

# RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR – LOCAL SERVICES & HOUSING

# PROPOSED 'NO WAITING AT ANY TIME' RESTRICTIONS – CHURCH LANE – BEDLINGTON 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015

#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise regarding the proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' Restrictions - Church Lane – Bedlington

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that in view of the consultation, the scheme to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' Restrictions at Church Lane, Bedlington, should proceed as proposed.

#### **Key Issues**

- 1) The scheme is being funded by the developer of an adjacent housing project, Miller Homes.
- The scheme is required to prevent vehicles from parking at locations where it is considered unsafe or may cause obstruction to other road users.
- 3) County Councillors Alyson Wallace and Milburn Douglas are in full support of this proposal.

# PROPOSED 'NO WAITING AT ANY TIME' RESTRICTIONS – CHURCH LANE, BEDLINGTON

#### BACKGROUND

- As a result of the recent Miller Homes Planning Application at Church Lane, Bedlington, A review of the current parking restrictions has been requested. As such, Miller Homes has agreed to fund the introduction of No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions.
- 2. These restrictions were the subject of a consultation letter to approximately 22 households/businesses and approximately 30 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations. A plan showing the proposals is attached together with a copy of the consultation letter (see Appendix A)

#### CONSULTATION

- 3. The consultation exercise ended on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2015 and responses were received from 9 consultees with 7 in favour and 1 against the proposals. One consultee expressed no overall preference. A summary of these responses is attached as Appendix B.
- The majority of responses were in favour of the proposals. The general consensus is that the restrictions will alleviate parking issues and improve road safety.
- Those who objected to the proposals commented that the introduction of these restrictions was not enough to alleviate the problem.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

6. From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concern over parking in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. Following the consultation exercise it is clear that the majority of residents who have responded are in favour of the proposals. It is therefore recommended that the scheme to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions at Church Lane, Bedlington should proceed as proposed.

- 7. The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any Traffic Regulation Order. Such an inquiry might be enable disputed evidence to be tested under cross-examination and the need for an order to be critically examined by an independent inspector. In this particular case, Officers believe that the extensive consultation process and involvement with interested parties, means that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.
- Accordingly it is recommended that the Director of Local Services & Housing agrees to proceed with the introduction of the following Traffic Regulation Order.

South East Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order 2011 - Amendment No. 29 Order 2015 (TRO\_011\_29).

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Road Traffic Act 2004 Local Government Act 2000 File Ref: RT140027

#### **APPENDIX INDEX**

Appendix A – Consultation Documents Appendix B – Summary of Consultation Responses

## IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT

Policy

None

Finance and value for money

Scheme will be financed by Miller Homes

**Human Resources** 

None

**Property** 

None

Equalities

Correct 'Double Yellow Lines' and Traffic Regulation Order will aid enforcement.

Risk Assessment

Residential area, town centre location

Crime & Disorder

None

**Customer Considerations** 

Proposals will contribute to the flow of

traffic, aid safety, reduce vehicle emissions

Sustainability

None

Consultation

Bedlington Town Council, the emergency services, all affected residents/businesses and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County

Councillor for the area.

Wards

West Bedlington

## **DECISION TAKEN**

Title of Member or Officer(s):	Director of Local Services & Housing
Subject:	PROPOSED 'NO WAITING AT ANY TIME' RESTRICTIONS – CHURCH LANE, BEDLINGTON
Consultation	9 Responses 7 For 1 Against 1 Neither
Decision Taken:	Given the outcome of the consultation as well as the comments received it is recommended that the above scheme should be provided.
Signature of Director of Local Services Housing	: &
Date	

#### Appendix A

# Northumberland

# Northumberland County Council

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF

• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

The Occupier

Our Ref: RT140027

Your Ref:

Contact: Mr Andrew Douglas

Direct Line: 01670 623861

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E-mail: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Friday 30th January 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

## Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' Restrictions - Church Lane - Bedlington

As a result of the recent Miller Homes Planning Application at Church Lane, Bedlington, the County Council has been asked to review the existing parking restrictions in the area following concerns about potential indiscriminate parking which have been raised by Miller Homes. As such, 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions are being proposed as shown on the attached plan. Miller Homes have agreed to fund this scheme, subject to favourable consultation with residents.

