



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS, U9082 RIVERSIDE, DARRAS HALL
Cabinet Member: Councillor Glen Sanderson

Purpose of Report

To consider a proposal to provide a 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restriction (double yellow lines) in Riverside, Darras Hall.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed parking restrictions are implemented.

Link to Corporate Plan

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

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

Key Issues

The County Council has received complaints about indiscriminate parking in Riverside, Darras Hall as a result of parking charges being introduced in the nearby Memorial Hall car park.

Delegated decisions

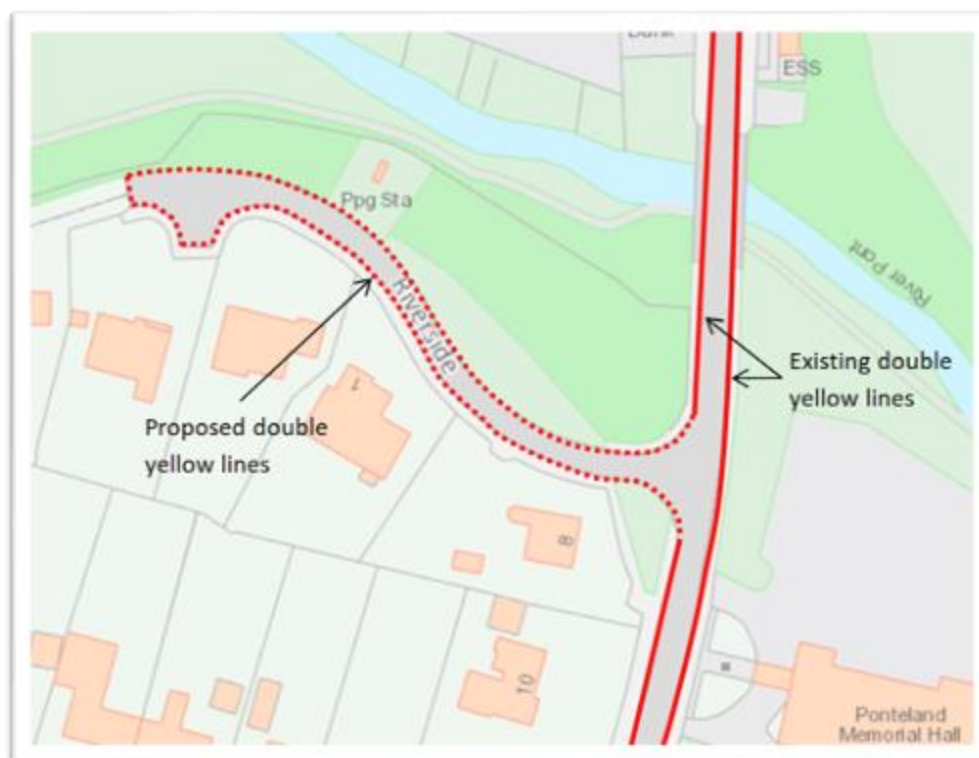
Background

1. Riverside is a small cul-de-sac in Darras Hall with five properties. It is located adjacent to Ponteland Park and opposite the Memorial Hall which is used for a variety of activities and has a bowling green and tennis courts.



2. The owners of the Memorial Hall have recently introduced parking charges in their car park in order to generate income to help pay for running costs.
3. Since the parking charges were introduced, usage of the car park has fallen significantly. There are double yellow lines in place on Darras Road, so visitors park in Riverside in order to avoid the parking charge.
4. The car park is managed on behalf of the Memorial Hall Trustees by a private company. Although the parking charges are relatively low, (20p per hour), payment is taken via an automated numberplate recognition system which requires drivers to create an account. Anecdotal evidence suggests that it is this system as much as the charges themselves that is deterring usage.
5. This has resulted in numerous incidents of obstruction and congestion in Riverside, as well as damage to the grass area when vehicles park on both sides of the road.
6. Residents also report that the footway is frequently blocked by parked cars and they must walk in the road.
7. Following initial discussions with residents facilitated by the local ward member, residents were formally consulted on a proposal to extend the existing double yellow lines on Darras Road into Riverside. The lines will cover the entire cul-de-sac, as shown below.

Delegated decisions



8. Four responses were received, 80% of the five consulted. All of the responses were in favour of the proposed double yellow lines. A summary of the responses is shown in Appendix A.
9. The local ward member and Ponteland Town Council have stated that they will support the residents wishes.
10. It is therefore recommended that the proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions (double yellow lines) are implemented.

Delegated decisions

Implications Arising out of the Report

| | |
|---|---|
| Policy | None |
| Finance and value for money | None |
| Legal | Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order. |
| 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 | Residents and Statutory consultees have been consulted. |
| Carbon reduction | None |
| Wards | Ponteland North |

Background papers:

File ref: HE213537

Report sign off.

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

Delegated decisions

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

Author and Contact Details

Report Author ***Richard McKenzie – Senior Programmes Officer***

Delegated decisions

Appendix A

Consultation Responses

| F O R | A G E I N T H E R | Other Relevant Comments |
|-------------|---|--|
| 1 | | <p>Many thanks for your letter. As a resident of Riverside, I would like to endorse the proposal for the following reasons. Every day I cannot use the single footpath because of the cars which have started parking there. Walking on the roadway can also be hazardous as, when cars turn off Darras Road they frequently do so at speed. I have had drivers sound their horns rather than slowing down. This puts me at risk of being knocked down. Also, it appears that some drivers are less than alternative and appear simply not to notice a pedestrian of the roadway. Pedestrians cannot push a push chair on the pavement, having to use the roadway, with the same hazards as described above. I am severely concerned about the risk of a serious or fatal accident. When there is a continual line of parked cars down Riverside, cars have been left in the turning area at the end of the cul-de-sac. This prevents access by emergency vehicles. I am concerned that should anyone require an ambulance there might be access problems. This is a similar concern should a fire engine ever be needed in the street. Unbelievably, when one side of the street is blocked solid, there have been instances where people have abandoned their vehicle on the other side of the road, partially on the grassy area at the East end of the street, which, by further narrowing the available space, compounds the problem (as well as damaging the grassy area) Sadly a Neighbour has had theft of the bench in their garden next to the road. When vehicles can loiter the likelihood of opportunistic theft increases. As many dog-walker have started parking in Riverside, they are taking a short-cut directly into the park, which has starting wearing away the surface of the Eastern edge of the flood wall, eventually, this will compromise the integrity of the flood defence. It is a great pity that we have to cope with these hazards on a daily basis, when there is an empty car park just yards away, especially since the parking charges there are so very small. I hope the Council will give its agreement to the proposal to extend the double yellow lines and ameliorate the difficulties which we now have to face.</p> |
| 1 | | I am in favour of the proposal. |
| 1 | | I am emphatically for the implementation of the proposal for double yellow lines. |
| 1 | | We wish to confirm that we agree with the proposal to extend the existing double yellow lines on Darras Road into the whole cul-de-sac of Riverside. I hope this proposal does not include any unstated other proposals for extra signs, posts, lighting, or fences |
| 4 | 0 0 | |

DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Officer(s) and
Portfolio Holder (where
appropriate):**

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

Subject:

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS, U9082
RIVERSIDE, DARRAS HALL

Consultation

☑ For: 4 (80%)

☑ Against: 0

Decision Taken:

The proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions should be implemented.

Signature of Director



Date

27 May 2021

* delete as appropriate