

I have lived in Alnmouth for many years. I would like to record my view that the new one way system works very well and has improved the flow of traffic around the village and makes it easier for me to cross the road.

I would also like to express my support for the residents of Argyle Street and their wish to retain the Residents Parking Scheme. I do not live in Argyle Street, but appreciate their frustration as the ever increasing number of visitors to the village make had made it extremely difficult to park near to where they live. Those that feel it is unfair for one street to have such a scheme should encourage the authorities to implement a similar scheme elsewhere in the village. Those who live in Grosvenor Terr., Prospect Place, Osborne Terrace, Lovaine etc should also benefit from similar protection by the installation of a small number of Resident Permit parking spaces in Marine Road, Riverside and at the northern end of Northumberland Street.

It is unfortunate that those wishing to attend events at Hindmarsh Hall find it difficult to park close by, but that is a function of the Hall having no dedicated parking spaces what so ever. It should not be the responsibility of nearby residential streets to provide a carpark for the Hall.

Hello and firstly I would like to say that the new one-way system in Alnmouth seems to be working well and I have not heard too many people saying otherwise, so thank you for that.

I attended the November meeting of the Alnmouth Parish Council when the Argyle Street Resident Parking Scheme was discussed. (I have say that I had not previously appreciated what 'poor relations' Argyle Street residents were!!) The discussion was contentious and I did not feel that the PC were objectively representing the Alnmouth residents overall – there was definitely a 'them and us' atmosphere with most of the PC members taking the 'them' stance which was evident in their body language. The NCC representative and the County Councillor had a tough time! Anyway, moving on, objectively, I would like to formally state a case for the retention of the Argyle Street Resident Parking Scheme by listing the following points:

There are over 35 residences/homes/holiday homes in Argyle Street within a fairly short stretch of street ie, it is a street mainly of terraced houses with no garages, driveways or personal parking of any sort and it includes 3 blocks of flats, which I believe makes it is the most congested residential area in Alnmouth. (I am the exception on the gable end where the front garden has been converted into a parking bay for a small car so, I think it is easier for me to adopt a more unbiased attitude. It is the only house in the street where this arrangement is possible.) Many other homes amongst the nooks and crannies of Alnmouth have managed to create invaluable personal parking, but that is almost impossible in Argyle Street.

Argyle Street is a 'parking target' for visitors and it is particularly handy for those who wish to walk on the Estuary Beach. Visitors staying in other holiday let areas

are directed to park there too. So, it does have its own problems. (Riverside Road suffers similarly, but many of the properties have private parking and the ratio of parking spaces to homes is greater.)

If the parking permits are taken away from Argyle Street residents, then they will be forced to park in Riverside Road or the High Street, thereby taking up spaces others could use.

I would also like to state a strong case for the creation of extra car parking for visitors. I believe this has been considered and has come to a standstill, but it must be a better plan to concentrate efforts on this objective rather than taking away existing benefits from residents. Also, improving the signage so that visitors can understand the layout of Alnmouth, in particular getting across the point that parking on the beach area does not necessarily mean walking back up the way they came in and that the shops and cafes etc are only 5 - 10 minutes walk from the beach parking via the footpath through to the Golf Club/village. Many times, I have watched people park their cars on Riverside Road or Argyle Street and walk down to the main beach!!

I visited the Lake District recently, and believe me they have a much greater visitor parking problem and visitors must be prepared to walk quite a distance from parking to visitor attractions.

I would also like to state that I have no issue with tourism businesses or visitors. I welcome them all and enjoy the buzz they create in the busy season. Tourism is probably the biggest industry in Northumberland and good for the county; since Alnmouth is a popular destination I think it is important that NCC address the lack of parking for tourists, and sooner rather than later

I understand that Alnmouth PC do not now support the use of parking permit system in Argyle St; this is despite a long trial and strong support from the majority of the residents of Argyle St., of which I am one, and without holding an open PC meeting for Argyle St residents to attend/discuss.

We have suffered greatly in the past from tourist-parking blocking access to our homes (some 40 homes in Argyle St), not only for residents but for deliveries and service providers in general; the parking permits have much alleviated this difficulty, as has the one-way system. So where would the residents park? -they'd take up other spaces in the village or would have then to park at the beach car park which is where the tourists should be parking!

I note also that some businesses over recent years have removed most/all of their own parking facilities by extending their premises/activities (with good commercial reason). However the expectation is then for the Highways/community to accept/substitute/resolve any resulting street parking problems alongside normal traffic increase!

