



# Northumberland

## County Council

### **RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES**

**Paul Jones**

**12/06/2020**

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**Proposed Resident Permit Parking Area,  
Acacia Terrace & Laburnum Terrace, Ashington  
Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson - Environment & Local Services**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the introduction of a proposed 'resident permit parking only F1 9.30am - 3pm then 3.30pm - 8.30am' on Acacia Terrace, extending up to the point of the house frontages only on the west side. This will be a continuation of the existing permit parking system that is also in operation on Laburnum Terrace, which runs parallel and has properties that back on to Acacia Terrace.

The proposed scheme will also allow 'Resident Permit Parking Only F1' beyond the house frontages, within the existing unrestricted parking bays at the northernmost section of Acacia Terrace, whilst also permitting a period of limited waiting for '2 hours, no return within 3 hours'.

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the following parking restrictions are introduced:

- Resident Permit Parking only 9.30am - 3pm then 3.30pm - 8.30am on Acacia Terrace running alongside the house frontages.
- Resident Permit Parking only with the bays at the northernmost section of Acacia Terrace, whilst also allowing a period of limited waiting for '2 hours, no return within 3 hours'.

#### **Link to Corporate Plan**

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

Enjoying - "We want you to love where you live"

## **Delegated Decision**

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Learning - “We want you to achieve and realise your potential”

### **Key Issues**

1. Residents have raised safety concerns for both pedestrians and motorists caused by parked cars on Acacia Terrace and Laburnum Terrace.
2. The scheme is to be funded by Councillor Wilson, through his Members' Local Improvement Scheme allowance and the LTP (Local Transport Plan).

### Background

Residents contacted their local Ward Member with concerns regarding safety issues for both pedestrians and motorists caused by congestion and indiscriminate parking on footways and blocking accesses on Acacia Terrace.

Indiscriminate parking on the road is making it difficult for residents and visitors to negotiate this road safely.

After meeting with Councillor Wilson, council officers proposed that resident permit parking area restrictions be introduced to alleviate these concerns.

### **Initial Consultation exercise on a proposed 'Resident Permit Parking Area' for Acacia Terrace on property frontages only**

An initial consultation letter was sent to 38 residents and 18 statutory consultees on the proposed resident permit parking area. A copy of the consultation letter and plan are attached in Appendix A.

7 responses were received as a result of the consultation letter, with 6 in favour 0 against and 1 neither for nor against the proposal. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix B.

The results of the consultation were discussed with Councillor Wilson, who agreed that the restrictions should be introduced.

### **2nd Consultation exercise with revisions to the 'Resident Permit Parking Area' allowing limited waiting in the unrestricted parking bays on Acacia Terrace**

During the implementation process of the scheme, concerns were raised by the Senior Civil Enforcement officer regarding the ability to carry out enforcement on the initial proposal for Resident Permit Parking. The concerns specifically related to the parking area at the northernmost section of Acacia Terrace and the inability to enforce.

Further discussions were held between the Highways Programme, Parking Services and Design Teams to identify a resolution that would allow enforcement to take place.

After meeting with Councillor Wilson, officers proposed a 'Resident Permit Parking Only F1 9.30am - 3pm then 3.30pm - 8.30am' on Acacia Terrace, extending up to the point of the house frontages only on the west side. This would act as a continuation of the Permit Parking system that is also in operation on Laburnum Terrace.

## **Delegated Decision**

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'Resident Permit Parking Only F1' is also proposed within the unrestricted parking bays at the northernmost section of Acacia Terrace, whilst also allowing a period of limited waiting for '2 hours, no return within 3 hours'.

A consultation letter was sent to 71 residents and 22 statutory consultees on the proposed resident permit parking area. A copy of the consultation letter and plan are attached in Appendix C.

9 responses were received as a result of the consultation letter, with 5 in favour 2 against and 2 neither for nor against the proposal. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix D.

3 responses were received from residents not eligible for the Acacia Terrace parking permits scheme, with 0 in favour 2 against and 1 neither for nor against the proposal. As these are not eligible for the parking permits scheme their comments were noted separately. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix E.

The results of the consultation were discussed with Councillor Wilson, who agreed that the restrictions should be introduced.

The scheme is supported by Councillor Wilson and funded through his Members' Local Improvement Scheme allocation.

