



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR

Paul Jones – Director of Environment & Transport

Proposed Parking Restrictions – B1327 Union Street, Blyth

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle, Improving Our Roads and Highways

18 February 2025

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding proposed No parking Monday – Saturday 9am - 6pm on B1327 Union Street, Blyth.

Recommendations

It is recommended that No parking Monday – Saturday 9am - 6pm be implemented as proposed only on B1327 Union Street, Blyth.

Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the following key themes in the Corporate Plan for 2023-26:

‘Thriving Places and Culture – Neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained’

Key Issues

1. Concerns have been raised about vehicles parking too close to the junctions on Union Street, it is claimed that this is due to the numerous garages operating from the area. This causes visibility issues for vehicles trying to exit these junctions and has resulted in several near misses.
2. In order to improve the current situation, additional parking restrictions have been proposed, together with amendments to the existing Give Way markings which are designed to improve visibility.
3. The scheme is being funded by the Local Ward Member’s, Member’s Local Improvement Scheme allowance.

Delegated Decision

Background

Numerous concerns have been raised by residents to the Local Ward Member around inconsiderate parking at the junctions on Union Street, primarily by local garages which is causing visibility issues for motorists who are leaving these junctions. It has been reported that there have been several near misses because of this.



The Local Ward Member has allocated funding from their Members Local Improvement Scheme allowance to a scheme consisting of improvements to the Give Way markings, and additional parking restrictions in the form single yellow lines which will be in force Monday – Saturday between 9am and 6pm. Residents were therefore consulted on these proposals.

Consultation

Residents, and statutory consultees were therefore consulted on the proposal to provide single yellow lines dependent on the section they would be affected by. These can be shown in Appendix A.

2 responses were received with 2 in favour of the proposals and 0 against on the proposals.

A summary of these responses is shown in Appendix B.

Implications Arising out of the Report

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Policy | Consistent with existing policies |
| Finance and value for money | Funded through the Member Local Improvement allocation for Local Ward Member |
| Legal | Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order |

Delegated Decision

| | |
|---|---|
| Procurement | None |
| Human Resources | None |
| Property | None |
| Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| Risk Assessment | The scheme has been designed to minimise the road safety concerns that are caused by indiscriminate parking |
| Crime & Disorder | Traffic safety concerns i.e. Obstruction / congestion of the highway |
| Customer Consideration | Scheme is anticipated to improve road safety for residents and road users in the area |
| Carbon reduction | None |
| Wards | Croft |

Delegated Decision

Appendix Index

Appendix A – Consultation letter and plan

Appendix B – Summary of consultation responses

Background Papers:

File Reference –

Author and Contact Details

Report Author : **Sarah Hudson Technical Assistant (MLIS)**

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer: Paul Jones, Director of
Environment & Transport

Subject: Proposed No Parking Monday – Saturday 9am – 6pm
on B1327 Union Street, Blyth

Consultation: 2 For (100%)
0 Against
0 neither For nor Against

Decision Taken: To introduce No Parking Monday – Saturday 9am –
6pm on B1327 Union Street, Blyth as set out on the
attached plan.

Signature of Director



Paul Jones, Director of Environment and Transport Date: 25/02/2025



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref: HO206921

Enquiries to: Highways Improvements

Email:

HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: 07973 790483

Date: 2nd December 2024

Dear Resident,

Proposed Parking Restrictions – Union Street, Blyth

We wish to inform you of improvements we have planned on Union Street, which may assist in improving the visibility issues drivers are currently faced with.

As you will appreciate it is extremely difficult to completely resolve these issues, quite simply, car ownership is so high today, and many properties in the area do not have access to their own off-street parking in the form of driveways. Quite simply it is not the Council's responsibility to provide parking for residents, however we have been working closely with Councillor Nisbet to consider an appropriate solution which may make the situation a little more bearable for residents.

We are proposing to push out the junction give-way markings on the eastern side of Union Street only & providing a 2.4m wide delineated section of c/way between the junctions to allow vehicles to park in. However, this would also require the installation of single yellow lines which would match the existing restrictions on Union Street (No parking Monday - Saturday 9am-6pm) on the opposite side of the road (from its junction with Aldborough Street to a point 15 metres south of its junction with Oxford Street) as indicated below. A plan showing the proposals is enclosed.

If you wish to make comments on this proposal, please do so via email to: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk before **Monday 6th January 2025**.

