

HIW/16/19

West Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee
29 November 2016

Devon County Council (Various Roads, Okehampton)(Control of Waiting) Amendment Order

Report of the Chief Officer, 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 responses to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order be noted;**
- (b) The Traffic Regulation Order is sealed and implemented as advertised, subject to the recommendations detailed in Section 5 below;**
- (c) The issue of Residents Parking within the Town of Okehampton be re-examined if evidence can be produced by the local community that sufficient demand for such a scheme exists.**

1. Summary

This report considers the objections to the advertised traffic regulation order and seeks approval to make and seal the order as recommended above.

2. Background/Introduction

Devon County Council has been working with Okehampton Town Council and other stakeholders developing proposals designed to:

- Free up as much on street parking as possible to benefit residents and visitors.
- Encourage turnover of on street parking to benefit businesses.
- Enable enforcement to be undertaken efficiently.
- Encourage longer term visitors to use off street car parks.
- Encourage those working in the town make more sustainable travel choices. eg Car Share, Public Transport, Walking and Cycling.
- To make adjustments to the existing on-street parking arrangements to improve safety for vulnerable road users and drivers.
- To update descriptions within the existing Order to ensure consistency with existing signing and lining.

This report describes the resulting proposals, and details responses received to the subsequent statutory consultation undertaken in March and April 2016.

3. Proposals

Proposals are shown in Appendix I: Hatoc Report Plans ENV5506/1 – 5.

Specific proposal included:

- Rationalising the times of operation and non-return periods of the Limited Waiting Bays within the Town. The existing restrictions included a mixture of time periods which make the task of enforcement inefficient. Non return periods should ideally be set at twice the waiting

period. This avoids any uncertainty over when the vehicle was parked and enables Civil Enforcement Officers to patrol a beat and return at a time after the limited waiting period has expired allowing more flexibility in deployment of officers elsewhere in the community. (See ENV5506/1)

- Installation of a Limited Waiting Bay on the south side of Exeter Road, to the south east of De Brionne Heights in order to discourage parking by large vehicles displaying advertising material. Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. Waiting limited to 2Hrs, no return within 4 Hrs. (See ENV5506/4)

4. Representations Received

The following representations were received during the statutory consultation:

- 50 Petition letters and one on-line representation objecting to changes to the times of the limited waiting bays in the town centre (Castle Road, George Street, Jacobs Pool, Kempley Road, Mill Road, Park Road, St James Street, Station Road, West Street, Westbridge Close) as shown in Appendix I Drawing No. ENV5506/1. Objections received are to proposals R3a, R3d and R3f edged in Red on the plan.

The letter and a plan showing the distribution of addresses of the respondents can be seen in Appendix II. The letter describes the difficulties currently faced by residents when parking in these roads and states that the proposed changes will make life more difficult for residents who will face difficulty in moving their vehicles to suit the proposed longer non-return period.

The letter proposes a meeting with residents to discuss the changes and suggests that a Resident's Parking scheme would be an appropriate way to deal with enforcement issues on these roads.

- 7 objections have been received, from residents of Exeter Road, to the proposal to introduce a limited waiting bay on the south side of Exeter Road, to the south east of De Brionne Heights. The objections state that the proposal will:
 - ❖ Encourage parking on the north western side of Exeter Road. This will change alignment and make it unsafe for residents to use their driveways.
 - ❖ This parking currently occurs infrequently but, it is claimed, has already been the cause of a collision.
 - ❖ Make it more dangerous for school children crossing to the pedestrianised route to the Community College in Simmons Way, through the De Brionne Heights estate.
 - ❖ Cause more congestion on the busiest road leading in and out of the town.

See drawing ENV5506/4 (A) for advertised proposal.

- One request for additional No Waiting "At any time" (Double Yellow Lines) in Simmons Way which lies outside of the scope of this Review. This could be considered as part of the 2017/18 Local Waiting Restriction Review.
- A late request from the allotment association in Castle Road for the proposed removal of the double yellow lines to be reduced slightly to assist vehicular access to the allotments. This can be accommodated without re-advertising the proposal.

5. Recommendations

(a) Changes to Limited Waiting Bays in the Town Centre Area

In recognition of the difficulties related by the residents in the Petition letter it is recommended that the proposals R3a, R3d and R3f are modified to begin at 10am rather than 9am and finish at 5pm rather than 6pm. This will allow residents greater access to unrestricted parking at the beginning and end of the day.

(b) Limited waiting bay in Exeter Road to the South East of De Brionne Heights.

The parked van is of concern to residents of De Brionne Heights but does not compromise safety at the junction. In view of the objections received from residents of Exeter Rd it is recommended that the proposal should be deleted.

(c) Removal of Double Yellow Lines in Castle Road

That the proposal should be modified to accommodate the Allotment Association's request and reduce the line removal by 1.5 metres.