A period of monitoring will take place once the resident permit parking and limited waiting has been installed.

## Delegated Decision

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### Implications Arising out of the Report

<b>Policy</b>	None
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	Funded through the Members Local Improvement allocation for Councillor Wilson and LTP
<b>Legal</b>	Preparation of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)
<b>Procurement</b>	
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The scheme has been designed to minimise the road safety concerns that are caused by indiscriminate parking.
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Traffic safety concerns i.e. Obstruction / congestion of the highway
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Scheme is anticipated to improve road safety for residents and road users in the area
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	N/A
<b>Wards</b>	Ashington Central

## **Delegated Decision**

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### **Background papers:**

File ref: 2018/171 & HO196517

### **Appendix Index**

Appendix A - Consultation Letter and Plan

Appendix B - Consultation Responses

Appendix C - 2nd Consultation Letter and Plan

Appendix D - 2nd Consultation Responses

Appendix E - 2nd Consultation Responses from Non-residents

### **Author and Contact Details**

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Report Author      ***Sarah Hudson Technical Assistant (M.S.S)***

**DECISION TAKEN**

**Title of Officer:** Service Director, Local Services

**Subject:** Extension of existing Laburnum Terrace  
'Resident Permit Parking Only  
F1 9.30am - 3pm then 3.30pm -  
8.30am onto Acacia Terrace & limited  
waiting for '2 hours, no return within 3 hours  
in the parking bays at the northernmost  
section on Acacia Terrace, Ashington.

**Consultation:** For: 6  
Against: 0  
Neutral: 1

**2nd Consultation:** For: 5  
Against: 2  
Neutral: 2

**Decision Taken:** To introduce the resident permit parking  
and limited waiting as proposed.

Signature of Director



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**Date**  
1st July 2020

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# Northumberland

## County Council

**Your ref:**

**Our ref:** 2017/091\_02

**Enquiries to:** Ms Sarah Hudson

**Email:** HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

**Tel:** 0345 600 6400

**Date:** Monday 28th January 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Proposed Resident Permit Parking Zone Acacia Terrace / Laburnum Terrace, Ashington**

Concerns have been raised by residents of Acacia Terrace in Ashington about indiscriminate parking by non-residents, causing obstruction issues and parking problems.

Councillor Wilson has therefore agreed to fund the introduction of a residents permit parking zone subject to favourable consultation with residents.

Please note: **Only residents of Acacia Terrace will be eligible for parking permits**

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 proposals, to introduce a 'Residents Parking Zone' at U6527 Laburnum Terrace, Ashington as shown on the attached plan.

Signs would be erected as necessary indicating where Resident Permit Parking is in operation. Bays would not be provided within the zone as they are not required for this type of restriction. To cover administrative costs, residents will be asked to purchase Resident Parking Permits. (Currently £15 a year per permit, equivalent to £1.25 per month). A maximum of 2 permits can be provided per household with one permit reserved for residents and one for visitor parking.

A freepost response form is enclosed for you to return your views, or you can email them to HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk. I would welcome a reply by **Friday 15th March 2019**. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to all individual comments. You may also wish to note that any comments received may be included in a Decision Report and may be available for public inspection.

**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.**

Yours faithfully

*S Hudson*

Sarah Hudson

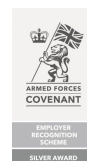
Technical Assistant (Members Small Schemes)

