

Highways Committee

20th October 2023

Newton Aycliffe



Parking & Waiting Restrictions, Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 2023

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.

Report of Corporate Management Team

Amy Harhoff Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy & Growth

Councillor Elizabeth Scott, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Economy and Growth.

Electoral division(s) affected:

Aycliffe North & Middridge, Aycliffe East & Aycliffe West

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of objections received to the consultation concerning proposed changes to the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in Newton Aycliffe.
- 1.2 To request that members consider the objections made during the informal and formal consultation period.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Members are asked to decide, in principle only whether to set aside or uphold any objections, which will then guide the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in the exercise of delegated decision making. The final decision is therefore one for the Corporate Director, under delegated powers.

2 Executive Summary

- 2.1 The County Council are committed to regularly reviewing Traffic Regulation Orders to ensure that the restrictions held within them are relevant and appropriate.

- 2.2 Representations have been received requesting a review of existing, and provision of additional, restrictions in Newton Aycliffe.
- 2.3 Having considered these requests, Officers have determined that the changes listed below would be of benefit in terms of improving road safety and reducing congestion. It is therefore proposed to amend the current Newton Aycliffe (Parking and Waiting Restrictions) Traffic Regulation Order to allow the identified changes to be implemented.
- 2.4 All Local Members and Durham Constabulary have been consulted and raised no objection to the proposal.
- 2.5 Consultation Period:

	From	To
Statutory Consultees	30-Sep-22 & 21-June-23	21-Oct-22 & 12-July-23
Informal Consultation	23-Nov-22 & 21-June-23	14-Dec-22 & 12-July-23
Formal Consultation	18-Aug-23	08-Sep-23

3 Recommendation(s)

- 3.1 Committee is recommended to:

Endorse the proposal, in principle, to introduce the Newton Aycliffe (Parking and Waiting Restrictions) Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 2023 with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

4 Proposal, Objections & Responses

- 4.1 The proposed locations for the TRO that received objections during the consultation stages are detailed below.

4.2 **Location 1 – Clarence Chare** (to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions)

- 4.3 Proposal Background

Clarence Chare is located towards the centre of Newton Aycliffe and is accessed via its junction with the B6443 St Cuthberts Way which is a major route leading traffic into the town centre from the A167 to the east.

The elected member for this area has highlighted that vehicles parking in and around the junction from St Cuthberts Way into Clarence Chare have begun to obstruct access for a number of the bus services that operate via this route.

It is proposed that ‘no waiting at any time’ restrictions be introduced either side of this junction to prevent obstructive parking, improve visibility and improve access/egress for all road users.

4.4 Informal Consultation:

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
7	2	1

4.5 Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
18.08.23 – 08.09.23	0	0

4.6 Summarised objections & responses:

4.7 Objections:

1 property has objected to this proposal at the informal consultation stage and the reasons for their objection have been summarised below:

- “This proposal will cause more congestion in the street.”
- “Off road parking on both sides [of Clarence Chare] is needed.”

4.8 DCC Response:

- Whilst there is always a level of displacement when introducing formal restrictions, the purpose of these restrictions is to ensure there is unobstructed access/egress and visibility for road users approaching this junction which will enhance road safety.

- The objector's alternative suggestion, namely the conversion of open space amenity land to off-street parking is likely to be extremely costly, particularly if any public utility apparatus is affected and must be protected or diverted. There are also likely to be visual and amenity impacts which would need to be assessed. It is not considered that the provision of off-street parking places in this location would represent value for money but in any event, such schemes are typically progressed via funding from local members or the appropriate Area Action Partnership. It is also considered that the adverse visual and amenity impacts resulting from the loss of an open amenity space would also make this proposition unattractive.

4.9 See appendix 4 for full details of the objection(s).

4.10 Location 2 – Staintondale (to introduce no waiting and no loading/unloading at any time restrictions & extend existing 'no stopping' restrictions)

4.11 Proposal Background

Staintondale is located to the far east of Newton Aycliffe. The route acts as a service road to several residential cul-de-sacs connected via their respective minor side road junctions with Staintondale. Byerly Park Primary School is located immediately north of the junction from the C147 Greenfield Way into Staintondale.

The local elected member has raised concerns with school gate parking immediately around the junction from Greenfield Way into Staintondale and around the access into Byerly Park Primary School.

There are currently existing 'no waiting at any time' restrictions around the junction from Greenfield Way into Staintondale, however loading/unloading is permitted which has led to inappropriate parking.

It is now proposed that the existing 'no waiting at any time' restrictions be amended to 'no waiting and no loading/unloading at any time' to prevent obstruction around the access into Staintondale and improve road safety. It is also proposed that existing 'no stopping' restrictions (Monday-Friday, 8am-6pm) around the access into Byerly Park Primary School be extended further west of the school's junction which, unlike the no waiting and loading/unloading restrictions, do not permit vehicles

to board/alight passengers which will maintain safe access/egress & visibility for pedestrians thereby improve road safety during school times.