(d) Residents Parking

The potential for residents parking within the town was thoroughly explored with the Town Council when preparing the consultation. At the time the Town Council was of the view there is would be little or no demand for Residents Parking in Okehampton. In light of the petition letter, the issue of Residents Parking can be examined further if evidence can be produced by the local community that sufficient demand for such a scheme exists.

6. Financial Considerations

The total costs of the scheme including design and post scheme monitoring will be in the region of £20,000 which has been allocated from within the On Street Parking Account.

7. Environmental Impact Considerations

The scheme rationalises the on street within the town and its stated objectives are designed to:

- Free up much on street parking as possible.
- Encourage turnover of on street parking to benefit businesses.
- Enable enforcement to be undertaken efficiently.
- Encourage longer term visitors to use off street car parks.
- Encourage those working in the town make more sustainable travel choices eg Car Share, Public Transport, Walking and Cycling.

The Environmental effects of the scheme are therefore positive.

8. Equality Considerations

No new policies are being recommended in this report but an Equality Impact and Needs Assessment will be completed after the scheme has been advertised and before the scheme is implemented.

9. Legal Considerations

The lawful implications and consequences of the proposal have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council's 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. It is considered that the proposals comply with Section 122 of the Act as they practically secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic in and around Okehampton and to its associated parking facilities.

10. Risk Management Considerations

There are thought to be no major safety issues arising from the proposal. However, a Minor Schemes Safety Assessment will be undertaken to consider signing and lining elements agreed by Committee.

11. Public Health Impact

It is considered that there will be a positive public health impact as the proposals encourage modal shift to sustainable transport. Supporting active travel, such as walking and cycling, is a key component of the Devon 'Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013 to 16.

12. Summary/Conclusions/Reasons for Recommendations

The proposals rationalise existing parking arrangements within the town by:

- prohibiting parking at junctions, within visibility splays and on narrow sections of roads.
- addressing the concerns of residents over the ability to park within a reasonable walking distance of their house.
- enabling effective enforcement to be undertaken throughout the town.

The proposals contribute to the safe and expeditious movement of traffic in and around Okehampton and to its associated parking facilities and therefore comply with S 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

David Whitton
Chief Officer, Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Electoral Division: Okehampton