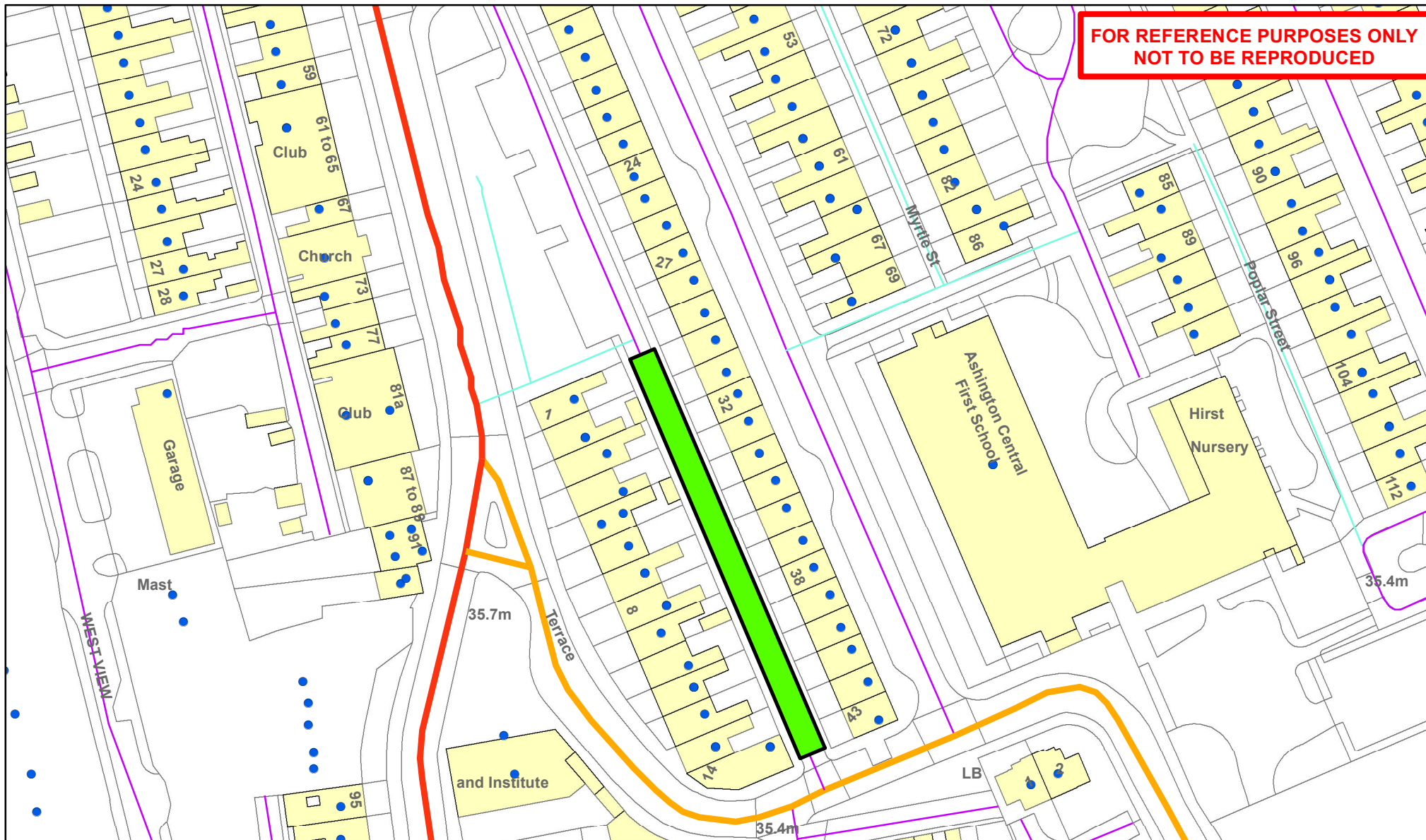


**County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF**

E: [highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk)

[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)





# Northumberland

Northumberland County Council

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

## Network Management Information System

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Title:  
Proposed Residents Parking Scheme  
Acacia / Laburnum Terrace  
Ashington