The prevention of tourist/visitor parking in Argyle St has not affected the tourist numbers nor the commerce of Alnmouth and during 'high seasons' you would be very lucky to see some 4 or 5 empty spaces in Argyle St. and not for long. The PC's own newsletter confirms how the village activities have continued to

thrive;

Alnmouth Arts Festival – 'the best attended so far'

Alnmouth Volcano Night – 'record nos.....48 teams taking part spurred on by hundreds of supporters'

Alnmouth Food Festival – 'a glorious day in terms of sales with many vendors running out of food. More than 1200 people attended'

The real answer is to increase parking for tourists/everyone; I have already suggested west of the bridge on the 'flood plain' area (some 30 or 40 spaces could be made available with gravel/sub-base surfacing only); perhaps the area down the beach access road and behind the parking kiosk could also be explored (good car/pedestrian access? 10/15 car spaces?)? Every visitor attraction in UK has to contend with parking problems, as I recently experienced in the Lake District, and every visitor has to walk some distance from very full/overflowing car parks to reach their individual destinations or attractions.

For proper utilisation of the Beach car park, further improvement could be provided e.g. increase to the parking area (up to 10 or 20 spaces?, - with markings to all?), better direction signage (to Highways standards), lighting, and pedestrian access from the car park to/from the village.

Some bold creative planning is required by NCC to resolve the overall parking shortage and not 'tinker' with existing arrangements for Argyle St. which will not resolve the overall parking issues. I look for NCC to take a strong and knowledgeable lead on these matters and to better assist the PC in their efforts, whether technically or financially.

It would be much regretted to remove (or change) the successful parking permit system from Argyle St.

Please note my support for the continuance of the current Parking Permits for Argyle St. and for the one-way traffic routeing which has proved very successful for ALL users.

I would like to register my support for the Residential Parking Permits for Argyle Street, Alnmouth,

There is a big problem with parking in Alnmouth especially during the summer months when visitors often refuse to use the beach car park. Surely the directions to the beach car park could be more prominent and the path from the car park to the village could be improved. If it could be pointed out to visitors that the car park is only a few hundred yards from the village that might encourage them to use it. I realise improving the path from the existing car park will be expensive, especially if the path was to be improved significantly and lighting if lighting was installed. I can also see that those who are not very steady on their feet or those pushing prams etc find the existing path difficult.

If the path from the beach car park could be improved the traders in the village may not be so hostile to the restrictions in parking in Argyle Street where there is only room for 1 to 1 ½ car outside each property. Now that most properties have been converted into flats there is insufficient parking outside each property for the

residents, that is without visitors being encouraged to park there to as well.

Please keep the residential parking permits.

The one way system works well and has improved traffic flow.

The Argyle Street Residents Parking Scheme should be retained as it is a great help to the people who live in that street. I hear that some in the village feel that it is unfair, but if similar permit schemes are introduced throughout the village then it would no longer be unfair or divisive. People complain that they can't park to attend events in the Hindmarsh Hall. The Hall has no parking, so why should nearby residents be the ones to provide parking for it?

The Parish Council should pay more attention to the interests of Residents not only Holiday Visitors and those businesses that benefit from them.

I really like the new parking scheme and the one way system in Alnmouth, having been a regular visitor to the village for 10+ years. Makes such a difference, and ultimately it's the residents who live there and rightly have their interests represented, not just businesses that make a fortune from tourism.

I think it could be extended in other parts of Alnmouth, so that Argyle Street isn't unfairly used, but it should definitely stay on that road (by the way, I don't live on that road.)

I gather some argue against the Argyle St Residents Parking scheme because they can't park to attend events in the Hindmarsh Hall.

The Hindmarsh Hall sets itself up as an events venue and as such I agree it is a valuable village asset. However the Hall is hamstrung by one major inherent disadvantage. It does not possess one single dedicated parking space. Why should residents living close by, suffer for the convenience of concert goers, wedding guests etc.

I live at the other end of the village and therefore my view is influenced by what is best for residents not by any personal interests

A. In respect to ease of access to public transport and local amenities' accessing public transport is not a concern as the village is well served by both rail and bus services (albeit the bus shelter is now on the wrong side of Northumberland Street). However access to local amenities is not well served by the new one way system. If on reversed the experimental arrangement (ie go back to the way we were) it would benefit visitors, particularly those arriving by motor vehicle, as the visitor is made aware of the retail, catering and hotel facilities on their arrival at the village. With the current arrangement (apart from the Dandelion Restaurant) these facilities are not on view until visitors are nearing departure. This means either (i) the facilities are at risk of being ignored or (ii) involved a visitors completing another circuit.

B. Furthermore reversing the direction of traffic flow of the experimental one way system would further improve pedestrian safety. In particular, (i) traffic will be approaching from the left when turning into Marine Road which will be both

safer/more logical for pedestrians (particularly those crossing from Northumberland St into Riverside!); and (ii) allow designated car parking spaces on Marine Road to be (re)located adjacent to all residences which is safer for their passengers who can alight onto the existing public footpath. NB where space permitted the one way system NCCs highways engineers have introduced parking on both sides of this road which has usefully improved parking capacity as well as introducing a 'chicane'/natural traffic calming measure. However this current chicane arrangement has two drawbacks (a) it only works when the parking spaces are occupied and (b) put parked vehicles at risk of damage from passing traffic. If NCC introduced raised planters or street furniture immediately adjacent to the first and last parking bays these chicanes would not be dependent upon parked vehicles to be effective with the benefit that traffic calming would achieved at all times.

