

## **Topsham Residents Parking Extension – Approval to Advertise**

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 results of the informal consultation be noted; and**
- (b) the committee approve the advertising of a traffic regulation order to extend residents parking restrictions in Topsham as shown on plan 7072139-WSP-GEN-TOP-001-S2.**

### **1. Summary**

This report considers the results of the informal public consultation on the possible extension of the residents parking scheme in Topsham.

### **2. Introduction**

Devon County Council has been working with Topsham Community Groups for several years to develop proposals designed to increase the availability of on-street parking for residents, encourage turnover of limited waiting areas to support businesses and encourage longer term visitors to use off-street car parks.

An initial exhibition was held in 2016 for a scheme within the core area of the town, Following comments from residents and business owners a revised scheme was proposed and advertised in 2018. The response to this consultation showed residents were generally more receptive to the idea of residents parking in the town centre and eastern areas of Topsham, and in January 2019 this committee resolved to implement a scheme which covered an area east of Station Road.

This scheme was implemented in March 2020

Since the zone was introduced, comments have been received to suggest that residents outside of the implemented zone may have reconsidered their views on residents parking. Therefore, an informal consultation was undertaken in August 2021.

This report considers the responses submitted and makes a recommendation on the next step.

### 3. Consultations/Representations

The informal consultation took place from 27 August until 10 September 2021 and households within the proposed extension were sent details of the consultation and invited to respond with their views.

The council received 277 responses and the results are summarised in the tables in Appendix 1 and on the map in Appendix 2.

Based on the individual responses by postcode 183 supported the proposal and 94 objected. This showed that there is a high level of support for extending the residents parking zone.

The submissions included the following observations:

<b>Observation</b>	<b>Officer response</b>
Many respondents have noticed parking worsen since Phase 1 was installed.	The informal consultation undertaken in August 2021 was to establish if there was a need for an extension to the existing scheme.
Many respondents are unhappy with the parking on Elm Grove/Clyst Road between Denver Road and Station Road.	Waiting restrictions are included as part of the proposed scheme.
Many respondents (108) reported to struggle parking all of the time.	Noted.
Respondents note that the worst time on weekdays is during the evenings with visitors to town.	Noted.
Businesses and residents worried about permit parking on High Street affecting businesses.	Pay & display is proposed on the High Street which will allow parking for customers.
Multiple requests for specific restrictions on some specific streets e.g Denver Road, Grove Hill when restrictions are implemented.	Requests received via these submissions for additional No Waiting at Any Time restrictions cannot be accommodated as a part of this Order process. However, they and be dealt with as part of a future Annual Waiting Restriction Review.
Numerous concerns raised about visitors permits for elderly or venerable residents beyond essential visitors.	The restrictions only operate 9am-5pm so the Visitor Permits should provide flexibility for use during the operating times.
Concerns raised about new developments e.g. on Exeter Road and Newcourt Road.	The developments on Exeter Road are included in the scheme as the roads will be adopted and would become unrestricted parking for those without permits. Therefore, it is proposed they be included within the scheme to manage the parking within the Topsham Community.

#### **4. Proposal**

Given the level of support received from the informal consultation it is proposed to advertise a traffic regulation order to extend the residents parking scheme as shown on the plan contained in the supplementary information to this report.

The advertisement is considered the formal public consultation on the proposals. This consultation will be publicised by a notice in the press, notices in the affected roads and details sent to all addresses within the proposed scheme's area.

All of the submissions received from this formal public consultation will be considered before a final decision on the traffic regulation order is made.

The proposal will extend the existing T1 residents parking scheme into the western and northern areas of Topsham. Therefore, the operating time of the proposed restrictions would be the same as the existing scheme (9am-5pm Monday to Sunday (7 days a week)).

The proposal includes zonal residents parking areas (without marked bays on each road), which helps reduce the amount of signing and lining required (reducing the visual impact of the scheme) and marked bays on roads where a zonal scheme would not be practicable. In order to establish an effective zonal scheme a small number of roads where the majority of residents were not in favour will be included.

The proposal includes Pay & Display in the following roads: Clyst Road, Elm Grove Road, Ferry Road, Follet Road, High Street and Nelson Close.

It is not proposed to implement Pay & Display in Fore Street. However, it is proposed to amend the current Limited Waiting 9am-5pm Daily (1 hour No Return within 2 hours) in Fore Street from 7 days a week to Monday-Saturday only. The operating times on these days will remain the same (Limited Waiting 9am-5pm 1 hour No Return within 2 hours). This means that it will become unrestricted parking on Sundays.

