

## **Preston Village Traffic Issues**

Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

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

**Recommendation: It is recommended that:**

- (a) The contents of this report be noted; and**
- (b) Officers approach Teignbridge District Council to determine what further actions may be taken under the Public Spaces Protection Orders powers.**

### **1. Background**

At the Teignbridge HATOC on 5 November 2020 it was resolved “that a detailed report be made to the next meeting including evidence regarding the degree of obstruction, including emergency services and refuse collection.” This is that report.

### **2. Proposal**

Preston is a small hamlet of approximately 15 residential properties, and a small number of commercial farm-based businesses. It is accessed from Lower Preston Road, which also gives access to local quarry workings.

From Preston, footpaths give access to walks along the river Teign.

Local residents have raised concerns about walkers, particularly those exercising dogs, parking in the village. There is a particular concern regarding commercial dog walkers, with reports that some people are walking up to 15 dogs at a time.

Residents have previously requested that double yellow lines and residents parking bays be installed to resolved issues relating to parking, noise and dog fouling.

A map showing proposals suggested by the Preston Residents Association is given in Appendix I.

Comparison has been made with Teigngrace, where a short section of double yellow lines have been installed. This was done to solve a specific safety concern due to parking taking place on and around a junction following a safety audit undertaken as part of a new cycle way scheme.

In respect to the County Council's policy on residents parking, it is considered that a residents parking scheme would not be suitable for this community for the following reasons:

- The majority of residents should not have privately available off-street parking either within the curtilage of, or close to, their property. As a guide, 75% of the properties in a Residents' Parking Zone should have no alternative off-street parking.
- Schemes should provide a mix of residents' only spaces and limited waiting spaces, including pay and display or pay by phone where appropriate, for short-term visitors.
- The area covered by the scheme should normally be sufficiently large to accommodate the anticipated demand, within the eligibility rules, from residents for permits.

### **3. Options/Alternatives**

The options are:

- (a) Request Cabinet to consider permitting a residents parking scheme as an exception to the County Councils agreed policy. Substantive reasons for an exception to policy would need to be identified.
- (b) Consider waiting restrictions as part of the annual review process, although there is no substantiated evidence of an ongoing problem with obstruction or problems with access for essential services.
- (c) Ask the District Council to act by creating a formal Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), which can include limiting the number of dogs a person may exercise (currently no more than six per person in Teignbridge). Teignbridge DC have used these Orders seasonally on some beaches.
- (d) Note the report and take no further action.

### **4. Consultations/Representations/Technical Data**

A petition has been submitted requesting Double Yellow Lines and a reduction in the speed limit, signed by 22 local residents. This included a survey which showed the following numbers of vehicles turning into the village between the hours of 6am and 10pm over Spring Bank Holiday in May 2019.

Date	Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
No. of vehicles	84	76	109

On 29 August 2019 the local MP, Anne Marie Morris, raised concerns regarding parking issues relating to dog walkers. In response it was stated that there are no safety concerns, Preston is a quiet local hamlet with no through traffic and low speeds, and parking restrictions were not appropriate.

In November 2020 Teignbridge District Council reported that they have no reports of any issues regarding parked cars and access for waste and recycling services in Preston in the last two years. The District Council have reported that their

Anti-Social Behaviour Officer has been working with the local Police Community Support Officer (PSCO) and the Neighbourhood Beat Manager to tackle anti-social behaviour. At least one Fixed Penalty Notice has been issued for a breach in the number of dogs controlled in excess of the PSPO limit.

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue reported that a local resident had raised a concern over parking in the village and have reported that they will leaflet any offending vehicles when next passing and consider a local Facebook campaign to highlight the problem.

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary have been asked for comment but had not responded at the time of writing of this report. In a previous letter they reported, following the removal of privately placed cones, that no one has the right to reserve parking spaces outside of their homes on a public highway, and that, in the absence of parking restrictions, people are free to travel to the area to walk and exercise their dogs. They stated that a residents parking scheme may be the way forward.

No response has been received from South Western Ambulance Service at the time of writing this report regarding parking on the highway in the hamlet or on its approach road causing an obstruction or any concerns that access required by the Service.

The tenants at Manor Farm have reported issues with access for milk tankers and tractors.

The Estates Sustainability Officer at Sibelco has written to support restrictions on parking.

At the last committee meeting it was suggested that a survey of road widths in the village be undertaken. As a guide when a 1.8m wide disabled bay is marked a minimum road width of 4.8m is required. Due to COVID restrictions it has been considered inappropriate to undertake a detailed survey at the current time. However, an indicative map, showing where roads are estimated to be less than 4.8m in width, is given in Appendix II.

## **5. Financial Considerations**

The introduction of Double Yellow Lines could be considered as part of the annual review process, at minimal additional cost.

Whilst the progression of a residents parking scheme is not supported, consultation, design, and implementation of such a scheme for this area would cost in the region of £5,000. The costs should be covered by the charge for a permit.