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for enquiries: Mike Jones

Room No: ABG Lucombe House

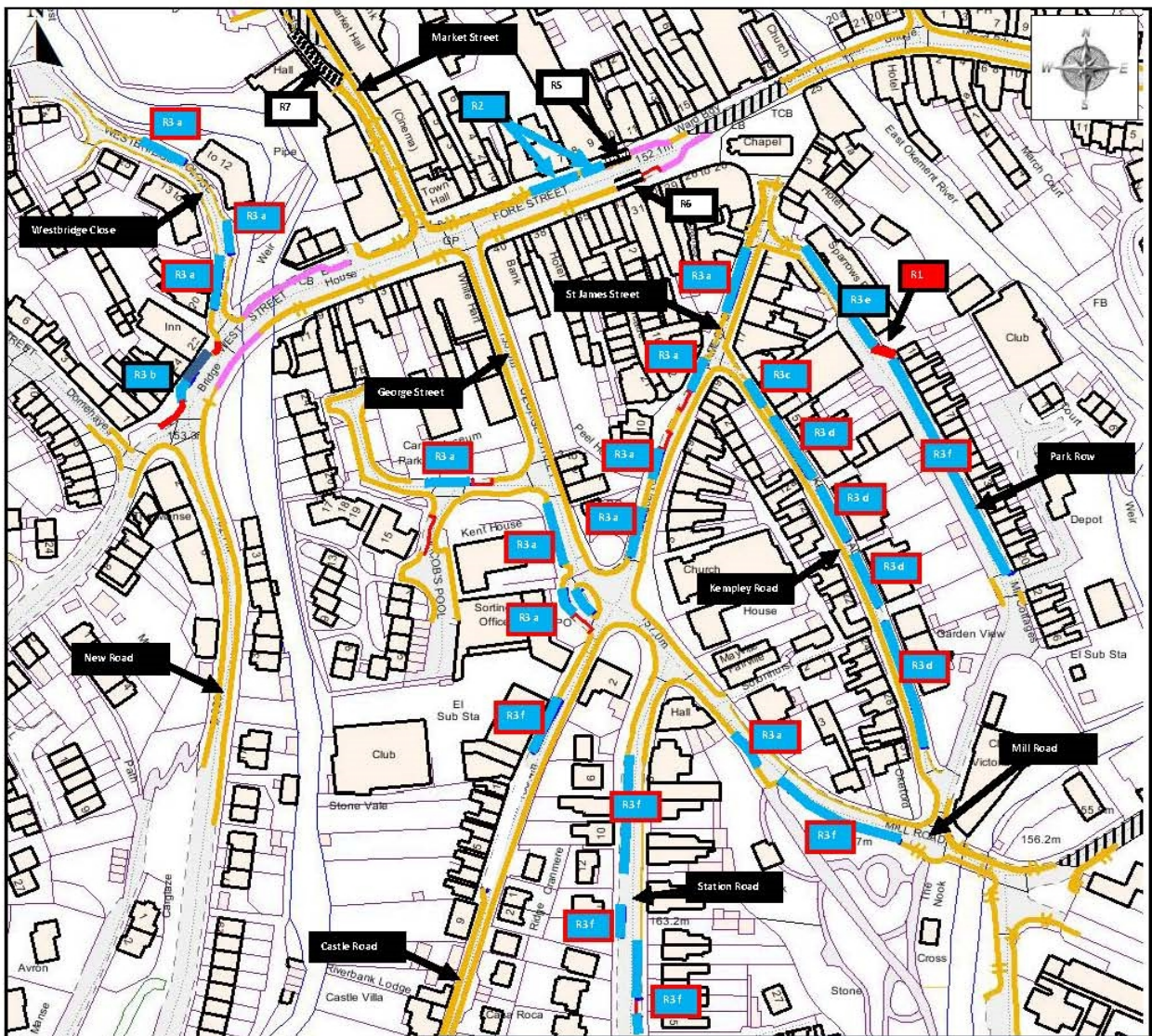
Tel No: (01392) 383000

Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
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Nil

mj081116wdh sc/cr/DCC various roads Okehampton control of waiting amendment order	02 221116
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Appendix I To HIW/16/19



Proposed Restrictions

Unchanged Restrictions

- LOADING ONLY
Mon-Sat 8am-6pm
- No loading 8:30am-4:00pm
- No loading At Any Time
- No Waiting
- No Waiting At Any Time
- Bus Stop Clearway
- Disabled Badge Holders

- R1** No Waiting At Any Time currently
No Waiting Mon-Sat 9am-5pm
- R2** Limited Waiting, 9am-6pm, 30 Mins No Rtn
Within 1 Hr currently
No Return Within 30 Minutes
- R3a** Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm,
1 Hr No Rtn Within 2 Hrs currently Limited
Waiting Mon-Sat 8am-6pm 30 Minutes No
Return Within 1 Hour
- R3b** Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm,
1 Hr No Rtn Within 2 Hrs
Correction of description
- R3c** Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm,
1 Hr No Rtn Within 2 Hrs currently
Limited Waiting 8am-6pm, 30 Minutes No
Return Within 1 Hour
- R3d** Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm,
1 Hr No Rtn Within 2 Hrs currently
Limited Waiting Mon-Sat 8am-6pm
1 Hour No Return Within 1 Hour

- R3e** Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm, 1 Hr No
Rtn Within 2 Hrs currently No Waiting Mon-
Sat 9am-5pm
- R3f** Limited Waiting, Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm, 1 Hr No
Rtn Within 2 Hrs currently Limited Waiting
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm 1 Hour No Return Within 1
Hour
- R4** Unlimited waiting currently No Waiting at
Any Time
- R5** Loading Only 3am-9pm currently Loading Only
9am-6pm & Taxi 6pm to 9am
- R6** Loading Only 5am-7pm, Taxi Bay 7pm-5am
currently Loading Only At Any Time
- R7** Loading bay and Coach stop removed
currently No Waiting At Any Time. No
Loading At any time extended up to start of
zig-zag line of crossing

