



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS, C109/U3117 JUNCTION, LOW HAUXLEY

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

Purpose of Report

To consider a proposal to provide 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions (double yellow lines) at the junction of the C109 and U3117 roads in Low Hauxley.

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

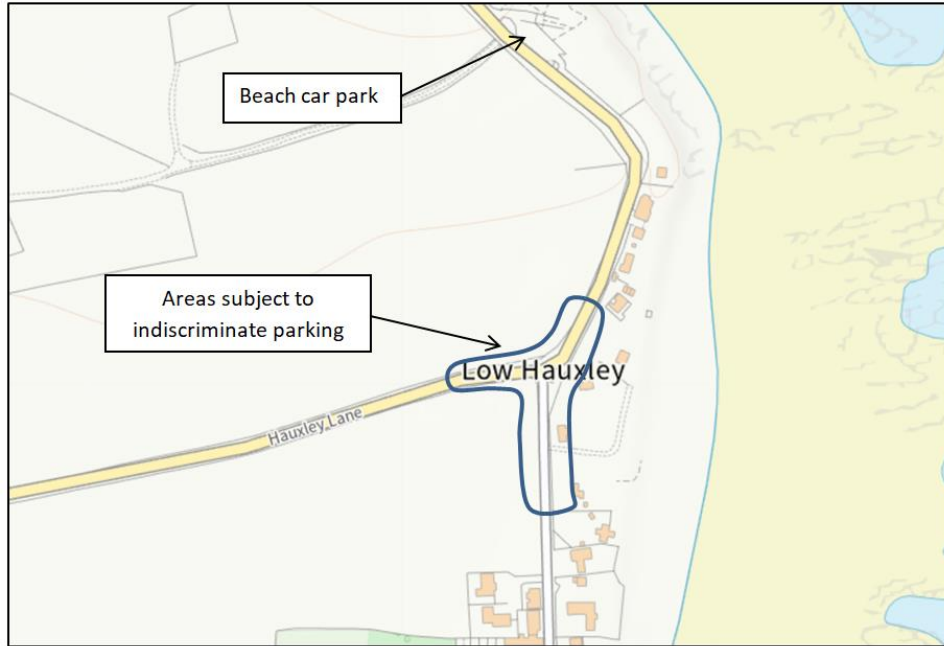
- Indiscriminate parking by visitors to the beach is taking place on the roadside on the C109 and U3117 roads at Low Hauxley.
- Parked cars are narrowing the road so that vehicles are meeting 'head-on', and are also blocking sightlines for vehicles entering and exiting the junction into Low Hauxley.
- Cars are also parking in the bus stop, preventing the local bus service from accessing the roadside.
- Complimentary proposals are planned as part of a wider scheme to address parking issues at this location.

Delegated decisions

Delegated decisions

Background

1. The issue of problems caused by indiscriminate parking at Low Hauxley was submitted as a priority for the Local Transport Plan Programme by Hauxley Parish Council.
2. Low Hauxley is a popular destination for those visiting the local beaches and is therefore subject to significant visitor parking. The area is shown in the plan below:



3. Indiscriminate parking is taking place at the roadside, reducing the available road width and leading to vehicles meeting 'head-on'.
4. Parking also takes place at the junction which blocks sightlines for vehicles entering and exiting Low Hauxley.
5. The local bus stop is also frequently blocked by parked cars which prevent buses from reaching the roadside for safe drop off/pick up of passengers. Buses also find turning difficult due to the reduced road space.
6. A car park is available 400 yards to the north of the junction area, but it is thought that many visitors are unaware of it and therefore choose to park at the roadside. To address this, new signage is due to be installed to direct traffic to the car park, and to also inform motorists that further beachside car parks are available to the north towards Amble.
7. At busy times, however, parking will continue to take place at Low Hauxley when the car park is full. It is therefore considered necessary to consider providing parking restrictions to protect the junction and its approaches.

Delegated decisions

8. Local residents and Statutory Consultees were therefore consulted on a proposal to provide double yellow lines at the junction and, at the Parish Council's request, along the access road into Low Hauxley. A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A.
9. Four responses were received, one in favour, three against. However, those against were not in favour of the restrictions extending into Low Hauxley, but three of the four confirmed they were in favour of restrictions at the junction. A summary of the responses is shown in Appendix B
10. Subsequent discussions with Hauxley parish Council confirmed this view. It was also agreed that the visual impact of double yellow lines along the road into the village would be intrusive, and alternatives to prevent verge parking, such as wooden posts, would be explored. Enhanced advisory signs are also planned to emphasize to visitors that there is no public parking within Low Hauxley.
11. A revised proposal was therefore agreed with Hauxley Parish Council and the local Ward member. This is shown in Appendix C.
12. The revised proposal, in conjunction with the signage scheme and proposed wooden bollards, addresses the issues raised and is supported by three of the four consultees who responded.
13. Hauxley Parish council and the Local Ward member support the revised proposals.
14. It is therefore recommended that the proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions are implemented.