Drn:  
AW

Date:  
Dec 17

Scale:  
NTS



Proposed Residents Permit  
Parking Scheme

Post Code	F O R	A G A I N S T	N E I T H E R	Other Relevant Comments
NE63 0AQ	1			If and when the scheme is introduced, who would then police it. Who ensures that only the residents of this street park in this street and it is not just left so those without permits still feel they can park here without the appropriate repercussions. What will also be done about the numerous drivers who drive down this one way street the WRONG way, including local taxi drivers who should know better. Do I as a resident have to actually step out in front of one of them and sue them (and the council for their inaction) before anything will be done to stop them. What happens if a pedestrian is hit or maybe another car by one of these drivers going the wrong way? Obviously the NO ENTRY signs at the top of the street (Rickards Estate Agent end) are not big enough for people to see and take notice of. Will the cars that park in the public spaces also STOP parking on the little 'island' areas separating some of the bays. That is just inconsiderate to other drivers and potentially dangerous as it blocks sight for drivers pulling out of the proper bay.
	1			Hi. Whilst I understand the need to introduce the restriction I do strongly believe that the parking area to the north of number 1 needs to be organised to enable a safe parking environment. This is the next place to which drivers will migrate to after being prevented from parking in Acacia Terrace. This area will also need to be enforceable as there is a "free for all" at the moment which causes problems for many.
			1	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.
NE63 0AQ	1			The problem is that the residents from the other side of the road are parking in front of our house / drive as they do not want to pay for a permit in their own lane. Some days I am blocked in and I have to leave for work at 5.40am this is not acceptable
NE63 0AQ	1			Having lived on this street for 5 years we have witnessed our yard doors being blocked daily and the parking spaces outside of the house taken from 8am till 6pm everyday while people these to park for work or park to go shopping on Ashington Street. Having two young children is clearly a challenge when not being able to park outside or at least close to the house. This permit system is well overdue. Our cars have been damaged on numerous occasions.
	1			1. Policing of the system. Who will be responsible for ensuring that the only people parked in the street are residents of Acacia Terrace, or visitors to residents of Acacia Terrace? A parking permit system is of no use if there is no policing of the system and drivers without permits can take the chance to park in the street knowing there is little or no chance of them being 'caught'. 2. One Way Street. Everyone knows that Acacia Terrace is a one-way street yet we see on a daily basis, a number of vehicles driving the wrong way down that street. We have even had local taxi drivers going the wrong way down this street and they should know better than most. I have sent a few pictures to Mr Wilson when I have seen cars parked facing the wrong way but it appears that nothing gets done (I never get a response from Mr Wilson and he is supposed to be my local councillor). The signs at the top of the street near Rickards Estate Agent are no good as no one takes any notice of them and drivers coming out of the public spaces at the top of the street also think they can just drive out the bottom (Chinese Takeaway end) to get to Milburn Road. We need "No Entry" sign painted in white on the ground as per Laburnum Terrace so it is plain below eye level as it is above, that Acacia Terrace is one way. Blue signs with white Arrows placed on poles or fences opposite the public spaces directing drivers to the top of the street (Rickards end) so they know they can only go one way when they leave those bays. Again these are ideas I put to Mr Wilson and again, no response. If it takes myself, as a resident to jump out in front of a car going the wrong way and get 'hit' by that driver to wake the council up to this fact, I will do that. I will then take legal action against the council for not taking any action to stop this happening as well as legal action against the driver for going the wrong way and hitting a pedestrian. Please explain to me what would happen if it was a completely innocent pedestrian just passing through Acacia Terrace that got hit by one of these drivers going the wrong way? What would be the council stance then? Does it take an 'accident' to happen before something is done by this inept administration? The residents of Acacia Terrace are of no more or no less importance than those in Laburnum Terrace, Poplar Street or Myrtle Street, but we seem to get treated a lot less favourably by our council. It's time that stopped. We are all equal and should be afforded the same privileges.
NE63 0AQ	0			See letter I returned with my acceptance of the proposal and my concerns, which are too many to place in this box. I will say that this is 'too little too late' My local councillor never responds to any of my concerns, not even an acknowledgement. Residents of Acacia Terrace are treated as second class citizens compared to Laburnum Terrace, Poplar St and Myrtle St, just because we have a public parking area, so I might add does Poplar St, but they still get permit parking, This council and its councillors are totally inept. WE ARE NOT SECOND CLASS - WE ARE EQUAL AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS EQUAL.