## **6. Environmental Impact Considerations**

Any restriction on parking in Preston is likely to result in people going elsewhere to park for leisure purposes and commercial dog walking. Therefore, there may be an environmental impact elsewhere due to displaced parking if the requested restrictions were proceeded with.

## **7. Equality Considerations**

There are no equality considerations.

## **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. Risk Management Considerations**

If double yellow lines or a residents parking scheme are put in place it is unlikely that they will be enforced on a regular basis.

## **10. Public Health Impact**

There are no public health impacts in these proposals.

## **11. Summary/Conclusions/Reasons for Recommendations**

Preston is a quiet local hamlet with no through traffic and low speeds, and parking restrictions are not appropriate. It is therefore recommended that officers determine what further powers can be implemented by the District Council using PSPO powers.

Meg Booth  
Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

## **Electoral Division: Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary**

### Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for enquiries: John Fewings

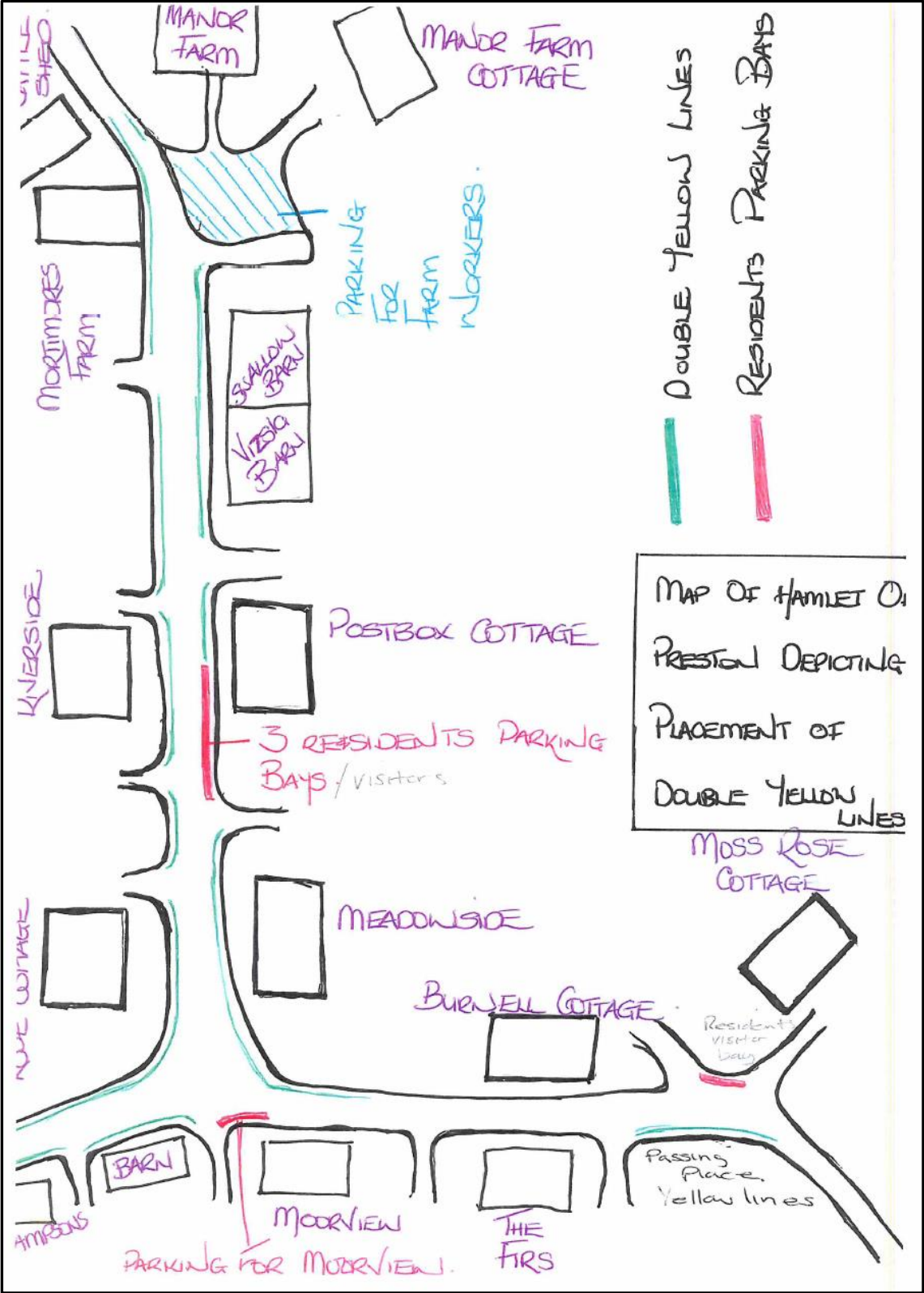
Room No: Ryefields Kingsteignton

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Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
Responses and correspondence	Nov 2020 to date	

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03 250221

Map submitted by Preston Residents Association



Preston Road widths

