

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CORPORATE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS QUAYSIDE, BERWICK

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding proposed parking restrictions at Quayside in Berwick

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions are introduced at Quayside in Berwick as proposed.

Key Issues

2. Scheme being funded by LTP
3. Motorists are experiencing inconsiderate parking resulting in carriageway obstruction.
4. Pavement parking blocking access and damaging footpaths.
5. Scheme supported by Councillor Gavin Jones

Report Author

Dan Fraser - Programmes Officer (Highway Safety)

(01670) 624125

Daniel.Fraser@northumberland.gov.uk

BACKGROUND

1. Concerns have been raised by Parking Services regarding indiscriminate parking at Berwick Quayside. It has been reported that vehicles are parking on a narrow stretch of highway that runs through the Quayside Car Park which is causing obstruction to larger vehicles and confusion to car park users. This situation causes confusion to car park users as the sign for the car park state "vehicles must park wholly within a marked bay" yet cars are parking on the unrestricted highway that runs through the car park. As such, officers have been asked consult residents/businesses on the possible introduction of a "No waiting at any time" parking restriction (double yellow line) on both sides of Quayside.

CONSULTATION

2. These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise that involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 11 residents/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).
3. The consultation exercise ended on 4th November 2015 and responses were received from 6 consultees, with four in favour and one against the proposals. One consultee did not express a preference. A summary of the responses is attached an appendix B.
4. The North East Ambulance Service was the only statutory consultee to responded and they did not express a preference.

COMMENTS

5. While indicating their support to the proposals, the following comments were made regarding concern over the visual impact the double yellow lines would have on the cobbles - To minimize the visual impact of the road markings, the lines will be painted onto the cobbles using a material that will reduce any running off through the joints. The lines will also be painted in the lighter shade of yellow (primrose) at the minimum width of 50mm wide to further reduce the visual impact.
6. No need to line all of the locations proposed - The proposed locations have been identified as problem areas where restrictions are needed to remove obstructive parking. Introducing parking restrictions on one side of the highway would fail to resolve any of the obstruction issues.
7. Vehicles also park on the raised cobble area which is causing damage to the cobbles - The introduction of the parking restrictions at Quayside would mean that if a vehicle was witnessed by a Civil Enforcement Officer parking on the raised cobble area, the vehicle would receive a Penalty Charge Notice.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns raised in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. The result of the consultation exercise shows that the majority of the residents/businesses who responded support

the proposals. It is therefore recommended that the proposed parking restrictions be introduced as proposed.

9. The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any traffic regulation order. Such an inquiry might 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.

Appendix Index

Appendix A – Copy of Consultation Letter
Appendix B - Summary of Responses

Implications Arising Out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	Funded by the LTP
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	None
Risk Assessment	Inconsiderate parking issues.
Crime & Disorder	Scheme will remove inconsiderate parking in the area, promoting a safer environment.
Customer Considerations	None
Sustainability	None
Consultation	Berwick Town Council, the emergency services, all affected residents and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.
Wards	Berwick North

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Executive Member or Officer(s):

Executive Director of Local Services

Subject:

Proposed parking restrictions Quayside Berwick

Consultation

6 Responses

4 For

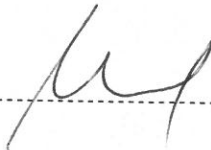
1 Against

1 Neither

Decision Taken:

'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restriction are introduced as proposed

Signature of Corporate Director



Date

11/12/15

NORTHUMBERLAND

Appendix A - Copy of Consultation Letter

Northumberland County Council

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF
• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

The Occupier

Our Ref: HE152316-03
Your Ref:
Contact: Mr Dan Fraser
Direct Line: 01670 624125
Fax: 01670 626136
E-mail: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Date: Wednesday 23rd September 2015

Proposed Parking Restrictions – Quayside, Berwick

Concerns have been raised by Parking Services regarding inconsiderate parking at the Quayside in Berwick. It has been reported that vehicles are parking along a narrow stretch of highway which is causing obstruction to larger vehicles using the road. A "No Waiting at Any Time" parking restriction (double yellow line) is therefore proposed on the north and south side of the Quayside to alleviate these concerns. It is anticipated that the introduction of these parking restrictions will improve road safety by offering reduced congestion

I am therefore writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to formally ask for your comments on the proposed introduction of "No Waiting at Any Time" parking restrictions at the Quayside, as shown 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 Wednesday 4th November 2015. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

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.