NE63 0AQ	1			<p>I have been having problem with neighbour from the opposite street. There is a household in laburnum terrace, where the occupier has been knowingly in continuous bases parking their car that fully block the access to the garage of x Acacia Terrace. This happened starting from 2014-2019. I have not addressed the issue because my car was on sore from 2014 and has written my car off in 2016. x Acacia terrace had a different occupier Between 2016 and 2018. The previous occupier who wanted access to the garage have had many bad experience with the neighbour from laburnum terrace. The previous occupier tried to reason with kind gesture in regard to the parking issues, and was returned with foul languages and threats. and the previous occupier started to experience his car covered with soda drinks. And the problem neighbour intentionally blocking the previous occupier's car, front and back only for parking outside his own household. The offending household owns three vehicles. Currently I have no issues while they daily block the access to my garage because I don't own a vehicle, but that may change in the near future. Therefore, I have the follow questions and I would appreciate if you can answer.</p> <p>1: If someone who don't have a permit blocks the access to a resident's garage, what action would be taken? How often would the street be checked and of what time period? Can a resident report an obstruction issues?</p> <p>2: if I have a visitor who just want to park outside my house for 5 to 10 mins. Which naturally and normally wouldn't be a problem even if it blocks the access to my garage. Would become an issue if I didn't pay for a visitor permit? What if a car user using a visitor permit blocks the access to my garage who is not my visitor? For that matter what action can I take if a permit holder blocks the access to my garage?</p> <p>3: does having a permit allow users to block access to garages that they don't own? What stopping me from buying a visitor permit and sell or loan to non residents?</p> <p>4: I feel it can help to reduce random parking from car owners who want access to the high street. It might be less effective toward car owners living nearby depending how often it is checked and when. I believe the issue can't be fully solved and may rise other unwanted issues, unless the occupier has some degree of control over who can or cannot block the access to their garage. And what action can be taken to those who blocks other owner garage.</p> <p>5: I feel a sign declaring obstructing access to garage will result of fine or having the car removed, and only the owner of the obstructed garage has the right to report the issue. Either a photo with time and date, or a video recording can lead to fines. Perhaps a video steaming to a report site for authentic reason and can save manpower and generate revenue from offenders.</p>
	6	0	1	



# Northumberland County Council

**Your ref:**

**Our ref:** 2017/091\_03

**Enquiries to:** Ms Sarah Hudson

**Email:** HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

**Tel:** 0345 600 6400

**Date:** Friday 17th April 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

## **Proposed Resident Permit Parking Zone Acacia Terrace / Laburnum Terrace, Ashington**

Back in January 2020, residents of Acacia Terrace were sent a letter which provided them with an update on the proposed Residents Permit Parking Zone on their street. Following this correspondence, this matter has been investigated further by way of site meetings and in house meetings with representatives of the Highways Programme, Parking Services and Design Teams. We are now in a position to provide specific detail as to the nature and operation of the scheme.

We are now in a position to reconsult on proposals to help alleviate indiscriminate parking by non residents which causes obstruction issues and parking problems. It should be noted that Laburnum Terrace is also included in this consultation due to the fact that we are proposing a continuation of the system which is already in operation on that street. This is considered to be a consistent approach given the layout of properties and will aid enforcement.

To maximise parking availability and to ensure a consistent approach is taken throughout the area, the following measures are proposed, and detailed on the attached plan.

1. Introduce 'Resident Permit Parking only F1 9.30am - 3pm then 3.30pm - 8.30am' on Acacia Terrace, extending up to the point of the house frontages only on the west side. This will be a continuation of the Permit Parking system that is also in operation on Laburnum Terrace. This is deemed a consistent approach given the layout of the properties.
2. Allow 'Resident Permit Parking Only F1' within the bays at the northernmost section of Acacia Terrace, whilst also allowing a period of limited waiting for '2 hours, no return within 3 hours'. This allows the use of these bays by members of the public who may be accessing businesses on Laburnum Terrace, as well as the doctors surgery.
3. Formalise parking where possible by introducing short sections of 'Double yellow Lines' where indiscriminate parking blocks access and footways.
4. Refresh the existing 'single yellow line' which runs along the east side of Acacia Terrace which appears to be working well.

Councillor Wilson has agreed to fund the introduction of a residents permit parking zone subject to favourable consultation with residents.

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 proposals, to

introduce a 'Residents Parking Zone' at Acacia Terrace / Laburnum Terrace, Ashington as shown on the attached plan.

Signs would be erected as necessary indicating where Resident Permit Parking is in operation. Bays would not be provided within the zone as they are not required for this type of restriction. To cover administrative costs, residents will be asked to purchase Resident Parking Permits. (Currently £25 a year per permit, equivalent to £2.08 per month). A maximum of 2 permits can be provided per household with one permit reserved for residents and one for visitor parking.

A freepost response form is enclosed for you to return your views, or you can email them to [HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk). I would welcome a reply by **Friday 29th May 2020**. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to all individual comments. You may also wish to note that any comments received may be included in a Decision Report and may be available for public inspection.