Delegated decisions

Implications Arising out of the Report

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| Policy | The proposal is in accordance with Council policy. |
| Finance and value for money | The proposal will be funded via the 2022-23 Local Transport Plan Programme. |
| 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 | There may be a slight reduction in carbon emissions through the reduction of unnecessary car trips in and out of Low Hauxley. |
| Wards | Amble |

Background papers:

File ref: HE223631

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

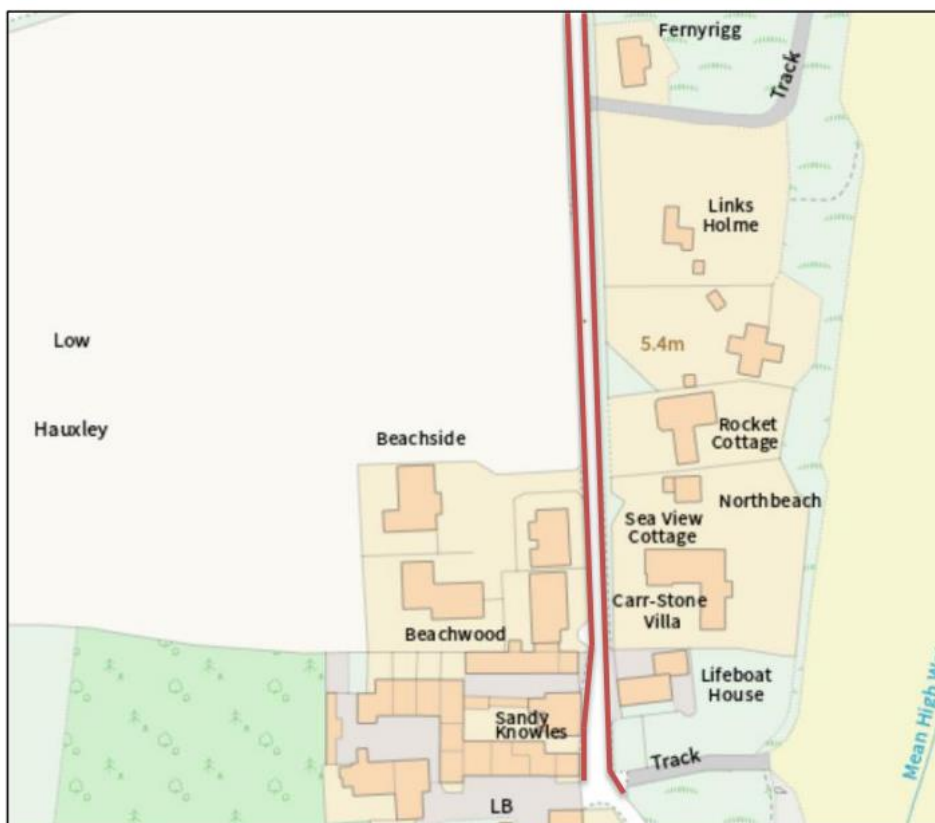
Report Author ***Richard McKenzie – Senior Programmes Officer***

Delegated decisions

Appendix A – Consultation Plans



Hauxley Lane Junction



Low Hauxley Village

Delegated decisions

Appendix B Consultation Responses

| F O R | A G A I N S T R | Other Relevant Comments |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | | <p>My comments re proposed parking restriction Low Hauxley - 1) I don't think yellow lines will solve the problem as the cars that park in the area at the entrance to lane park on the grass and only a few park on the grass down the lane very few park on the road - yellow lines will encourage more people to pull right onto the grass. 2) Having yellow lines on the side of my house facing sea (just before entrance to village) would prevent me from parking on my small piece of land there as my car a little too wide and I cannot park on the village side of my house as the gulley opposite would prevent cars from passing so then I would be forced to park in the village square adding to the parking problem there. 3) Yellow lines are a quick way of addressing the problem but not one thought through to solve the problem. Too much pressure would then be put on the village parking already under siege from holiday cottages. 4) Too many cars ignore the signs at the top of the road. They come down and turn in entrance to village. I have had my porch knocked and damaged I have now put stones and plant post to prevent cars cutting the corner. 5) Who will enforce the yellow lines? 6) The yellow lines will be such an eyesore down the lane to a pretty seaside village. Suggestions - 1) Put boulders of something similar on the grass verges at the entrance to the land and yellow lines there with a notice to car park 100 yards away. The reason people don't park in the car park is because it doesn't have easy access to the beach whereas the access on the corner is easier to make the access from the car park better. 2) Make the entrance to the lane more noticeable that it is no access no turning no parking etc to the village, but make it pretty I have lost of ideas if you want to discuss. 3) Involve the permanent residents of village. No letter was sent to village residents and the parking situation greatly affects them. I think much more thought and discussion is need to be done before a decision is made as I don't think the proposal solves the problem and creates so may. We can help. Please don't just put yellow lines down be more creative. At least have open meeting in village hall to discuss or get the parish council to do that.</p> |

