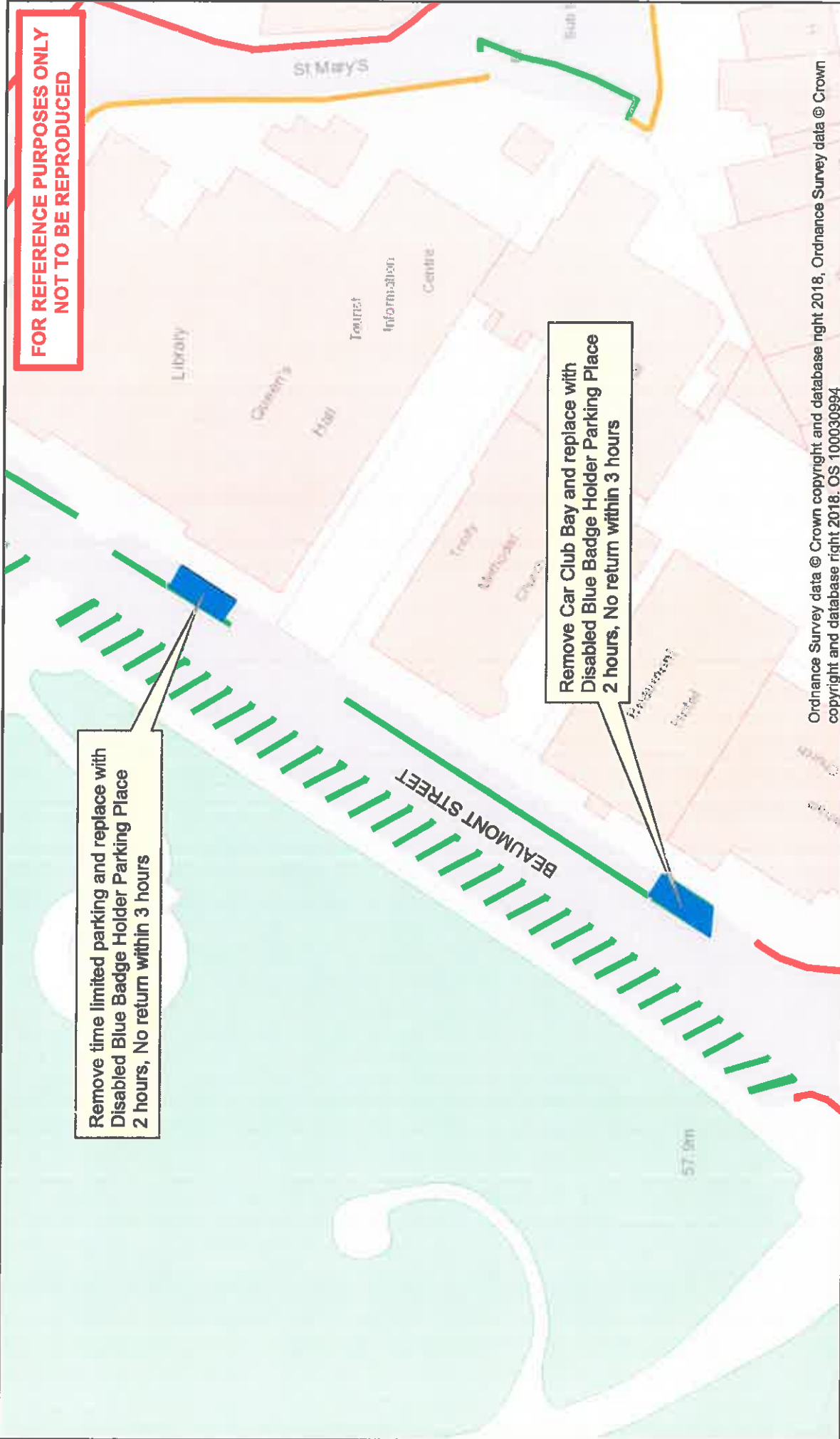
Yours faithfully

Dan Fraser - Programmes Officer (Highway Safety)

Dan Fraser, Programmes Officer (Highway Safety), Highways Programme
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 01670 624125 E: Daniel.Fraser@northumberland.gov.uk
www.northumberland.gov.uk



**FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY
NOT TO BE REPRODUCED**



Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018, Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018. OS 100030994

KEY

	Proposed Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Place 2 Hours, No return within 3 hours
---	--

Title: Beaumont Street, Hexham	
Proposed Disabled Blue Badge Holder Parking Place	
Drm:	Date:
	Scale: 1:1000

Network Management Information System

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey under the terms of the Ordnance Survey Licence. Ordnance Survey, the Ordnance Survey logo and the Crown Copyright, Unauthorised reproduction of this map may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence no. 100040948 (2009).

Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

Northumberland County Council
County Hall
Morpeth
Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 01670 533000

Appendix B - Summary of Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			<p>I think that the two bays would be better grouped together directly outside of the Queens Hall. The bay at the top end of Beaumont Street is logistically quite difficult to park in and may cause problems.</p> <p>The time limit on the bays are a good idea, however there is a small concern that blue badge holders can park for as long as they wish in an ordinary bay which may mean the disabled bays are left standing empty.</p>
1			<p>As the council office is now located here, it seems quite fair to increase the number of blue badge bays.</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence dated 23rd July 2018 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.</p>
1			<p>We are very much in favour of this change. Hexham Community Church.</p>
3	0	1	

