

# Public Document Pack

**Date of meeting** Monday, 18 March 2013  
**Time** 6.00 pm  
**Venue** Committee Room 2, Civic Offices, Merrial Street,  
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG  
**Contact** Nick Lamper  
01782 742227

## Joint Parking Committee

### AGENDA

#### PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** (Pages 1 - 4)  
Held on 14 January 2013, to be signed as a correct record.
- 4 **TRAFFIC REGULATION REQUESTS**  
Verbal update on traffic regulation requests by Staffordshire County Council.
- 5 **TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER PRIORITIES** (Pages 5 - 6)  
Determination of the four traffic regulation requests to be undertaken in 2013/14.
- 6 **RESIDENTS' PARKING ZONES** (Pages 7 - 12)
  - (a) Verbal update on the progress of the Town Centre East Residents' Parking Zone.
  - (b) Petition regarding parking in the Dunkirk area of Newcastle town centre.
  - (c) Funding of Residents' Parking Zones.

**Members:** Councillors Cairns, Sweeney, Taylor.M (Chair) and Wilkes

**Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.**

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

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## JOINT PARKING COMMITTEE

Monday, 14th January, 2013

**Present:-**

Councillors Cairns and Sweeney

County Councillors Cooper and Locke

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

It was indicated that in the circumstances that the Chairman, Councillor Taylor, was delayed, a Chairman was required to be appointed. to lead the committee until he arrived.

**Resolved:-** That Councillor Cairns be appointed as Chairman of this meeting until Councillor Taylor arrives.

Councillor Cairns in the Chair

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Cornes and Tagg.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 22 October 2012 be approved as a correct record.

5. **TRAFFIC REGULATION REQUESTS - A VERBAL UPDATE**

The Committee considered a list submitted by the County Council of requests made since the last meeting for traffic regulation measures at various locations across the Borough.

None of the new requests were considered to be major issues but had been added to the larger list for consideration by the Committee.

Arising out of consideration of this matter it was agreed that if the problems caused by vehicles parking in Duke Street raised by a Member at the last meeting could not be resolved by the installation of Access Protection Marking then it be added to the list of traffic regulation requests.

**Resolved:-** That the information be received and the action suggested in relation to Duke Street be agreed.

Councillor M Taylor in the Chair

**6. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - PRIORITIES**

Having regard to earlier decisions of the Committee to prioritise a list of traffic regulation requests for a 5-year period to 2014/15. Members were asked to review the list and agree four to be investigated in detail by the County Council and implemented during 2013/14.

It was indicated that since approval of the original list new requests had arisen that were not anticipated at the time of its production.

The current list of prioritised schemes was set out in the appendix to the officer's report and included a number of more recent requests for consideration. Although the requests for Traffic Regulation Orders now numbered 159, the reality was that only 4 could be selected for investigation and implementation by the County Council in 2013/14.

With this in mind, the Committee discussed how best to arrive at a decision to prioritise 4 schemes and, at the same time, use the process as an opportunity to investigate whether requests on the list had sufficient priority to warrant retention. Ideally, a short list of 8 would be preferable from which the Committee could choose 4 for prioritisation.

It was generally agreed that the most logical and effective way of establishing a short list would be for the County Council to provide a copy of the list to the 8 County Councillors on the Committee with a request that they examine it and each select one scheme for consideration as one of the 4 prioritised schemes for 2013/14 and, where appropriate, to suggest removal of requests from the list.

**Resolved:-** That the Committee's County Council representatives be approached by County Officers as indicated above and the outcome of such consultation be submitted to the next meeting for consideration.

**7. HACKNEY CARRIAGES PARKING IN HASSELL STREET**

A Member referred to problems caused by Hackney Carriages parking in Hassell Street in the vicinity of Wilkinsons when waiting for spaces to become available on the taxi rank.

The officers indicated that the situation in this area should be improved when works were completed in High Street South. Those works were about to start in early February.

**Resolved:-** That the information be received.

**8. CIVIC PARKING ENFORCEMENT - RESIDENTS PARKING ZONE - THE VILLAGE, KEELE**

Reference was made to the discussion on this matter at the last meeting subsequent to which the County Council had provided a breakdown of the costs for implementing the scheme, including elements for dealing with objections and traffic management requirements for the implementation of on-site works etc.

The total cost of implementing the scheme was estimated at £12520 subject to a number of variables and factors which may arise at consultation stage.