C. Designated the majority of on street parking as 'residents only' ideally to achieve a parking to property ratio of one to one or the best ratio as is practical. This could be adjusted seasonally (eg residents only from 1st April to 30th September as similar arrangement in other coastal villages such as Low Newton). This would need to be managed via the issue of residents parking permits NB residents parking permits are already issued by the Burgage holders for seasonal use of the beach car park so this is something the Village/Parish Councillors would likely be pleased to assist with.

D. Introduction of designated disabled parking bays ideally adjacent the retail and restaurant outlets together with secure bicycle parking.

E. Absentee landlords (eg those owning holiday accommodation) need to be considered when their property is of a size that permit multiple occupancy/ more than one family. I say this because the number of persons in residence will at times require more than one car space and a likely need for additional overnight parking during the main holiday season. A solution is suggested in para H below.

F. Introduction of an hours/waiting time restriction on large delivery vehicles to reduce the problem with blocking Northumberland Street and or parking on the public footpath (this has long been a problem which has not eased in spite of the works undertaken as part of your experimental order). The hours restriction could be between the hours of 6pm and 8am. Alternatively designated loading and unloading bays but this may not be possible due to safety and other constraints.

G. In conjunction with the Burgage Holders develop opportunities to extend the existing off road visitor parking amenities. The existing visitor beach parking facility could be enhanced and extended where possible. The existing beach parking and the overflow/coach parking facility is currently well managed by our Burgage Holders and the income therefrom is reinvested to the benefit of residents and the wider community (eg visitors). NB1 Whilst accepting this car park is located in a conservation area/ AOB there is potential to both expand the area (albeit limited) and increase capacity by the use of a more durable (albeit green/eco-friendly) surfacing, and designate the parking bays (by introduction of bay markers). I'm sure the Northumberland Tourist Board would support such an initiative and may provide financial assistance to NCC in meeting the costs of these improvements. There are already excellent and established footpaths connecting the beach car park to the village together with existing public toilets. NB2 a more durable surface to the beach car park would have to be maintained. Currently the Burgage Holders are faced (annually) with repairs to potholes/ regarding following the ravages of winter and the North Sea. This annual expenditure (currently circa £7K to £8K/

annum) could be directed to a sinking-fund to assist NCC in future repairs and maintenance. Annual maintenance/life cycle costs for a more durable surfacing material, over time should not be significantly different. NB3 the provision of separate visitor parking is not a new idea in Northumbrian coastal villages. It may be useful to remind NCC that this arrangement works well at Warkworth, Craster, Low Newton and Holy Island to name but four.

H. Overnight car parking for visitors using holiday or hotel accommodation needs to be considered. Currently overnight parking on the beach car park is not permitted and many may think this should continue. There is however the overflow car park (by the car park attendants hut). This was historically but now rarely used for parking coaches overnight. This car park has a macadam surface, again there is the potential to increase capacity by expanding the area and introducing designated parking bays. Temporary overnight parking permits detailing vehicle registration and duration of permit could be made available at a cost. Owners of holiday accommodation and hoteliers would be able to advise visitors of the amenity and purchase arrangements (See para E above). This arrangement works well in other historic coastal towns such as Fowey and Salcombe (albeit not to my knowledge in Northumberland).

I Agree with:

One way system
20 mph speed limit

I Disagree with:

The significant loss of parking places

The Bus parking bay which takes up at least 5 parking spaces and has no shelter
Cars now parking on both sides of the road leading into Alnmouth because they cannot park in the village, a creating congestion and bottlenecks.

Extra large parking bays which are not necessary

Double yellow lines that stop at the entrance to a driveway (although this is not consistent throughout the village). Home owners use this space to park their cars - in an area when the rest of the road has double yellow lines - caused congestion.
On leaving the village to turn right and go back round the one way system - it's not made clear that you are driving directly into oncoming traffic - an accident waiting to happen.

Cars leaving the beach are not being asked to filter into the one-way system, but allowed to turn right into the path of oncoming traffic that think they are in a one way system - An accident waiting to happen.

Over zelous use of double yellow lines throughout the village.

Home owners who have off road parking still parking on the high street.

Tradings having skips on the road in parking bays for weeks at a time - in some cases taking up to 3 parking spaces.

No traffic warden patrolling the village on a Friday and Saturday night when all visitors park on double yellow lines.

Motorbikes that take up a parking space.

Traders and locals that block out parking spaces with cones and 'A' boards

Golfers who come to play at Alnmouth, but do not use the Golf Club car park.

Having lived in the village for over 17 years and never had off road parking, I had previously always been able to park somewhere in the village at any time of the year. With the new parking system, I find it impossible to get a parking space during busy times.