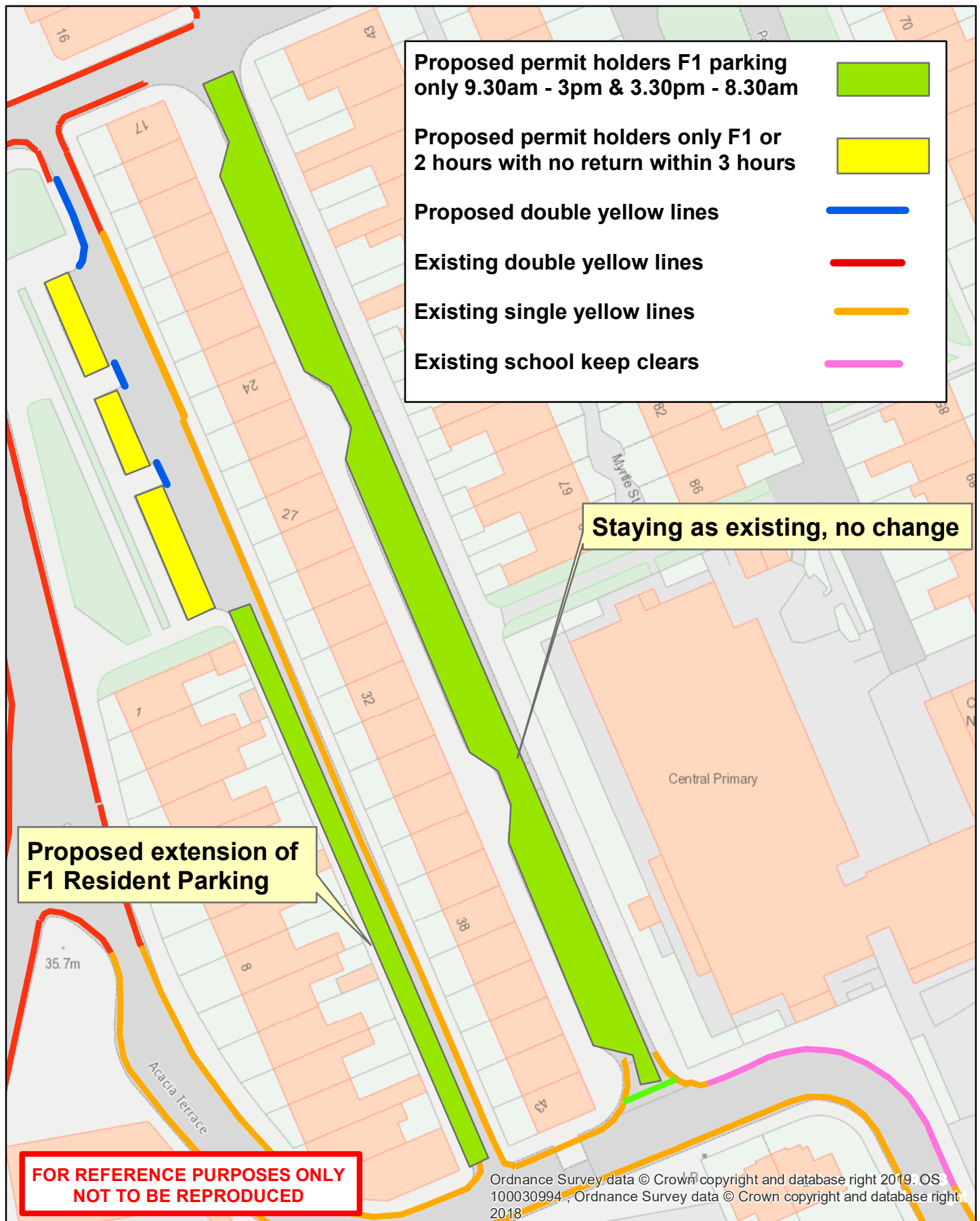
**I would urge you to take the opportunity to comment on this important matter as any decision taken will be based upon the responses received from residents who take time to return the consultation form.**

Yours faithfully

*S Hudson*

Sarah Hudson

Technical Assistant (Members Small Schemes)