I am therefore writing formally in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to ask for your comments on the proposals to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' Restrictions at Church Lane, Bedlington as shown on the attached plan.

The County Council is seeking your views on the proposals and a freepost response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. It should be stressed that this is a genuine consultation and that comments received will be carefully considered.

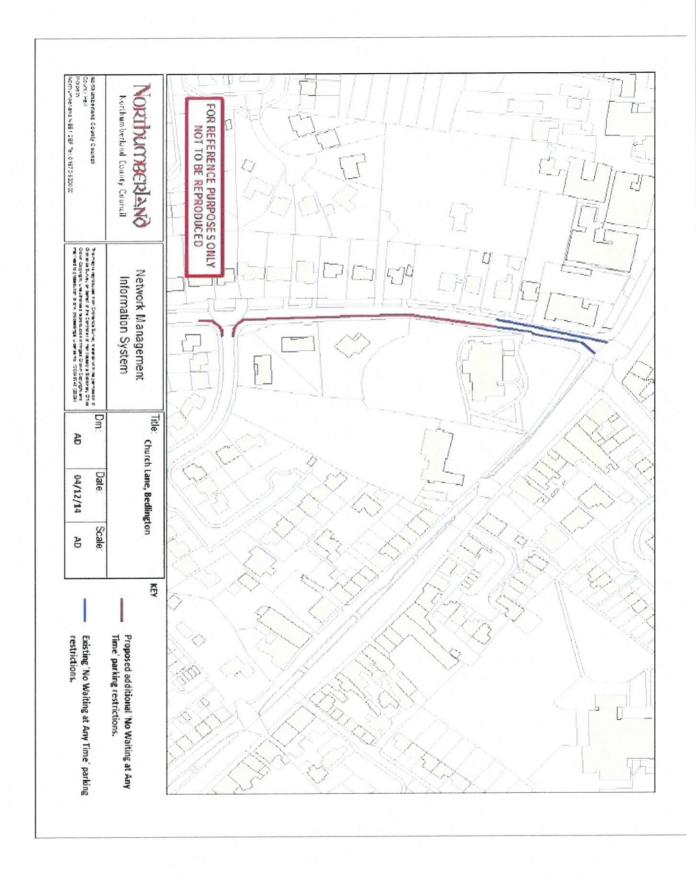
Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, to the Executive Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <a href="http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/">http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/</a>.

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

Andrew Douglas

Transport Projects Team



Appendix B

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			Traffic lights should be considered at the end of church lane onto front street.
1			· ·
1			
		1	Thank you for your correspondence dated 30th January 2015 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. 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 do appreciate however the need for restrictions to improve road safety. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.
1			
1			I fully support these proposals, hopefully it will alleviate the indiscriminate parking which causes all sorts of traffic congestion related problems
1			
1			As a resident of Church lane (although beyond the point of where the proposed restrictions will terminate) I support the proposal. On another angle as a local funeral director our funeral cars 'wait' outside St Cuthbert's Church during funeral services will this situation be exempt? Since moving to Church Lane the difficulty in getting up and down Church Lane has been a concern but the biggest concern is the regularity and more importantly speed of the farm traffic up and down the lane. I recommend severe speed restrictions to be put in place before someone is Killed! The drivers of the farm vehicles are completely maverick.
	1		Whilst I would support the No Waiting at anytime as per the plan, the main problem is cars parked on the west side. of Church Lane on the narrow part up to No.5 when driving up towards main street when cars are parked on the west side its very difficult to see oncoming traffic. If the restriction was extended up to No.5 it would solve the problem.