All we want is more parking in the village, not less. Can I suggest we adopt a system such as Holy Island, in that ALL visitors have to park outside the village and walk in.

I look forward to your response. Could you please tell me why Argyle Street has the luxury of Permit Parking only, but residents who live in the rest of the village have not been given the same privilege

I've lived in the village for over 17 years and never seen the parking as bad as it is now - I often cannot park anywhere in the village now and have to resort to parking along the Foxton road.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I note from the communication from the Alnmouth Village Newsletter that New Traffic Scheme implemented within Alnmouth, is according to Northumberland County Council implemented on a "temporary basis", and subject to review. I have not received notification from yourselves as to how the review process will take place or indeed when.

The one-way system as it implemented does seem, in the main, to have resolved the congestion that occurred on Northumberland Street although I'm sure the residents of that street will have more relevant commentary based on their experience.

Until such time as the village has had the exposure of the summer peak traffic we will not understand the efficacy of the current scheme.

Of particular concern to myself is the "residents parking permits" use in Argyle Street as it is ill thought out. Experience throughout the UK tells us that implementation of such a scheme on a limited area basis just move as the problem somewhere else, specifically to adjacent streets. In this case into Riverside Road. I do not understand why this has not been thought through by NCC.

With the reduction in parking spaces throughout the village there is a need to consider all residents. With no provision for the residents of Riverside Road we will experience the same issues that are and were faced by residents of Argyle Street.

The most obvious solution was to have reserved all parking spaces to the north side of the road, that is adjacent to the houses in Riverside Road, for residents while leaving those to the south side, adjacent to the river for non-residents.

I would ask that this be considered and implemented as part of the review and changes to the Traffic Scheme that follows the summer experience.

We are very supportive of the one-way system in the village, but the parking situation is becoming worse and worse as we enter high-season for tourists; although the new bays make the parking more orderly there is definitely less capacity. However, since the changes, we have felt a little like prisoners in our own village as once you get a parking slot, you don't want to move as there are much fewer than before. Previously, we would have parked on Argyle street and Riverside road. However, now obviously we cannot park on Argyle street and Riverside Road has less parking than before which is just bizarre. So the choice is

left to parking on double yellow lines. And it does seem a little unfair that everyone can park on Riverside road, but not argyle street. It may relate to the fact that folks who have reported parking problems, live down the hill on Argyle street perhaps. The funny thing is that the parking slots at the top of Argyle street have no properties with exists onto Argyle street...

I spoke to others on Riverside Road and they have had similar problems with parking on Riverside road.

To be honest, I think it is overkill to implement residents parking, double yellow lines everywhere and huge parking bays. It's the kind of thing you get in a city, not a village. Yes the village got busy on the bank holidays weekends in summer but you could always find a parking slot on Argyle street or Riverside road. Now, that is not the case and has made the situation worse.

Also, I think it was a great shame for the village that a parking inspector was out at the weekend during the arts festival. Giving out fines to tourists don't really send a great message for one of Northumberland's key industries.

I write to lodge an official objection to the current experimental order as referred to above. I write in my capacity as owner of a property which as I'm sure you're aware is just around the corner from Argyle Street and which is directly affected by the current parking arrangements. It is reported in The Alnmouth Village Newsletter that only the residents of Argyle Street were consulted on the introduction of the scheme. I have to say that if I was an Argyle Street resident I would have been strongly in favour of the scheme's introduction. As a resident what is there not to like? Overnight a markedly improved parking situation outside one's front door, albeit at the cost of a worsening of the parking situation elsewhere in the village. I am really surprised that only the Argyle Street residents were consulted when it is surely obvious that a reduction in parking capacity on Argyle Street would have wider implications. Living at the Argyle Street end of Northumberland Street our obvious parking options were Northumberland St itself and Argyle St. As the main street in the village you do not need me to explain the pressure on parking spaces on Northumberland Street, a situation that has now worsened. Suffice to say that as a result of this pressure we would frequently find ourselves parking on Argyle St, particularly at the top end before the Council flats that you arrive at before you start to go down the hill. Sadly this is no longer an option, a fact that is made all the more galling by regularly observing lots of available parking space on the whole of Argyle Street as I drive around the village looking for somewhere to park. However well intentioned the change might have been, I think it is difficult not to conclude that it is very surprising that the consultation was no wider than with Argyle St residents and that substantial prejudice has as a result been caused to other residents, particularly to the residents of Northumberland St and Riverside Road who live near Argyle St. I would urge a speedy reconsideration of the situation particularly as the summer holidays approach. A word on other recent changes if I may? I think the introduction of the one way system is a great innovation. Not so I'm afraid the introduction of individual parking bays which seem to assume that everyone drives a Range Rover. I would estimate that for every 3 marked bays you could park 4 cars, the effect of which is to reduce the available space by parking in the village

by 25%. Was it really necessary to mark out individual bays within the designated parking areas? Clearly this reduction in parking capacity is only made worse by the further reduction to available capacity on Argyle Street as described above. I would very much welcome your views on this email.