**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

### Network Management Information System

**Title:**  
Proposed Residents Parking Scheme  
Acacia / Laburnum Terrace  
Ashington

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

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**Drn:**  
SH

**Date:**  
March 20

**Scale:**  
NTS

Post Code	F O R	A G A I N S T	N R E I T H E	Other Relevant Comments
	1			I'm in favour of this introduction as it will protect the residents of Acacia Terrace and also organise the section on the northernmost area of Acacia Terrace which for many years has been a "disorganised" parking area. The fact that this is an extension to the F1 scheme is a benefit to all residents but also assists parents picking up/dropping off children at the nearby Central School.
	1			I live at Laburnum Terrace, Ashington and I support the proposal for Acacia Terrace/Laburnum Terrace Ashington. I wanted to check that the permits we have currently on Laburnum Terrace will be ok to use on Acacia Terrace as I sometimes park there to access my house.
NE63 0AL	1			no comments
NE63 0AQ	1			no comments
NE63 0AL			1	I agree with Acacia Terrace having parking permits and also the double yellow lines made longer at the junction of 1st Avenue and Laburnum Terrace as this would make it easier for Bin Wagons, Ambulances etc to get by. BUT . I strongly disagree with the restrictions you are making on the car park area. This is used by the general public and workers and doesn't need changing. Where are you wanting them to go? There is nowhere in Ashington for them. No one takes notice of 'One Way' signs or 'permit only parking' I know I have had it for years with all the abuse. WHY FIT THAT ISN'T BROKEN leave it alone it works. Take the three flower pots (which are neither use nor ornament) away which would give you 3 more parking spaces. Limiting the time for parking is no good as people don't take any notice and it is very very rare to see a Traffic Warden there. Some people who are renting in Laburnum/Acacia won't pay to have the permits so use the car park, also some of us who have two cars to the property and when we have extra company or visitors we have to use the car park without a permit, what are we who follow the rules to do then. The one thing that should be done here is a new road surface, I have complained for years it is in a terrible patched up state and is dangerous. Personally I think you need to make more FREE public parking available, you need to get people into the town not stop them. Turn that Ashington hole into a large car park. We don't need anymore shops or cinema. The cinema is practically giving away tickets now and there are lots of shops standing empty in Ashington on the main street, parking is limited there as well. It seems to be coming to a point that you can't park your car anywhere in Ashington now, and as for using it to go to the doctors etc they will just park there anyway to do what they want regardless of a time limit. Please rethink this action, I just hope some of my neighbours sent there forms back as most of them I think put them in the bin as they think it isn't worth answering as it will go through anyway.

NE63 OAJ		1		I think the parking restrictions proposed place an unnecessary burden on the businesses and staff who operate and work in Laburnum Terrace. I propose businesses be eligible for parking permits, as per the residential occupiers of the street. I do not think it necessary to extend the double yellow opposite 19 -21 Laburnum Terrace. Reducing the car park capacity does not, in my opinion, increase footfall nor encourage customers to visit; as can be seen from the disastrous results of pedestrianising Station Road, a decision now partly reversed.
NE63 OAL		1		I agree with the double yellow lines and the residents parking for the dwellings on Acacia Terrace. But as for the car park I'm not so sure 2 hour parking is a good idea, you must remember that the shops located on Laburnum Terrace require staff for them to make the business work. The cars that used to block our street in Laburnum, Myrtle and Poplar Street are now using the car park and the full length of First Ave. Instead of building a Cinema and extra shops on the proposed site (black hole) would it not be more agreeable to make this an all day parking facility.
	1			While I agree in principal with the proposal I have a few observations. Why does this have to be an extension of the current F1 scheme already in place for Laburnum Terrace? This simply gives the residents of Laburnum Terrace the additionally option of parking in the narrow back lane with Acacia Terrace, therefore taking up Acacia Terrace residents options to park at their own property. Hardly fair on the residents of Acacia Terrace when Laburnum Terrace residents have a much wider lane to utilise parking space. How will this parking zone be 'policed' by the local authority? Will notices be placed opposite the parking bays at the North end of the streets informing drivers of the one-way system in operation? See attached pictures for examples of those who blatantly ignore that fact. Will speed humps be considered for the street to slow the speed of traffic. We still get some drivers who deem it their right to drive at some considerable speed the wrong way down the street, particularly at night when no policing will be in operation. Will NO ENTRY be written on the road surface as per Laburnum Terrace in conjunction with the NO ENTRY signs?
NE63 OAL		1		I agree that Acacia Terrace have residents parking zone. I don't agree period limited waiting 2 hours with no return for 3 hours. It means people in shops - chemists - estate agents - opticians and other businesses, example: if they park at 9am they will have to come out of their business at 11 am to move their cars and find another parking spot. I agree with double yellow lines to stop parking on block pavers and footways and would stop double parking.
	5	2	2	