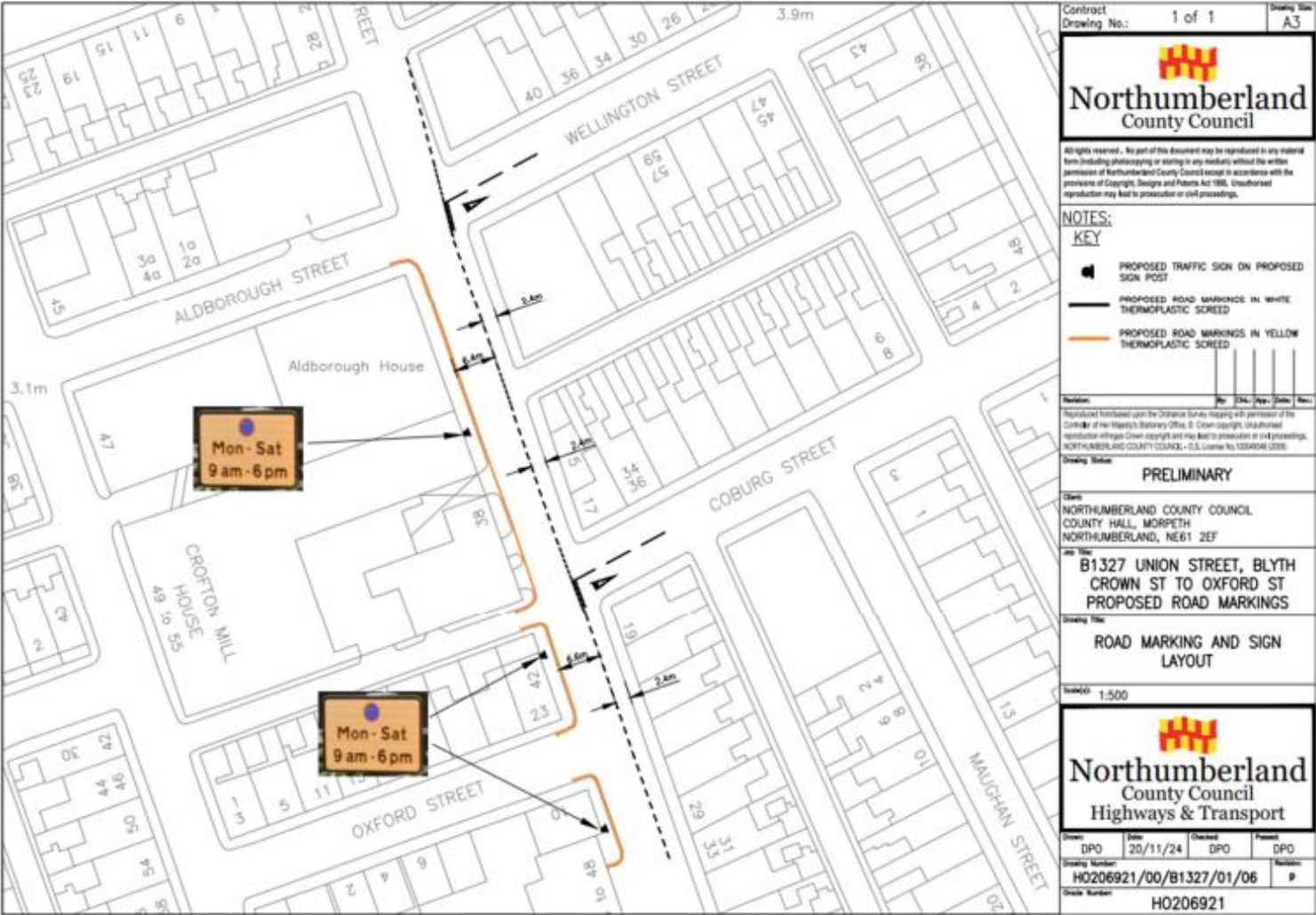
Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report to the Director of Environment & Transport and may be available for public inspection.

Yours Faithfully,
Highways Improvements Team



Highways Improvements Team
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 0345 600 6400 E: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk
www.northumberland.gov.uk





Appendix B – Summary of consultation responses

| Brought Forward | Post Code | R | T | I T H | Other Relevant Comments |
|-----------------|-----------|---|---|-------|--|
| | | 1 | | | A solution which may help resolve the problematic parking issues on Union Street, it must be tried to see if we can eradicate some of the concerns of those that live in the area and road users. |
| | | 1 | | | <p>Thank you for starting to look into the dangerous parking on Union Street. I understand it won't be an easy fix. I do worry about pushing the junction give way marking further out. The reason for this is the speed people drive up Union Street, is ridiculous. Night times are really bad. I worry a car edging into Union street would be hit from oncoming traffic. You have to carefully edge out now and that's like Russian roulette. I don't know how anyone hasn't been hurt yet. Putting restricted parking on other side on Union Street from Aldborough to Oxford Street would make things a nightmare for residents. The issue is the amount of garages and gyms who park on both sides of Union Street. In particular the garages. There are three in Aldborough alone and then one in the old fire station. They have cars parked bumper to bumper over junctions on both sides on paths and blocking residents back gates now. They are bumper to bumper in Aldborough Street as well. I have lived in this area for thirty years and it's not more residents having cars, it is the multiple garages dumping multiple cars wherever they can. If you put restrictions on Union Street, these garages will dump cars in Wellington Street, Coburg Street and outside private homes in Union Street. There has been a car dumped in Coburg Street for three months! There is also a business on Union Street that has large vans. They will park in residential streets for days at a time. If they can't park at their business they will affect residents parking. The Co-op Funeralcare also have a lot of fleet and staff cars that block residents parking as well. If you go ahead with these parking restrictions I think it would be sensible to introduce residents parking permits in these surround streets. Residents will have to park streets away. Not good if like myself you are disabled and can't walk far. When permits were introduced in Bondicar Terrace, Marine Terrace and Middleton Street it was due to the amount of shoppers going into Blyth and parking in residential streets. They were also made one way for safety. Having permits in these streets off Union Street would be needed for exactly the same reason. To let residents park at their homes. The residential streets in this area all manage to get residents parking near their homes, if you take the garage, gyms and funeral businesses out of the equation. During Covid the streets were great as no garages! Proof they cause the most issues with parking. As residents we need this support from our council. Please consider this feedback. I am seriously considering moving due to the parking issues. If it gets worse I will have to move. Who would buy a house in our area when people see parking issues?</p> |
| | | 2 | 0 | 0 | |