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| 1 | <p>I am responding to the proposal by Northumberland County Council to the double yellow lines as indicated on the letter on the junction to Hauxley Land and along to Low Hauxley Village. I agree that the parking at the junction is a times dangerous especially on the bend during summer months, weekends or if as has happen recently rare birds are spotted and the whole road was at a standstill. I believe that yellow lines at the junction and on the bend would deter parking here and hopefully encourage visitors to use the parking available next to the dunes. However, I would highlight that if yellow lines were introduced in the village, it would impact hugely on myself as my house XX does not have a driveway as some houses do with off road parking. I have one off road space however any visitors would have no area to park and this would then mean going around the corner into the square to park. This area in the sqare is already busy and would be extremely congested if myself and other neighbours could no longer park on the roadway outside our houses. It is also a small access into the square and with more cars could be dangerous as you'd need to reverse to allow cars in and its beside cycle path which is used by both bikes and walkers. I have seen cones put out to discourage non-residents from parking and I would like the council to consider the possibility of permit parking for residents and their visitors. This would avoid congestion and over use of the square for parking and at the same time relive the concerns of road side parking from non-residents. I am happy to discuss my concerns or consider any other ideas but I feel the proposed yellow lines would actually increase issues rather than resolve them as cars would be forced into a small parking area in the square which is already at capacity. Thank you for the oppportunity to express my opinion and I am happy to discuss any other proposals.</p> |
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| 1 | <p>With reference to your letter ref HE21411D of 7th February 2022, I would like to comment on the proposal for double yellow lines. The proposal to add double yellow lines would give my wife and I a particular problem as it would prevent us from parking outside our permanent resident (XXX) where we currently park our 2 cars. We and the previous occupants have parked here for 40 years without any problems. While we accept that we could park one car on our drive, our second car would need to be parked in the village square, which would add to the congestion, or at the entry to the village, which would add to the problems there. The following are some issue which we see with the current situation in the village. 1) Parking at the north end of Hauxley Lane - Visitors park on the verges at the T-junction to access the beach via the village ramp and also the track through the dunes. On busy days, the parking can cause visibility and safety issues, for pedestrians coming from High Hauxley. 2)Turning at the Village Square- This is a regular source of unnecessary traffic along the lane and in to Low Hauxley. Cars (often tourists) drive down to the turning into the square, stop, turn around and drive out again. Sometimes they proceed into the square and turn around in the square. On one occasion a resident counted 65 cars in a single day. Reasons for this include looking for the Nature Reserve and we suspect that many are hoping that the road continues through Low Hauxley and down the coast, despite signs to the contrary. 3) Residents visitors parking - Parking for residents is very limited, particularly in summer when all the holiday and second home cottages are in use and parking in the squares becomes highly problematic for residents. Visitors to residents properties are often unable to parkin in the square due to the congestion and so park on the verges at the side of the lane into the village near the chalets. 4) Non-residents parking - Walkers, dog-walkers, beach users and beach fisherman frequently park wherever they can find a space. They often used to park in the square and on the white lines near the ramp, but use of bollards has had some success in education them and now they tend to park on the verges at the side of the lane into the village near the chalets. 5) Delivery Vans, Emergency Vehicles and Dustbin Collection lorries driving into village - The turning into the square is very tight and large vans and lorries often have difficulty in turning. If cars are parked on the white lines near the turning, then it can be impossible for the lorries to make the turn. 6) Safety for pedestrians and cyclists - Pedestrians leaving the beach by the village ramp emerge onto the road at the point where the cycle track from Druridge Bay emerges. Cyclists are often traveling fast and cannot see the pedestrians due to the dunes and plant growth on the corner. Many near missis have occurred - A) between cyclists and pedestrians and B) between cars emerging from the village square and cyclists. The proposal to put double yellow lines down both sides of the lane is interesting and will solve some of these problems but may result in some unintended consequences, and in particular could significantly add to the parking problems experienced by permanent residents in Low Hauxley, as it could effectively remove the residents and their visitors parking options. I would like to request that, instead of the full double yellow lines scheme, the following measures be considered: 1) Double yellow lines at the north end of the lane to assist in keeping parked cars away from the T-junction, thereby improving visibility. 2) Double yellow lines to replace the white lines at the turn into the Village Square, to ensure that the Dustbin lorries and Emergency vehicles can safely turn into the Village Square. 3) New large road signs at the end of Hauxley Lane to: A) Show "Coastal Route" and "Hauxley Nature Reserve" pointing away from Low Hauxley towards High Hauxley and A1068. B) Confirm that the lane is a No Through Road, with access to premises only. C) Confirm No Parking past this point for non-residents. 4) Small fences such as those shown in the attached photo, at each side of the Lane near the T-junction to indicate that start of the Village. I hope that the above is of interest and look forward to the conclusion of your study.</p> |
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| 1 | | Amble Town Council has no objection as this seems a good and safer solution to the problem. This is a good idea in principle and we do support this application, however people may still park in this area especially when Hauxley hosts its annual fair and this may cause some friction as visitors could ignore the lines and there won't be anyone to enforce the restrictions. |
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Appendix C Revised Proposal



DECISION TAKEN

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

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

Subject:

**PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS,
C109/U3117 JUNCTION, LOW HAUXLEY**

Consultation

Original proposal

For: 1

Against: 4

Revised proposal

For: 3

Against: 1

Decision Taken:

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

Signature of Director



Date

04/08/2022