Post Code	F O R	A G A I N S T	NR E I T H E	Other Relevant Comments
NE63 0AL			1	<p>I am a resident at Laburnum Terrace, Ashington. I also run my business from home. It has just been made known to me (from another business owner on the street) that there are proposed changes to the car park on Acacia Terrace. I did not receive any such letter and have heard nothing about this from the council either as a resident or a business owner.</p> <p>I want this email to be recorded as an opposition to this decision, I live in a flat on Laburnum Terrace, with no parking at all at the front or rear. I use the Acacia Street car park, because it is closest to where I live, well lit and safe for my vehicle and for me (as a woman). I do not want to be forced to park in some back lane several streets away. As a business owner, I have about 4/5 people visit me for beauty therapies every day. I have people that travel miles to see me (some from Alnwick or further), what will be their response to yet again being squeezed out of the town centre? They will go to a different business in a different town. I would have thought that the council would want to encourage businesses to thrive, by supporting them. Especially in an area that has been classed as “deprived” for so many years. As I live and work on Laburnum Terrace I have the opportunity to see the Acacia carpark at all times of day and night, I can guarantee that the car park is almost empty from 6pm-8am. On a Sunday perhaps only 2 or 3 cars including my own. The residents on south laburnum Tce have ample parking in their back lane (but still park in the car park, perhaps if they parked at the rear this would help?), the residents on Acacia Terrace also have street parking available and many can park in their yards.</p> <p>If this proposal is approved, I am uncertain if I would qualify to receive a residents parking permit because I have received no communication from you but if I did I would absolutely feel backed into a corner, forced to pay for something because I have no other option. I firmly believe that to help bring vibrancy back into town centres we should be encouraging businesses to thrive, encouraging visitors to visit, encouraging shops to rent out the residential spaces above will ensure that our retail areas are safer on a night time and just more vibrant and prosperous in general, these kind of parking restrictions have the opposite effect. Driving people away from town centres into retail parks and supermarkets leaving deserted waste lands in what should be a busy town centre. I am more than willing to send dated and timed photos to back up my statement that the car pack is under used between 6pm 8am. I would like assurances from you that you have connected ALL of the residents and business owners in the immediate area that will be dramatically impacted by this decision. It is essential that you contact everyone.</p>

		1	I understand you plan to introduce a resident permit parking zone on Acacia Terrace/Laburnum Terrace Ashington. I strongly disagree with this proposal. Not only is it hard to find a parking place for those who work in the area, most the houses around this area have a yard or space outside their homes (other side of their house) for a car. Some residents park their car in the Bay Area, only because they are too lazy to open their garage doors, therefore is more convenient rather than a need. There are very few places to park a car in Ashington town centre for shoppers, never mind the workers who need to park all day.
		1	I have my business currently headquartered on Laburnum Terrace. I also own seven other buildings on Laburnum Terrace. I am very concerned to note that I am only aware of these proposed changes due to the diligence of one of our residential neighbours who has taken the trouble to get in touch with me and let me know. Why has the council issued notices to businesses in this area at a time when they must fully appreciate that all of these businesses are currently closed due to the Covid crisis. This seems suspiciously underhand. Has any research been done to see who actually uses this car park. I visited yesterday. With all of the businesses currently closed, there were a total of four cars parked in this car park one of which was mine. The residents only scheme on the back side of Laburnum Terrace must show that these schemes are unnecessary in this area. On any normal working day since the introduction of that scheme there is never more than 12-20 cars parked on that street, even in the evenings. It seems a lot of residents don't have cars. Meanwhile 20-30 other spaces that were previously used during the day by staff and customers visiting the businesses of Laburnum Terrace stand idle. What's the point of that? The only place currently available for staff and customers of the businesses on Laburnum terrace is this small car park now proposed for residents only. Where is the alternative parking being provided for the businesses that currently pay extremely high amounts of business rates for little in return?
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