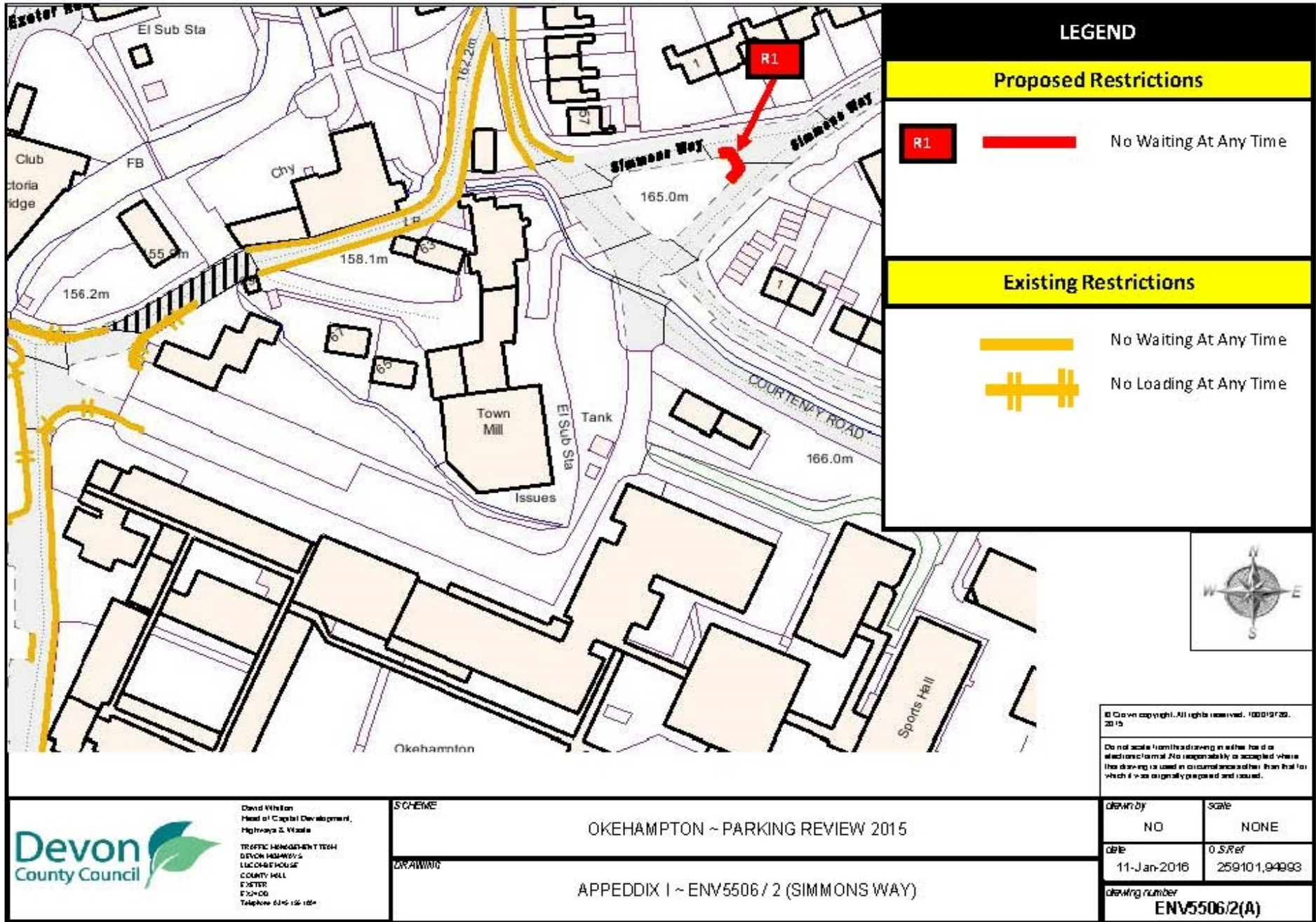


Drawn by:
HE and/or other Department, Highway
& Waste
Traffic Management Team
SIGNED:
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OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015
APPENDIX I ~ ENV5506 / 1 (TOWN CENTRE)

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Date:	07-Nov-2016	D.S. Ref:	258796,95043
Drawing name:	ENV5506/1 (A)		





LEGEND

Proposed Restrictions

R1  No Waiting At Any Time

Existing Restrictions

 No Waiting At Any Time
 No Loading At Any Time



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NO	NONE
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11-Jan-2016	259101,94993

drawing number
ENV5506/2(A)



