

Request for additional Blue Badge holder parking on Teignmouth Seafront Report of the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport

Please note that the following recommendation is subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

1) Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee be asked to consider whether Teignbridge District Council should be requested to provide additional Blue Badge parking places in Lower Point car park, or three additional Blue Badge parking spaces should be provided at the southern end of Powderham Terrace, at the entrance to the Lower Point Car Park, if a source of funding can be identified.

2) Background/Introduction

Teignmouth Town Council requested at this committee on 25th July 2022 that the Teignmouth Upper Den Carriageway remain open in summer months. It was resolved that the road remain closed through the summer period.

Officers were asked to investigate and report back on whether any additional parking for blue badge holders could be provided on existing highways in the vicinity of the newly refurbished play area at the southern end of the promenade.

3) Main Body/Proposal

The Upper Den Carriageway in Teignmouth is closed for vehicles between the 1 May and 10 September each year. The road is one way, travelling south to north, and is physically closed off using bollards at the southern end. There are a no entry signs at the northern end. Therefore, it would be difficult to allow use by any specific group of vehicles, such as blue badge holders, and it would be confusing for other users of the road if any vehicles were to be allowed onto the road during the period when it is considered to be closed.

There is parking throughout the year on Powderham Terrace, for which payment is required between 9am and 6pm. A number of these spaces could be allocated specifically for use by Blue Badge holders, it would then mean that others would not be able to use them. This would require the Traffic Regulation Order to be amended subject to formal consultation and advertising. The parking is well used throughout the year.

If additional Blue Badge parking is required it is considered that it would be safer to provide it in the adjacent District Council car park, so that drivers would not be leaving and entering their vehicles onto the highway.

4) Options/Alternatives

If additional Blue Badge parking is required it is considered that it would be safer to have any additional spaces in the Lower Point Car Park, which is owned by Teignbridge District Council. The main advantage of this is that drivers would not be leaving and entering their vehicles directly from the highway. It could also be done without the requirement for DCC to make or amend a Traffic Regulation Order.

5) Consultations/Representations/Technical Data

The proposal has been put forward by this Committee.

Any traffic order would need to be formally advertised, and any objections considered.

6) Strategic Plan

Devon's Strategic Plan states that we will "Promote services that increase resilience, self-reliance and independence."

7) Financial Considerations

It is estimated that the cost would be between three and four thousand pounds to write and advertise a Traffic Regulation Order, undertake consultation, and consider objections. It would cost an additional one and half thousand pounds for lining and signing work to provide three bays.

No budget has been identified to undertake this work.

If Teignbridge District Council are asked to provide additional blue badge parking bays in the Lower Point Car Park this would be at their cost.

8) Legal Considerations

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, secures the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities.

9) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)

This proposal would have no environmental impacts.

10) Equality Considerations

Where relevant, in coming to a decision the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duty requires decision makers to give due regard to the need to advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs. The proposal would achieve this by providing additional parking specifically for Blue Badge holders in close proximity to the Teignmouth Play Park. However, it is not evident that there is any additional requirement for blue badge spaces at

this location, or that it would address any identified issues. Furthermore, this could also be achieved by providing additional places in the Lower Point Car Park.

11) Risk Management Considerations

No risks have been identified.

12) Summary/Conclusions/Reasons for Recommendations

Whilst it could be considered beneficial to provide three additional spaces for Blue Badge holders on Powderham Terrace it is considered that it would be more beneficial and easier to achieve if any additional spaces were to be provided in the adjacent Lower Point Car park.

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Electoral Division: Teignmouth

Local Government Act 1972: List of background papers

Background Paper Nil

Date

File Reference

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