Further discussions between the Borough and County Council would be held shortly.

**Resolved:-** That the information be received.

**Chair**

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## **TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER PRIORITIES**

**Submitted by:**            **Engineering Manager – Graham Williams**

**Portfolio:**                **Environment and Recycling**

**Ward(s) affected:**    **All**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To select the four traffic regulation orders which the County Council will implement during 2013/14.

### **Recommendation**

**That Members select four parking related traffic regulation schemes for implementation by the County Council during 2013/14.**

### **Reasons**

Due to a large number of requests and limited resources, it is necessary to select four schemes to be progressed during 2013/14.

#### **1.     **Background****

- 1.1    This committee prioritised a list of traffic regulation requests regarding parking issues a number of years ago for a 5 year period.
- 1.2    At the previous committee, Members resolved to request the eight county members covering the Borough be asked to provide two traffic related issues for their area.

#### **2.     **Issues****

- 2.1    The County Officers have requested the information from the County members and are awaiting their response.

#### **3.     **Proposals****

- 3.1    The returns from the County members will be presented to the March meeting of this committee for members to select the four TROs for implementation during 2013/4.

#### **4.     **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities****

- creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough
- creating a Borough of opportunity

#### **5.     **Legal and Statutory Implications****

None for the Borough Council

#### **6.     **Financial and Resource Implications****

- 6.1    The investigation, design and implementation of the TROs are funded by the County Council.

7. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

Joint Parking Committee 14 January 2013 - Item 6



## **RESIDENTS' PARKING ZONES – PETITION**

**Submitted by:**            **Engineering Manager – Graham Williams**

**Portfolio:**                **Environment and Recycling**

**Ward(s) affected:**    **Town Centre**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To inform Members of the receipt of a petition regarding parking issues in the Dunkirk area of Newcastle.

### **Recommendations**

**(a)    That Members receive the petition.**

**(b)    That Members re-affirm Dunkirk is the next area to be considered for a residents' parking zone.**

### **1.    Background**

- 1.1    There has been parking related issues for a number of years where drivers are leaving their vehicles and visiting the town centre.
- 1.2    The majority of this area is covered by 'No Entry – Accept for Access' orders that were introduced at least 20 years ago, these can only be enforced by the police.
- 1.3    If these areas were covered by a Residents Parking Zone (RPZ), the enforcement would be undertaken by our Civil Enforcement Officers.
- 1.4    The County Council, as highway authority, would have to design a new scheme and undertake significant consultation with the residents to enable any change to take place.
- 1.5    Due to a limited resource, the County Council are only able to progress one RPZ at any time.

### **2.    Issues**

- 2.1    A petition has been received from 49 residents in the area of Dunkirk expressing concerns over the indiscriminate parking of vehicles. Copies were also sent to the County Council and Staffordshire Police. A copy of a typical sheet is included as an appendix.
- 2.2    To introduce a RPZ, the County Council, as highway authority, would have to design a new scheme and undertake significant consultation with the residents to enable any change to take place.
- 2.3    Due to a limited resource, the County Council are only able to progress one RPZ at any time.
- 2.4    Members of this committee have already agreed that Dunkirk be the next area for consideration of a RPZ by the County Council.

### **3.    Proposals**

3.1 The committee acknowledges the petition and re-affirms their decision that the Dunkirk area be the next in line to be considered by the County Council as a RPZ.

4. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough
- creating a Borough of opportunity

5. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

None for the Borough Council

6. **Financial and Resource Implications**

None for the Borough Council

## ANTI SOCIAL & NUISANCE PARKING Dunkirk, Castle Hill Rd, Greenside & Fletcher Bank and Infringements of Access Only use to the above Streets

We the residents of the above mentioned streets have over several years suffered from motorists using the above mentioned streets to park their vehicles all day.

Since restrictions on parking in other areas of the town have been enforced we consequently cannot park in our own streets because of the anti-social parking from outsiders.

We have contacted the Police and Borough Council to voice our concerns but have had little or no response from either.

The situation has become so intolerable that we have been forced to compile a petition to try and get some reprieve from the persistent parking (& Abuse) from people parking and not displaying a permit or visitors pass.

Castle Hill Rd and Dunkirk although 'access only' have a constant flow of traffic with motorists using our streets as a short cut to and from the local College and schools. This is usually between the hours of approx. 8.30 to 9.15 a.m. And 3.15 to 3.45 p.m. This leaves the access to Dunkirk from Knutton Lane impossible as parked cars from parents picking up children blocks this entrance.