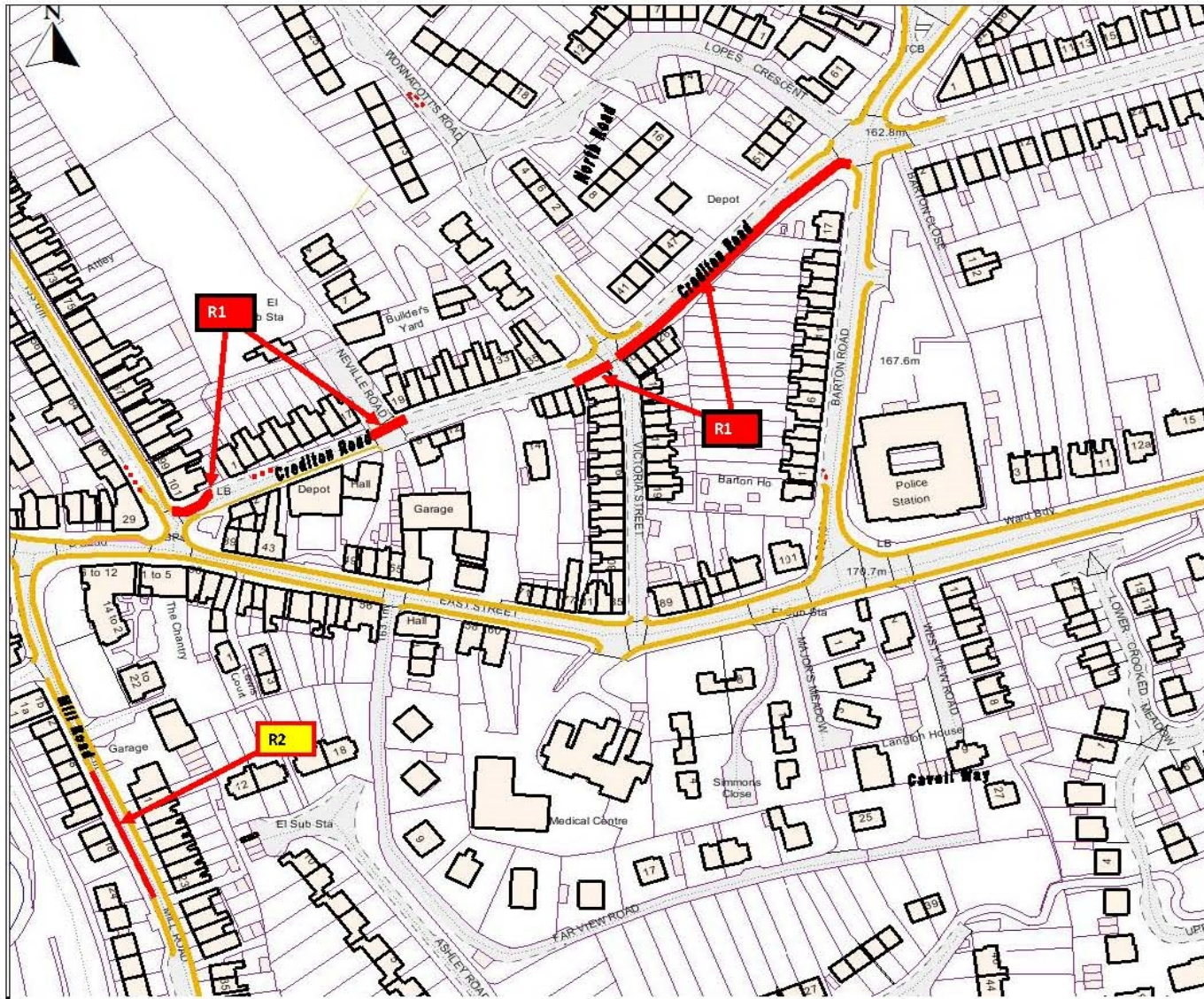
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 Head of Capital Development,
 Highways & Waste
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 DEVON HIGHWAYS
 LICENSING HOUSE
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 EXETER
 EX2 0CG
 Telephone 01392 126 100

SCHEME

OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015

DRAWING

APPENDIX 1 ~ ENV5506 / 2 (SIMMONS WAY)



LEGEND

Proposed Restrictions

- R1 No Waiting At Any Time
- R2 No Waiting
Mon - Sat, 8am to 4pm

Existing Restrictions

- No Waiting At Any Time
- Disabled Badge Holders



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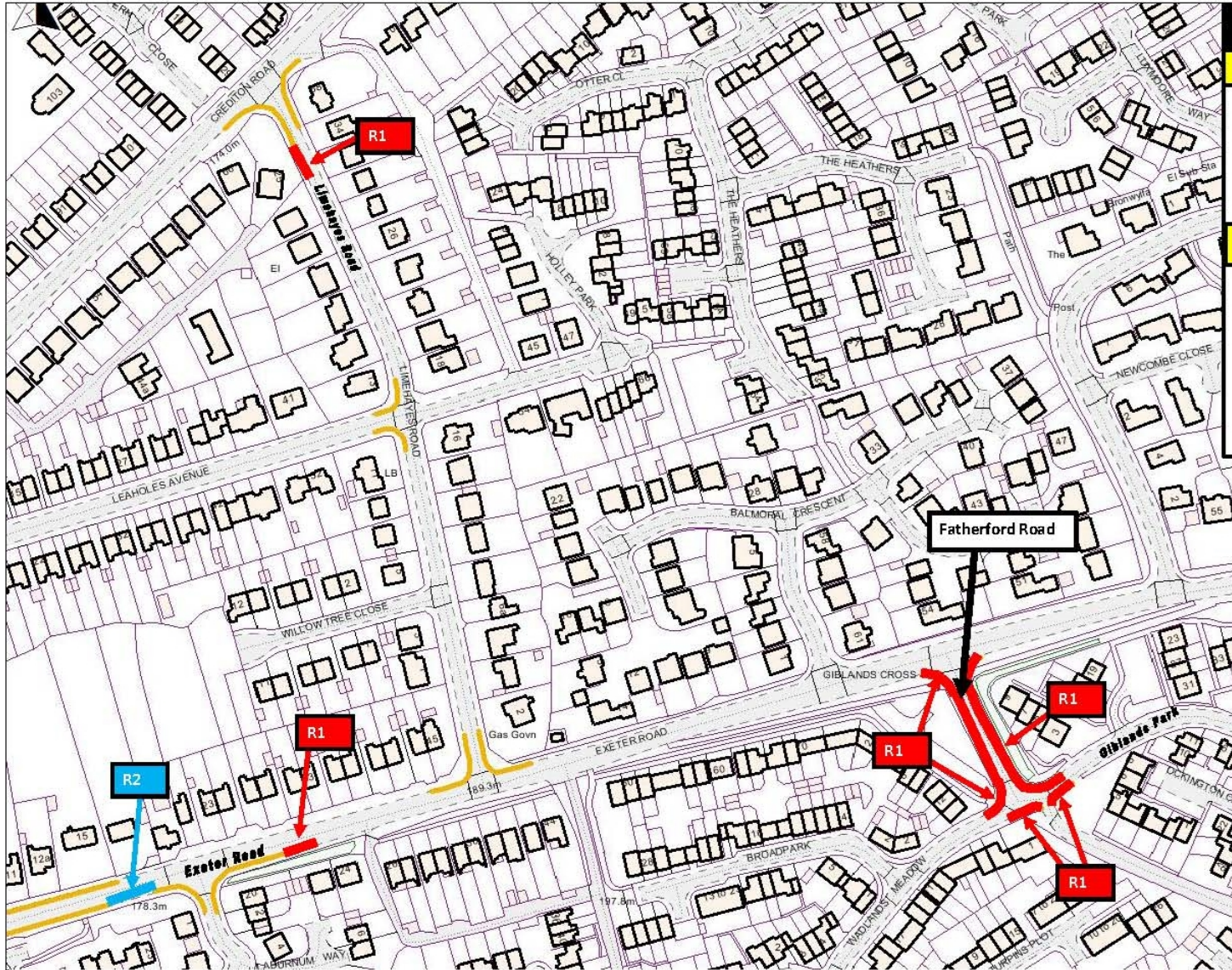
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11-Jan-2016	259167,95299
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ENV5506/3 (A)	