I have lived in Alnmouth for nearly 2 years now and recently witnessed the reduction in parking spaces throughout the village. Parking is becoming more and more of a problem for residents without private parking, particularly at weekends and the problems are likely to increase over the school summer holiday. I believe the residential parking scheme on Argyle Street and the street leading to Riverside Road has exacerbated this problem as there are regularly many free parking spaces on Argyle Street, particularly during the day, when day trippers to the village need to park.

It seems most unfair for only one street in the village to be granted residential parking when other residents often struggle to find a parking space and I really feel that in a village of Alnmouth's size, any decision regarding residents parking, whether it be one street or 5, should be taken by the entire village.

I am a long term permanent resident of Alnmouth and unfortunately have no off-street parking so rely on parking being available at the top of Northumberland Street .

I attended the presentation at the Hindmarsh Hall last year and despite some reservations was willing to see how the experiment worked out throughout the various winter and holiday seasons , especially as the impression at the presentation was that the parking position would improve.

Now that a year has passed it has become apparent that the parking situation is now far worse than it was previously .

I do not understand why there is a need for 7 bays on Northumberland Street with 20 minute time restrictions .They either lie vacant while drivers circle the village looking for available spaces or are used on the hope that the traffic warden will not be around .

I do not understand why there is a need for disabled bays as I understand that those drivers with blue badges are able to park on double yellow lines for up to 3 hours . This is surely sufficient time for those drivers to visit shops and restaurants .

I do not understand the need for double yellow sight lines at every junction on to Northumberland Street , even where the side lanes serve only 2 or 3 properties which are not always occupied outside of the main tourist season . How many collisions have there been in the past at these junctions?

I do not understand why there is a need for a bus bay at the Schooner Hotel as buses only wait for a couple of minutes and cause very little disruption .There was no need for bus bays previously when there was no one way system.

I do not understand why there is residents parking in Argyle Street limited to Argyle Street residents only . On many occasions there are a substantial number of spaces available in Argyle Street while none available elsewhere .

At the moment I feel trapped in the village and now only leave the village once per week to attend to necessary chores . The likelihood is that I will have to circle the village many times looking for an available space - the record so far is 5 circles and then a wait of 37 minutes until a space became vacant .

I would suggest scrapping the 20 minute bays , scrapping the disabled bays ,

scrapping the the bus bay , scrapping the long sight lines , thus increasing the number of parking spaces .

As far as the one way system is concerned , I think that it has merits as it appears to encourage visitors to use the beach car park .

We would like to make some comments regarding the experimental traffic scheme in Alnmouth.

1. The plethora of signage throughout the village is a disgrace and has spoiled the look of one of Northumbria's prettiest villages.

2. The same is true of the road markings and the delineation of the marked parking bays. Completely unnecessary.

3. There has been a huge loss of parking spaces in an already congested village. At our end of the village we have lost most spaces, making a difficult problem even worse.

4. The residents parking scheme on Argyle Street is completely unfair. Why should those residents be spared the parking traumas of the rest of the village. We all pay the same Council Tax. Either residents parking for all, or for none!

5. Since creating the one way system, the speed of traffic in the village has increased - the opposite of what I assume was hoped for. The knowledge of not meeting an oncoming vehicle in the narrow streets is clearly responsible.

I would urge the Highways Department to abandon the current experiment and return our delightful village to its former glory. Whatever you hoped to achieve, has been an abject failure and has provoked unfavourable comments from more or less everyone I have spoken to.

I trust our views will be taken into account and that common sense will prevail.

I have received complaints from customers that its difficult to park in the village due to the new parking regime.

I happend to take a lunch time stroll around the village at 13.34 yesterday and took these pictures.

It would seem that the Argyle Street parking restrictions are having the desired outcome, restricting parking for residents only, however, it would also seem that those spaces remain vacant durning the day to the detriment of parking for others visiting the village.

Pictures are of Argyle street at 13.34 and of Northumberland street at the same time interval. Argyle street remains largely empty of cars whilst there are no free bays on Northumberland street.

It would seem to me that if residents parking is to remain in Argyle street, then it would be better if it were a time window when residents are likely to be at home i.e. 6pm to 6am. Precious parking space could be used by visitors during the day.

I hope this is useful input for your consultation process.

I would like to register my objections to the new traffic scheme that was implemented in Alnmouth last November.

1. If there has to be a one way system it should be the other way round with traffic allowed straight into the heart of the village first, as only this way will be of benefit

to the tourists, commerce and residents.

I am a house owner in the village and have been a regular visitor for nearly 60 years, so can remember the previous attempt to set up a one way system which was eventually abandoned. However, it did at least allow the traffic to flow in the direction that makes personal and commercial sense.