Parking during the day in the above streets is a nightmare for residents as we try to access our street. It is usually full of cars not displaying permits and these vehicles are not owned by residents or visitors but by people who are shopping in the town or leaving there vehicle ALL DAY because they work in the town and refuse to pay for parking, these cars are parked from 8.30 to 5.30 p.m every week day.

We have enclosed photographs of the nearest car park which is approx. 150 yds away and it is half empty.

This is not a seasonal problem it is an everyday occurrence. Just having a delivery or work done on our houses is a nightmare as work vans cannot access our property.

Vehicles double park at junctions, footpaths and across dropped kerb crossings (see photo)

When we as residents confront these motorists we have been subject to verbal abuse.

As residents of this area we are now seeking positive actions from both Police and local County Council to address our long suffering parking problem.

We have suffered enough and have put together some proposals to try and alleviate the situation.

- Access only signs to be written on the road at all appropriate entrances.
- Monitoring of cars accessing the streets by Police patrolling at peak times 8.30 a.m to 9.15 am & 3.15 p.m to 3.45 p.m
- Warning notices to be put on cars not displaying any form of parking permit.
- Access only signs to be clearly displayed along the streets or a 2 hour parking restriction to be displayed and enforced for vehicles not displaying a permit.
- Traffic enforcement tickets issued to vehicles that persistently park on pavements and junctions.
- Monitoring of traffic once any actions have been taken.

As residents we look forward to your comments on the matter, please find photographs for your perusal.

I the undersigned agree with the above

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## **RESIDENTS' PARKING ZONES – FUNDING**

**Submitted by:**            **Engineering Manager – Graham Williams**

**Portfolio:**                **Environment and Recycling**

**Ward(s) affected:**    **All**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To seek additional funding to accelerate the introduction of residents parking zones.

### **Recommendation**

**That Members request funding from cabinet to increase the rate of the introduction of residents parking schemes.**

### **Reasons**

Due to limited resources of the County Council and the intensive consultation associated with the introduction of the residents parking zones, additional funding would enable more areas to be considered sooner.

#### **1.     Background**

- 1.1     The introduction of civil parking enforcement (originally decriminalised parking enforcement) over 5 years ago enabled the introduction of residents parking zones (RPZs) where appropriate.
- 1.2     The County Council is committed to progressing the introduction of one RPZ at a time.
- 1.3     The area to the south-east of the town centre is currently been considered for an RPZ.
- 1.4     There are a number of “No Entry – Except for Access” restrictions in the Borough that were introduced to control parking over 20 years ago; these can only be enforced by the police.

#### **2.     Issues**

- 2.1     The process of assessing the suitability of an area for a RPZ is resource intensive and includes significant amounts of consultation with the residents. This has led to delays in investigating and the introduction of a RPZ, if suitable, of other areas within the Borough.
- 2.2     There have been a number of representations to both the Borough and County Councils regarding the indiscriminate parking especially around the town centre, requesting RPZs.
- 2.3     Due to the resources available to the police, the level of enforcement of the “No Entry – Except for Access” restrictions has reduced.
- 2.4     In order to reduce the delays in introducing a RPZ, the County Council could buy in external consultants to supplement their resources, funding for this would be needed.
- 2.5     Requests have been made to the County Council for additional funding to support this acceleration of the program. Unfortunately no suitable funding stream has been identified.

2.6 Whilst the CPE service is currently making a surplus, which would be suitable to fund this acceleration, it is being used to pay back the setup costs of the service as originally agreed.

3. **Proposals**

3.1 The Borough Council, should funding be available, could sponsor the RPZ program.

3.2 The cost to undertake a review of an area for a RPZ is very dependant on the response to the consultations with the residents and the area being considered. A budget estimate of between £15,000 to £20,000 would not be unreasonable; this would not include any of the TRO advertisement costs or the cost of any site works (signing, lining, possible kerbing works, etc.).`

3.3 As the County Council are not able to fund this funding to accelerate the program, members may request cabinet to consider funding this proposal.

3.4 A successful scheme would deter indiscriminate parking, leading to the potential for increased use of the Boroughs car parks and the associated increase in income.

4. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough
- creating a Borough of opportunity

5. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

None for the Borough Council

6. **Financial and Resource Implications**

There is no provision for this funding in the 2013/14 budget.