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SCHEDULE DRAWING	
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OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015

APPENDIX I ~ ENV5506 / 3 (CREDITON ROAD & MILL ROAD)



LEGEND	
Proposed Restrictions	
R1	No Waiting At Any Time
R2	Limited Waiting Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm 2 Hrs No Return Within 4 Hrs
Existing Restrictions	
	No Waiting At Any Time



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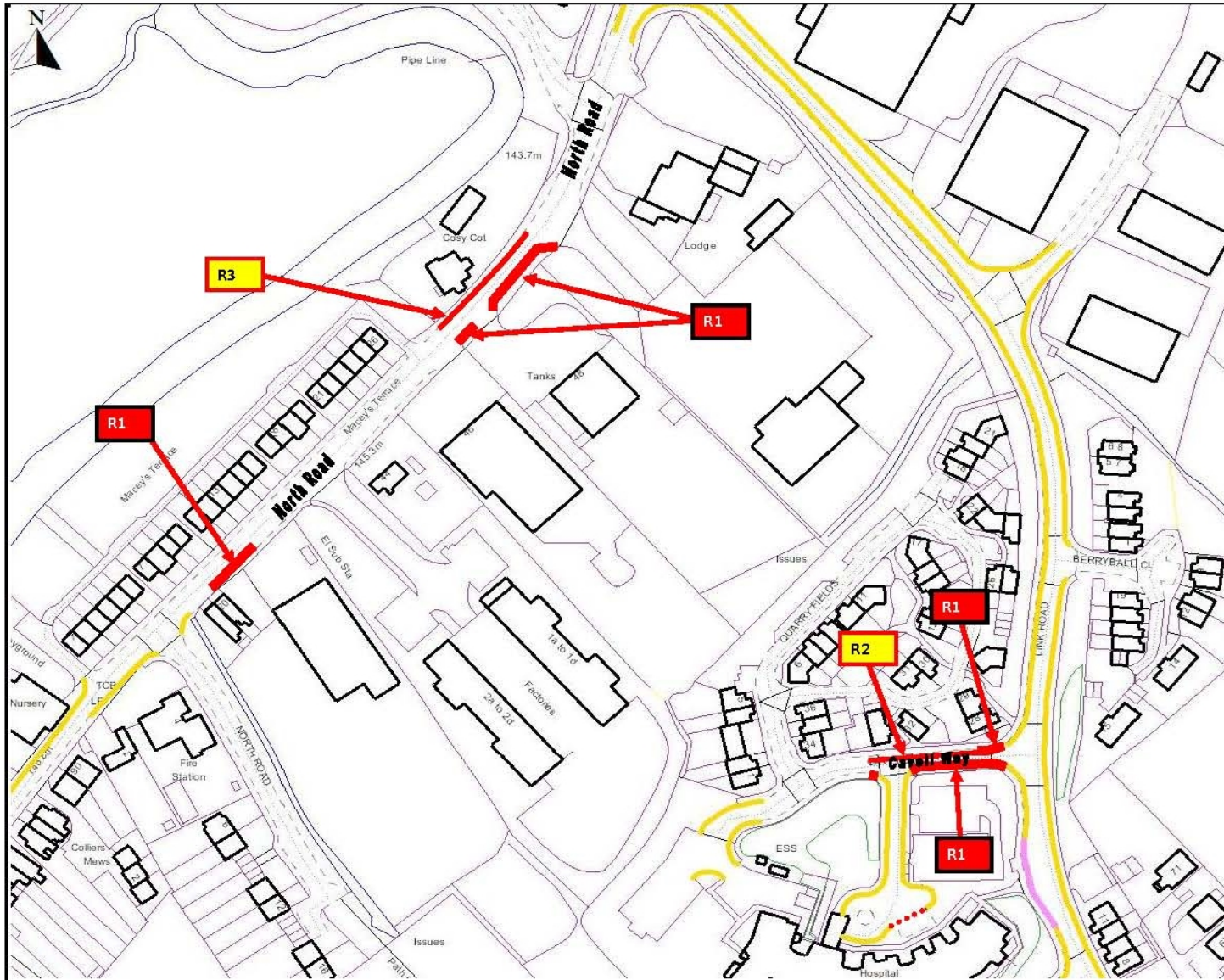
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 Head of Capital Development, Highways
 20/202 B
 BRASS MANAGEMENT TEAM
 DEVON HIGHWAYS
 LICENSING POLICE
 ECHO 174 ALL
 01392 505
 01392 505 1004

OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015

APPENDIX I ~ ENV5506 / 4 (EXETER ROAD, FATHERFORD ROAD, GIBLANDS PARK, LIMEHAYES ROAD & WADLANDS MEADOW)

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date	11-Jan-2016	D/S Ref	259719,95319
drawing number	ENV5506/4 (A)		



LEGEND		
Proposed Restrictions		
R1		No Waiting At Any Time
R2		No Waiting 8am - 6pm
R3		No Waiting Mon - Sat, 6.30am - 7pm
Existing Restrictions		
		No Waiting At Any Time
		Bus Stop Clearway No Stopping At Any Time
		Disabled Badge Holders Only



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SCHEME	OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015
DRAWING	APPENDIX I ~ ENV5506 / 5 (CAVELL WAY & NORTH ROAD)

OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015

APPENDIX I ~ ENV5506 / 5 (CAVELL WAY & NORTH ROAD)

Drawn by	NO	Scale	NONE
Date	11-Jan-2016	O.S. Ref	259176,95566
Drawing number	ENV5506/5 (A)		

APPENDIX II ~ PETITION LETTER COVER LETTER

Residents of Okehampton

County Solicitor
County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
EX2 4QD

COVER LETTER

7th April 2016

Dear County Solicitor

Please find enclosed our objections to your new proposed parking changes.
Please note:-

- * Our requests for a residents meeting with your clients before any decisions are being actioned
- * An explanation of informing residents in an inappropriate way
- * Receipt of this correspondence (NOT "once the proposal goes ahead")
- * A plan of your intentions to the ever increasing parking difficulties especially with new dwellings being built.

This community feels undervalued and can only hope that you will rise to the requests with integrity

Kind regards

Residents of Okehampton

APPENDIX II ~ PETITION LETTER

Resident(s) of Okehampton

County Solicitor
County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter EX2 4QD

March 30th 2016

Reference IMR/B12771

Dear County Solicitor,

I/We would like to register our objection to the proposed parking changes that have been laid out in a document dated 17th March and stuck to various posts around Okehampton; in particular to the changes in **limited waiting times with no return:**

LIMITED WAITING MON-SAT 9AM-6PM 1 HOUR NO RETURN WITHING 2 HOURS *in specified lengths of Castle Road, George Street, Jacobs Pool, Kempley Road, Mill Road, Park Road, St James Street, Station Road, West Street, Westbridge Close.*

The above changes do not bear any relevance to your justifications for making these new alterations; in fact they only serve to further impact upon the residents of these areas who already suffer parking difficulties on a daily basis.

For example in Station Road residents have to move their car to the very top of the road or even beyond as workers and shoppers take full advantage of free parking spaces above the limited waiting – impacting upon residents not being able to park at all, constantly having to move their vehicle or enduring a fine.

Extending the **limited waiting** to 6pm will only make this worse and neither shops nor consumers will benefit from this as most shops are closed by then. The change '**no return within 2 hours**' will intensify the difficulty for residents of the proposed streets.

It appears that the only benefit will be an increase in income revenue for the council through chargeable parking offences. This for obvious reasons is creating an ill feeling amongst local residents.

Additionally the process of sticking A4 notices (with small font) on posts is not a conducive approach to informing the affected members of the community properly. This is not a valid method of notifying everyone involved in an **equal**

manner. An explanation of why it was carried out in this way would be appreciated.