Residents returning home want to drive straight down Northumberland St where they can park briefly to buy food/newspapers etc rather than having to drive around the village more than once to achieve the same goal (polluting as they go). Visitors too are much more likely to support the village shops/pubs/cafes etc if they see these facilities first before arriving at the sea; even if they end up parking by the beach they are more likely to return to the commerce of Northumberland St if they have already seen it. Indeed the whole point of coming to visit Alnmouth is to drive into the heart of the village down Northumberland St. After all these years I felt real anger at no longer being able to drive into the village I so love.

2. The new scheme has resulted in a notable loss of parking spaces in the village with no new parking solution.

A site for a car park closer to Northumberland St than the beach car park should be explored. If not the reduced trade for businesses could be the death of the village.

3. The implementation of the Argyll St Residents only parking has limited parking even further and it's clear to any resident that many of the parking spaces there remain unused for large parts of the day so compounding the impact of reduced parking. This scheme needs to be removed.

4. The delineated parking bays are a further cause of lost parking space and could easily be removed.

Overall the loss of parking has created huge stresses for residents, visitors, and tradesmen and I'm speaking from personal experience of all three. Indeed I've had tradesman declining to attend because they know they will be unable to find anywhere to park. I myself have frequently been unable to park near my house when I have needed to unload heavy items. I have also had visitors who have been forced to drive around and around to find a space and some who have simply had to leave because there was nowhere to park. This is NOT a sustainable situation.

5. The parking bays on Marine Road are NOT on the side of the pavement. This has resulted in increased safety implications for people getting out of their cars. I have witnessed a number of dangerous moments especially with buggies/babies as the frequent very large buses come round the corner at speed to get up the hill. This is a SERIOUS oversight and the parking should be moved with immediate effect to the side of the pavement.

6. The buses now accelerate up the hill of Marine Rd (rather than down) with more noise, more fumes and more vibrations felt right through the properties. This did not happen before and could threaten the structure of these homes. If the one way was reversed this would no longer be the case.

I trust these objections will read through carefully and taken seriously as they come from someone with a long history of knowing this precious village and who can see the damage it is doing.

I would be grateful for an acknowledgement of receipt of this email.

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the introduction of residents parking on Argyle

Street last June as a 6 month experimental order.

As a resident of Alnmouth, I fail to understand why one particular street in the village should be given preferential treatment in this way. Why should a very small number of residents have the benefit of both this as well as being able to park anywhere else they wish in the village whilst the rest of the residents are excluded from parking in certain roads. In such a small village, it would seem grossly unfair to continue with this scheme – when the idea of ‘some’ residents parking in the village was first raised during the initial consultation process it was unanimously voted down by the village as a whole, and in a village of this size, surely any such scheme should be implemented for the good of the entire village and not for the few.

The implantation of this scheme has been very divisive throughout the village, and should it be decided that residents parking is to continue on Argyle Street, it would seem the only fair thing to do would be to allow ANY resident of the village the right to apply for a permit to park there, however my preference would be that it be removed at the end of the 6 month order.

I am fully behind the new system, I fully understand the half hour parking system which allows people to use the shops, but if you go as suggested by some to two hour scheme could you make it compulsory that they use the card system to state which time they arrive. This would make it easy to police and one of the shops could stock them to sell.

Argyle St. I am in favour of residents parking and if you go for non residents parking through the day could make them use the parking card system as well.

Dear Sirs

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the introduction of residents parking on Argyle Street last June as a 6 month experimental order.

As a resident of Alnmouth, I fail to understand why one particular street in the village should be given preferential treatment in this way. Why should a very small number of residents have the benefit of both this as well as being able to park anywhere else they wish in the village whilst the rest of the residents are excluded from parking in certain roads. In such a small village, it would seem grossly unfair to continue with this scheme – when the idea of ‘some’ residents parking in the village was first raised during the initial consultation process it was unanimously voted down by the village as a whole, and in a village of this size, surely any such scheme should be implemented for the good of the entire village and not for the few.

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Best regards

I am writing to object about the resident parking on Argyle Street in Alnmouth. As a resident & business owner in Alnmouth I really don't understand why this one Street should have the privilege of resident parking, as we all have horrendous problems with it. All it does is push the problem from Argyle Street onto the already busy Northumberland street. And the main gripe I have is that the majority of the Argyle Street houses are large homes converted into holiday flats, so why should all the holiday makers have the privilege of permit parking ?? And for the very few residents that actually live on this street why should they have the privilege when it is a problem throughout the village?

I fail to understand the reasons & I'm sure the vast majority of villagers feel the same way.

We have just heard that there is a possibility that the residents parking in Argyle Street, Alnmouth may become permanent - I cant believe it. We were given to believe that this was a trial run during the summer season to see how it would help the parking situation in Alnmouth - its been a disaster, apart from ARGYLE STREET, in our part of the village. We live in Riverside Road and the whole summer months have been utter chaos - gridlock is the word we would choose, especially weekends and during the high season. Alnmouth has always had a problem with summer traffic as tourism is a main part of the village's economy and it is increasing yearly but to favour one street above the rest is extremely unfair to say the least, as it is a problem that either directly or indirectly affects the whole village.