The proposal also includes new No Waiting At Any Time restrictions in the following roads: Clyst Road, Denver Road, Elm Grove Road, Exeter Road and High Street.

#### **6. Options**

An option of not doing anything has been considered and dismissed as this would not resolve the parking issues being experienced by residents of Topsham.

If the formal consultation is progressed, the submissions will be reviewed and a further report brought to this committee for consideration before any final decision is made.

## **7. Financial Considerations**

A total of £100,000 has been set aside from the capital programme to fund Traffic Management Plans on a County-wide basis. It intended to draw upon this funding to progress the traffic regulation order proposed in this report.

## **8. Legal Considerations**

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Councils 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)**

The introduction of restrictions would remove commuter parking in residential areas. This will encourage sustainable travel and reduce traffic looking for a parking space and improve air quality.

Minor changes to Waiting Restrictions are designed to discourage obstructive parking, reduce congestion and to reduce traffic on street in the Topsham Area.

## **10. Equality Considerations**

No new policies are being recommended in this report, but an Equality Impact and Needs Assessment has been completed for new residents parking schemes.

## **11. Risk Management Considerations**

No risks have been identified.

## **12. Public Health Impact**

The scheme will have a positive public health impact by encouraging sustainable travel for commuters. Including walking and cycling, with associated health benefits. Supporting active travel, such as walking and cycling, is a key component of the Devon Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

## **13. Reasons for Recommendations**

The recommendation to progress with a traffic regulation order for the Phase 2 of the Topsham Residents Parking Scheme is based on the results of the informal public consultation.

The detailed design will be undertaken in consultation with the local county councillor. The final decision will be reported to a future meeting of this committee to consider the submissions received to the statutory consultation.

The proposal secures the safe and expeditious movement of traffic and around Topsham and to its associated parking facilities and therefore complies with Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Meg Booth  
Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

**Electoral Division: Wearside & Topsham**

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

Contact for Enquiries: Chris Parkes

Tel No: 0345 155 1004 Room: M8, Great Moor House

<b>Background Paper</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>File Reference</b>
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None

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Topsham Residents Parking Extension – Approval to Advertise

Table 1: Individual responses by postcode

Postcode	Road name	I Support	I Support	I Oppose	I Oppose
	Out of area	0	0%	1	100%
	No postcode or address	1	50%	1	50%
EX3 0LA	ASHFORD ROAD	11	79%	3	21%
EX3 0LL	BELVEDERE CLOSE	2	40%	3	60%
EX3 0FF	BEWICK AVENUE	2	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JR	CLARA PLACE	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JS	COYSH SQUARE	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0NB	DENVER CLOSE	2	50%	2	50%
EX3 0BS	DENVER ROAD	3	50%	3	50%
EX3 0BX	DENVER ROAD	1	25%	3	75%
EX3 0FH	DUNLINS WALK	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0BN	ELM GROVE ROAD	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0BW	ELM GROVE ROAD	8	80%	2	20%
EX3 0EP	ELM GROVE ROAD	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0EQ	ELM GROVE ROAD	2	40%	3	60%
EX3 0JL	EXE STREET	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LE	EXETER ROAD	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LX	EXETER ROAD	4	67%	2	33%
EX3 0JH	FERRY ROAD	2	67%	1	33%
EX3 0JN	FERRY ROAD	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JW	FERRY ROAD	6	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JP	FOLLETT ROAD	6	75%	2	25%
EX3 0LJ	GORDON ROAD	3	38%	5	63%
EX3 0EB	GREATWOOD TERRACE	5	56%	4	44%
EX3 0EG	GROVE HILL	17	89%	2	11%
EX3 0LW	HALDON CLOSE	0	0%	2	100%
EX3 0JT	HALYARDS	4	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LH	HAMILTON ROAD	0	0%	3	100%
EX3 0LP	HAMILTON ROAD	5	71%	2	29%
EX3 0DU	HIGH STREET	4	67%	2	33%
EX3 0DY	HIGH STREET	1	50%	1	50%
EX3 0DZ	HIGH STREET	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0EA	HIGH STREET	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0ED	HIGH STREET	3	50%	3	50%
EX3 0DX	NELSON CLOSE	7	88%	1	13%
EX3 0BT	NEWCOURT ROAD	9	56%	7	44%
EX3 0NE	NURSERIES CLOSE	4	50%	4	50%
EX3 0LB	ORCHARD WAY	8	100%	0	0%
EX3 0FL	PINTAIL LANE	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0FJ	PLOVER CLOSE	3	50%	3	50%
EX3 0ND	POUND CLOSE	12	92%	1	8%
EX3 0NA	POUND LANE	8	53%	7	47%
EX3 0LN	POWDERHAM CLOSE	0	0%	6	100%
EX3 0LF	RETREAT ROAD	20	83%	4	17%
EX3 0LR	RIVERSIDE ROAD	3	60%	2	40%
EX3 0LG	SIR ALEX WALK	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0BP	SUNHILL AVENUE	2	40%	3	60%
EX3 0BR	SUNHILL LANE	1	50%	1	50%
EX3 0LD	THE MEDE	0	0%	1	100%
		<b>183</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>34%</b>