I/We would like to propose the following:

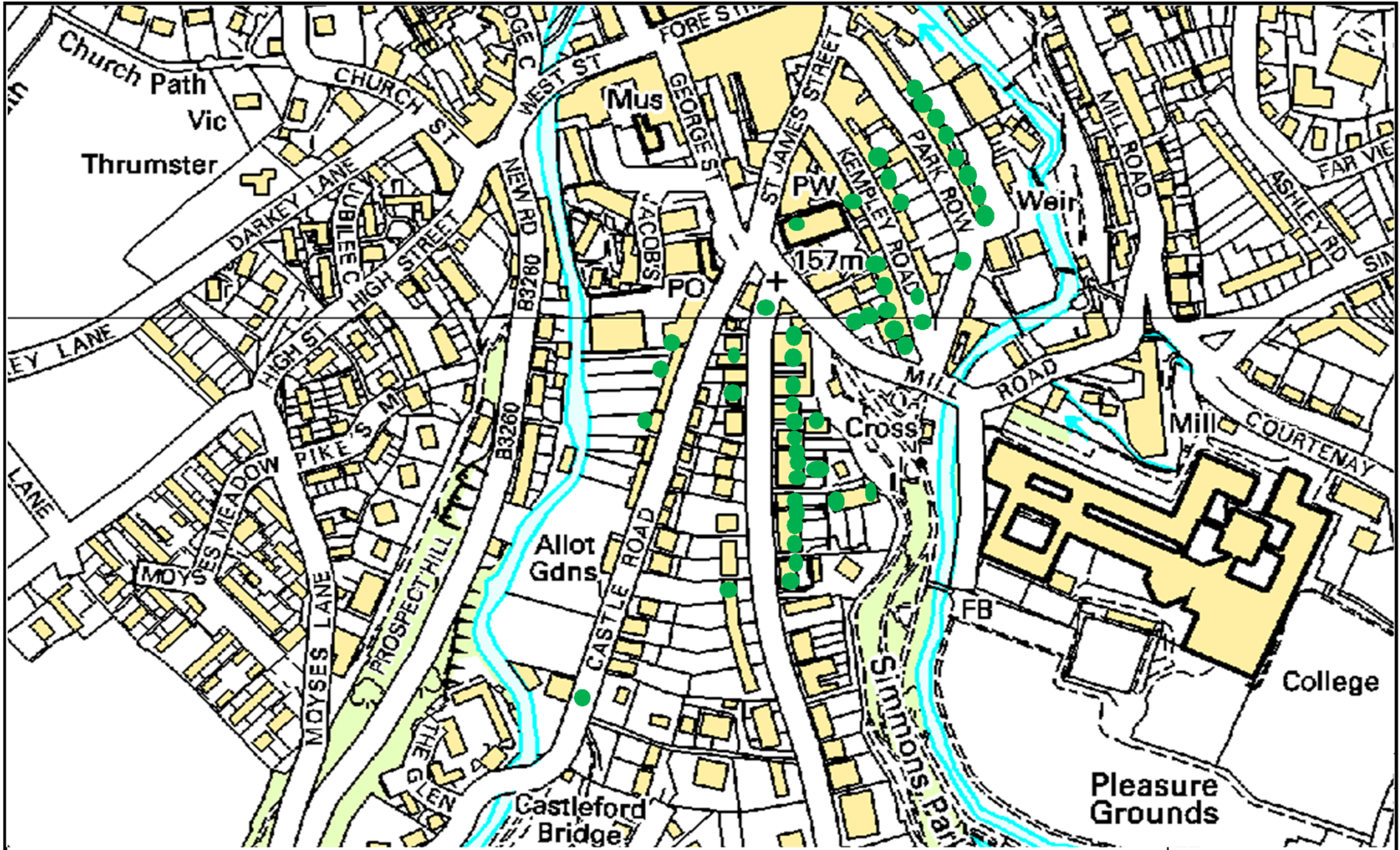
- A face to face meeting where a *Question and Answer session* would allow residents to vocalise their concerns and listen to your justifications about the proposed changes.
- A consideration of residents being granted parking permits which would eradicate parking challenges and provide an income stream for the council; and parity with most other Devon and Cornish towns and cities and even some villages.

I/We do not think it is appropriate that you will **not acknowledge receipt** of this letter, as outlined in your document (see below), **before** a decision is made.

Receipt of submissions may not be acknowledged but those received will be considered. A reply will be sent to objectors if the proposal goes ahead.

Therefore please can you confirm receipt of this correspondence and invite the residents of the affected areas to a meeting based on moving forward with solutions where decisions are being made together as a community.

Yours faithfully



David Whitton
Head of Capital Development,
Highways & Waste

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SCHEME

OKEHAMPTON ~ PARKING REVIEW 2015

DRAWING

APPENDIX II ~ ENV5506 / 6 (Petition Letters submission addresses PLOTTED)

drawn by

AJG

scale

NTS

date

22-Jul-2016

O.S.Ref

258795,95050

drawing number

ENV5506/6 (A)