We actually drive down Argyle Street accessing our part of Riverside Road, and even in the high season, there were parking spaces available in Argyle Street, which of course are unavailable to anyone without 'a permit'.

I would point out that most residents including Argyle Street Flats either bought or rented their properties knowing there was no place to park and now they have become the chosen few, it has caused a lot of unnecessary anger - until N.C.C. works seriously with the village to create a car park to help solve this problem no special privileges should be shown to any area in the village whatsoever.

Following the recent publication of changes to the parking in Alnmouth printed in the local Gazette.

Which are suggested to be made before the trial year is completed. I would like to strongly OBJECT to the

prefferential parking in Argyle Street. There are many areas in Alnmouth with inadequate parking including the main street.

Argyl Street has very few cars parked during the day ; yet visitors on which the village relies are unable to park there.

The problem lies with the increasing numbers of visitors to the village and a solution along the lines of that at Craster

would be the best solution. A Council Car Park west of the Dutchess Bridge would allow adequate visitor parking and also create revenue for the Council.

We understand that at the recent public Alnmouth Parish Council Meeting the decision to terminate the under utilised residents' parking in Argyle Street was unilaterally reversed by a person from the NCC.

Can you explain how this came about? Does it reflect the views of the majority of

Alnmouth residents or just a vocal minority? And does it not encourage all other residents to want their own parking spaces in a village where parking is at a premium?

We are puzzled and indeed concerned - how is this democratic and how can it be justified?

We await NCC's response with interest.

I objected to the initial establishment of this scheme on an experimental basis and now wish to object to its proposed continuation. My main reason for this was and still is that parking is a problem in many of Alnmouth's streets and singling out one street for preferential treatment is unfair and invidious.

Additionally, the scheme impacts upon our village hall, which is situated on Northumberland Street opposite the end of Argyle Street. Visitors to the hall cannot now park in Argyle Street even if places are available, which they frequently are following the restriction of parking to residents-only. For instance, on Saturday November 18th I know that there were, because I counted them several times, 12 parking places in Argyle Street which were vacant all day. We had organised an all-day event in the Hall and visitors were unable to park in Argyle Street even though the spaces were not being used by the residents throughout the day. I now have to warn Hall users that they cannot park in Argyle Street even if places are available. Taking so many parking places out of the pool available in the village purely for the convenience of a few residents in Argyle Street is causing problems for other residents and our village hall. I agree with the Parish Council's view that the scheme is not in the best interests of the village as a whole and should therefore be discontinued immediately.

The changes to the road system in recent times are bad enough including the loss of many parking spaces to the yellow lines causing visitors much inconvenience and frustration. The difficulties finding a space earlier this year were most annoying and we were pleased to read that the restricted parking in Argyle Street was to be scrapped. But now I hear that this extraordinary special treatment of Argyle Street will continue and the visitor parking restriction will not be lifted. Please reconsider as Alnmouth needs more parking availability not less for the many visitors like ourselves who love the town and bring our holiday cash to spend in Northumberland.

It's a very long drive and I would very much like to find a convenient parking space on arrival.

I have worked in Alnmouth for the past 14 months and have seen many changes from the one way system being introduced to lots of double yellow lines and then the residents only parking on Argyle Street.

I have to travel to work by car and in the busy months I find it very difficult to park, especially when my shift starts after 9.00. I enjoy my job, but often wonder on my drive to work whether I will get parked. I remember driving round Alnmouth last Summer and seeing spaces

outside of Argyle Street, but unable to park there because of the residents parking. I hope this is resolved soon, and Alnmouth gains more spaces for not just myself but its tourists.

As a frequent visitor to Alnmouth staying at Puffin cottage in Northumberland Street I am dismayed to hear that the council is proposing to make Argyle Street a residents only parking zone.

When we come to stay if we can't park in Northumberland Street we usually use Argyle Street assuming there are spaces available & as this is usually after we have been out all day the residents have already parked.

We always eat in the local pubs & restaurants every evening & spend a considerable amount of money in the community as there are 4 of us all adults it certainly adds up which will of course be lost if we don't come to stay in Alnmouth.

After spending the last five years holidaying in a lovely holiday cottage in Craster we decided that for 2018 we would choose another location in the county. To that end, we have booked a weeks break in Alnmouth. A condition and major influence of booking the cottage was that there was available car parking nearby. In Craster, the cottage had its own dedicated parking space.

We were assured that we could park our car on Argyle Street which gives access to the rear of the cottage we have booked and has been used by previous guests of the cottage for a number of years.