**Table 2: Property responses by postcode  
(Those with no specific building name or number are not included)**

Postcode	Road name	I Support	I Support	I Oppose	I Oppose
	Out of area	0	0%	1	100%
	No postcode or address	1	50%	1	50%
EX3 0LA	ASHFORD ROAD	9	82%	2	18%
EX3 0LL	BELVEDERE CLOSE	2	50%	2	50%
EX3 0FF	BEWICK AVENUE	2	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JR	CLARA PLACE	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JS	COYSH SQUARE	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0NB	DENVER CLOSE	2	50%	2	50%
EX3 0BS	DENVER ROAD	3	60%	2	40%
EX3 0BX	DENVER ROAD	1	33%	2	67%
EX3 0FH	DUNLINS WALK	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0BN	ELM GROVE ROAD	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0BW	ELM GROVE ROAD	7	78%	2	22%
EX3 0EP	ELM GROVE ROAD	0	N/A	0	N/A
EX3 0EQ	ELM GROVE ROAD	1	25%	3	75%
EX3 0JL	EXE STREET	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LE	EXETER ROAD	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LX	EXETER ROAD	4	67%	2	33%
EX3 0JH	FERRY ROAD	1	50%	1	50%
EX3 0JN	FERRY ROAD	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JW	FERRY ROAD	4	100%	0	0%
EX3 0JP	FOLLETT ROAD	6	75%	2	25%
EX3 0LJ	GORDON ROAD	3	38%	5	63%
EX3 0EB	GREATWOOD TERRACE	4	57%	3	43%
EX3 0EG	GROVE HILL	15	88%	2	12%
EX3 0LW	HALDON CLOSE	0	0%	2	100%
EX3 0JT	HALYARDS	3	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LH	HAMILTON ROAD	0	0%	3	100%
EX3 0LP	HAMILTON ROAD	3	60%	2	40%
EX3 0DU	HIGH STREET	4	67%	2	33%
EX3 0DY	HIGH STREET	1	50%	1	50%
EX3 0DZ	HIGH STREET	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0EA	HIGH STREET	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0ED	HIGH STREET	3	50%	3	50%
EX3 0DX	NELSON CLOSE	7	88%	1	13%
EX3 0BT	NEWCOURT ROAD	8	53%	7	47%
EX3 0NE	NURSERIES CLOSE	4	50%	4	50%
EX3 0LB	ORCHARD WAY	6	100%	0	0%
EX3 0FL	PINTAIL LANE	0	0%	1	100%
EX3 0FJ	PLOVER CLOSE	1	33%	2	67%
EX3 0ND	POUND CLOSE	12	92%	1	8%
EX3 0NA	POUND LANE	7	54%	6	46%
EX3 0LN	POWDERHAM CLOSE	0	0%	5	100%
EX3 0LF	RETREAT ROAD	18	86%	3	14%
EX3 0LR	RIVERSIDE ROAD	3	75%	1	25%
EX3 0LG	SIR ALEX WALK	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0BP	SUNHILL AVENUE	2	40%	3	60%
EX3 0BR	SUNHILL LANE	1	100%	0	0%
EX3 0LD	THE MEDE	0	0%	1	100%
		<b>160</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>34%</b>

**Notes:**

7 properties did respond but did not indicate in question 1 either I SUPPORT or I OPPOSE.

1 property had a respondent each for I SUPPORT and I OPPOSE, and so did not have a single majority response as a property. These are not included in Table 2 but are included in Figure 2.

**Observations from responses:**

- Many respondents have noticed parking worsen since Phase 1 was installed.
- Many respondents are unhappy with the parking on Elm Grove/Clyst Road between Denver Road and Station Road.
- Many respondents (108) reported to struggle parking all of the time.
- Respondents note that the worst time on weekdays is during the evenings with visitors to town.
- Businesses and residents worried about permit parking on High Street affecting businesses.
- Multiple requests for specific restrictions on some specific streets e.g Denver Road, Grove Hill when restrictions are implemented.
- Numerous concerns raised about visitors permits for elderly or venerable residents beyond essential visitors.
- Concerns raised about new developments e.g on Newcourt Road.



Total respondents for each postcode