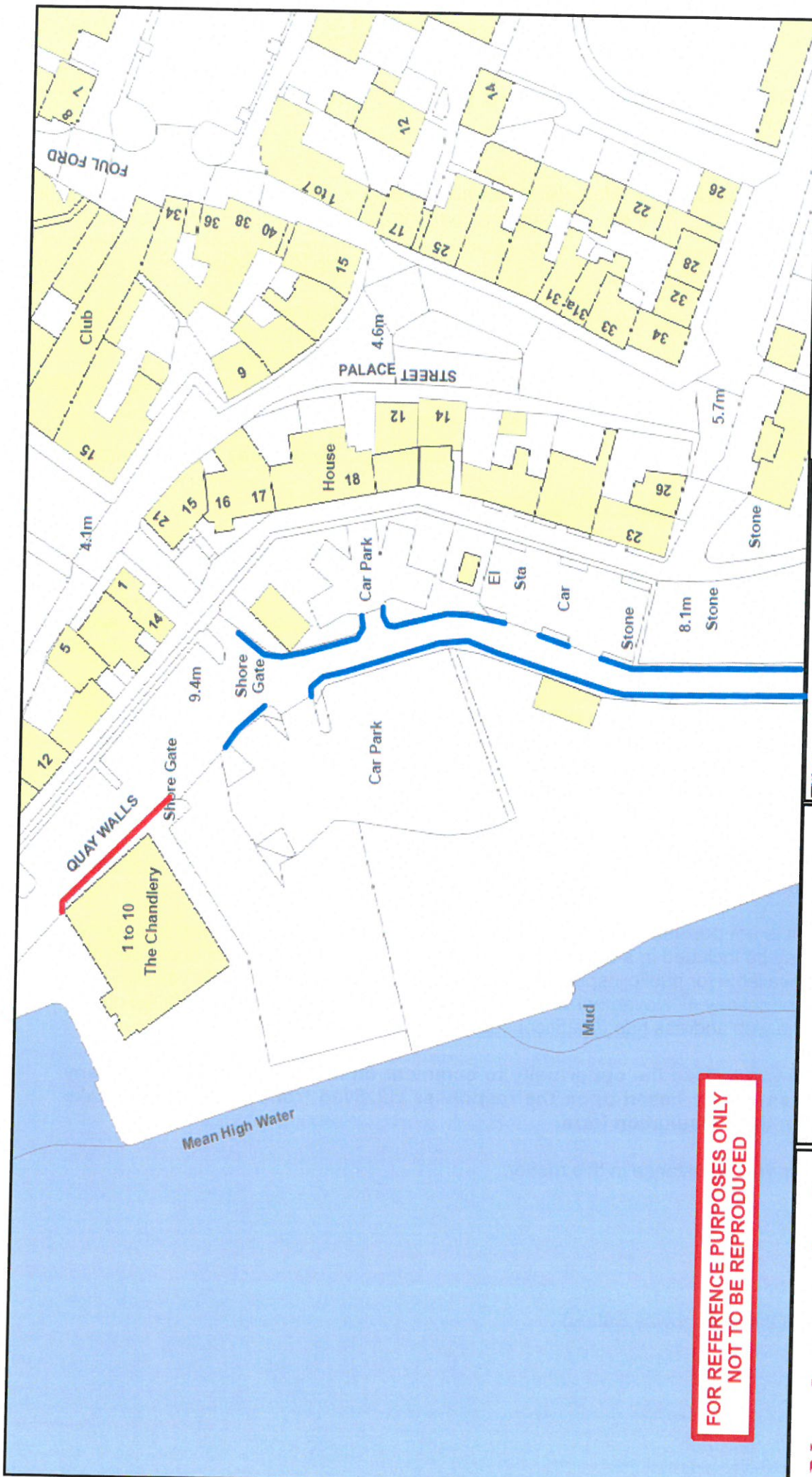
I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully



Dan Fraser
Programmes Officer (Highway Safety)

FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY
NOT TO BE REPRODUCED



Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

Northumberland County Council
County Hall
Morpeth
Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 01670 433000

**Network Management
Information System**

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence no. 100049242 (2009).

Title:

Quayside
Berwick

Dm:

Date:

Scale:

KEY

Existing "No Waiting" restriction

New "No Waiting" restriction

Appendix B – Summary of Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
		1	Thank you for your letter dated 23rd September 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) to 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 would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.
1			I am concerned that yellow lines will not look nice painted on the cobbles but can see that improving the parking solution would improve the area greatly. There is often every bad parking on the area I have marked with an asterisk on the attached map. This damages the cobbles and curbs and often council workers have to come repair them. I feel that the car park on a whole would benefit from being 4 hours as opposed to long stay as it is overcrowded by workers rather than tourists during the week. - People who used to car share /catch the bus or walk in from Tweedmouth before the parking become free all day.
1			I would like to bring your attention to the raised areas of cobbles which are being used to park on by cars - the cobbles are being badly damaged every day and council workers regularly have to come and repair the cobbles. I have only seen parking tickets issued to these vehicles on one occasion - I would suggest putting bollards/planters in place to deter vehicles from parking on the raised areas and damaging the cobbles. I can send photographs if required.
	1		We run a coffee shop in the chandlery, on the quayside next to the quayside car park. We find every week day from 8.50 till around 4pm it is extremely difficult to find a parking space in this car park. The main problem is the vast majority of spaces is taken by local workers parking all day. Whilst we accept there is little we can do at the moment about this problem the possibility of losing more parking spaces is going to harm all the businesses using the chandlery which rely on customers to park. We understand there has been an issue with inconsiderate parking and propose a compromise of restricting parking to opposite each of the smaller car parks to the east of the lifeboat road.
1			no comments
1			Thank you for your letter of 23/9/15. 1. The majority of the blue lines appear sensible 2. The blue line immediately west of where your plan says "Shore Gate" is arguably unnecessary as there is space for two cars there. It has been regularly used as such hitherto to no apparent ill-effect. Meanwhile, can you or Neil give me an update on the issues we covered in our previous exchanges, further below of last year, and which are not covered by your latest proposals, please? In particular, I'm thinking of the area to the north-west of The Chandlery where there are spaces used but not marked and, also, where there are spaces (not very clearly marked) which overlap with the Highways area. It remains unclear what is Highway and what is Car Park in this area. Many thanks
4	1	1	