We were then surprised to be notified by the owner of the property that the County Council has decided to reverse the original Argyle Street Scheme decision. This decision will have a significant impact on our decision to choose Alnmouth as a holiday destination now and in the future. We use our car as little as possible whilst we are away, instead preferring to walk, cycle or use public transport if possible.

I am sorry to say that this is yet another instance we have personally experienced where we as visitors are being given the impression that Northumberland, beautiful as it is, is doing it's uppermost to discourage visitors and perhaps its overreliance on the tourism industry. As a former economic development professional in my working life, I find these decisions quite puzzling and indeed worrying. Examples include the closures of the TiCs, car parking restrictions in retail locations, overflowing dog waste bins (Walkworth, Craster, Amble and Alnmouth), that we encountered on our visit last year, and that would seem to leave the wrong impression on the visitor.

I trust that the County Council will be mindful to take notice of visitor and resident comments on a range of tourism-related issues and that Northumberland can continue to prosper.

We are writing to formally object to the "Residents Only" Parking Scheme imposed by the County Council.

We have visited Alnmouth on many occasions, since noticing it from a train window during a trip to Scotland. It has become one of our favourite places in Northumberland and always feels like "home" when we visit. There is, however, one problem which is a serious concern and which might

well deter us from staying in Alnmouth in the future - the parking situation.

Having previously stayed in a property accessed from Argyle Street, we are appalled to learn that we would be precluded from parking there if we returned. We cannot understand why that street should merit special concessions and feel that it could have a very negative impact on tourism in the village and consequently on the various different types of businesses there. We would respectfully suggest that more parking provision is needed, not less!

We sincerely hope that the County Council will reconsider its decision relating to Argyle Street and that it will seek ways to improve parking facilities for visitors, instead of making parking in Alnmouth even more difficult.

I would like to formally object to the Argyle Street Alnmouth 'Residents Only' parking scheme.

Over the years we have been lucky enough to stay at Puffin Cottage in Alnmouth and have always found it most convenient to park on Argyle Street where there is easy access to the rear of the property. This has allowed us to park off the main road at the front of Puffin Cottage which is busy and has a bus stop. With elderly less mobile relatives often accompanying us on holiday, being able to park on Argyle Street makes the process of them alighting from the vehicle far less dangerous and stressful for us all.

We love Alnmouth and visit regularly as we live less than an hour away and until 12 months ago never had a problem finding somewhere to park for however long we planned to stay - a quick visit to the shops, lunch in a cafe, a day on the beach or a much needed holiday. Since the one-way system was introduced there are a lot less parking spaces available and an awful lot of double yellow lines have taken their place. Indeed we were in the area on Sunday 26th November and drove twice around the one-way system looking, unsuccessfully, for a parking space and drove back to Warkworth and had lunch there.

Although we understand that the one way-system is to remain for the time being, we believed that the council had agreed at the start of this month that the Argyle Street scheme would be scrapped which would be a considerable help to us when we stay for a week at Puffin Cottage next month. However, we think this is not now the case and would like to lodge our great concern that this will make it very difficult to park in the village and will certainly have a detrimental impact on our decision to go back to Alnmouth.

It would appear that there is no obvious merit for Argyle Street to be 'Residents Only' parking and although we love Northumberland, we would have to mention to anybody thinking of visiting or staying in Alnmouth that there is now an issue with parking.

Yours sincerely

Having already expressed my opinion regarding resident parking in Argyle Street, Alnmouth during a meeting held in the Hindmarsh Hall earlier this year, which was a large 'NO' I now found that this has happened.
As I live in Riverside Road I cannot believe that this proposed decision has gone

ahead, as of course the result of this is that we now well and truly get the overflow from Argyle Street, given that most of the multiple houses are now let as holiday houses and as each one averages 5 bedrooms with no parking facilities whatsoever without even considering the Argyle Street Flats we now cannot even get our cars near our houses. Before the Experimental Order 2016 was put in place, we at least had a chance to find a place near our house, but as we now see, residents arriving for these complete with luggage, this takes away any chance of reasonable parking as previously. It has always been a problem parking I must admit, but for the most part they were day visitors but now we have cars in situ sometimes without moving for quite a few days - probably once here they travel around together using one car, conveniently parked in Argyle Street outside their holiday home, which of course blocks Riverside Road completely - I assume they are told by the owners of their holiday homes where the 'overflow' car park is, i.e. Riverside Road, as they certainly know which way to go with their luggage, depending on which house they have rented, as they have two options of course. It would appear that to sort this problem out, Riverside Road should also be given the option of having a Residents Parking permit - perhaps one side only to be fair, outside the houses and leave the beach side open to visitors of all sorts. I appreciate not an easy task, but one that seriously affects us now Argyle Street has residents parking. The double yellow lines hav'nt helped either as there is no parking from opposite No. 12 Riverside right down to the park, apart from the couple of marked bays. The plus side of the 'experiment' is the one way system, apart from the dangerous exit onto Marine Road from Peases Gardens. Hoping you take my suggestions into consideration.