4.12 Informal Consultation:

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
7	2	1

4.13 Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
18.08.23 – 08.09.23	0	0

4.14 Summarised objections & responses:

4.15 Objections:

1 property has objected to this proposal at the informal consultation stage and the reasons for their objection have been summarised below:

- “I would like to propose a no parking from 8am – 6pm from Monday to Friday on the left-hand side of the road from the zig zags [school keep clear restrictions] to the junction of Zetland Hunt.”
- “Also, no parking signs on the junction of Rookwood Hunt as this causes a bottleneck to parking on the corner and kerbs.”
- “anything else would be a waste of time and tax payers Money and not solve any of the problems.”

4.16 DCC Response:

- By amending the existing restrictions to introduce ‘no waiting and no loading/unloading at any time’ restrictions, any vehicles found to be using this area of Staintondale for prolonged waiting will be subject to an immediate penalty which will improve compliance.

- Whilst 'no waiting and no loading/unloading at any time' restrictions permit vehicles to board/alight passengers, we anticipate this change in restriction will improve the turnover of vehicles in the area to ensure there is unobstructed traffic flow on Staintondale immediately around the access into Byerly Park Primary School.
- The proposed measures will improve road safety around the access to Byerly Park Primary School for all road users whilst minimising displacement into the surrounding residential cul-de-sacs that adjoin Staintondale.
- It is considered that the proposals are sufficient to address the identified highway safety issues and it is not considered that the more extensive restrictions proposed by the objector are necessary. However, there is always a level of displacement when introducing any formal parking and/or waiting restrictions, we will continue to monitor and assess traffic flow and cases of obstruction in the immediate area following the introduction of any Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), therefore further amendments may be made as part of any future TRO's.

4.17 See appendix 4 for full details of the objection(s).

4.18 Location 3 – The Green, Aycliffe Village (to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions)

4.19 Proposal Background

The Green is a minor, unclassified crossroads located to the far south of the settlement within Aycliffe Village. The routes are primarily used to access a modest network of residential properties and 'The County', a popular local restaurant which attracts tourists from outside of the area.

The Town Council, with support from Durham Constabulary and local residents, have provided Durham County Council's Strategic Traffic Team with a report (produced from a meeting of the Council's Environment Committee) identifying a number of strategic locations on the Green where obstructive parking, generated by The County, has restricted access/egress and visibility for approaching road users.

It is therefore proposed that ‘no waiting at any time’ restrictions be introduced in strategic locations on the Green, particularly around the cross roads and its junction with North Terrace, to prevent obstructive parking and improve road safety.

4.20 Informal Consultation:

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
47	15	2

4.21 Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
18.08.23 – 08.09.23	0	0

4.22 Summarised objections & responses:

4.23 Objections:

2 properties have objected to this proposal at the informal consultation stage and the reasons for their objections have been summarised below:

- “not necessary – an eyesore and money could be better spent.”
- “I believe it will only force the cars down the Green.”

4.16 DCC Response:

- Road safety concerns have been raised on several occasions from residents around the Green as a result of inconsiderate and obstructive parking generated by local businesses and Aycliffe Village Primary School.
- These requests culminated at a meeting of the Council’s Environment Committee on 7th September 2022 where members considered a report setting out these concerns, where it was agreed to seek the support of the Town Council, Durham

Constabulary and Durham County Council's Traffic Section for the implementation of parking restrictions in strategic locations around the Green.

- These proposals will target key locations where parking currently restricts traffic flow, reduces visibility and obstructs access/egress for all approaching road users. They will maintain a safe route for pedestrians and vehicles alike using the Green and minimising displacement into areas that can sufficiently accommodate on-street parking. It is therefore considered that these measures are necessary.

4.17 See appendix 4 for full details of the objection(s).

5 Conclusion

5.1 Having considered the evidence of obstructive and inconsiderate parking and the objections to the proposals, Officers remain of the view that it is necessary to introduce the proposals in order to address the identified highway safety issues. Accordingly, it is recommended that Members agree in principle to endorse the proposal to proceed with the implementation of the Newton Aycliffe (Parking & Waiting Restrictions) Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 2023, with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

6 Background papers

6.1 Correspondence and documentation in Traffic Office File:

L:\TRAFPROJ\06 REGULATION DESIGN &
IMPLEMENTATION\Settlement\Newton Aycliffe\Traffic Regulation Orders
(Parking Restrictions)\2022 July

Author(s)

[Ewan Brown] Tel: 03000 263953

[Lee Mowbray] Tel: 03000 263693

[Kieron Moralee] Tel: 03000 263368

[Dave Lewin] Tel: 03000 263582

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

All orders have been advertised by the County Council as highway authority and will be made in accordance with legislative requirements.

Finance

LTP Budget.

Consultation

Is in accordance with SI:2489.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

It is considered that there are no Equality and Diversity issues to be addressed.

Climate Change

It is considered that there are no Climate Change issues to be addressed.

Human Rights

Any interference with human rights is considered to be necessary in accordance with the law and proportionate in order to address highway safety issues.

Crime and Disorder

This TRO will allow effective management of traffic to reduce congestion and improve road safety.

Staffing

Carried out by Strategic Traffic.

Accommodation

No impact.

Risk

Not Applicable.

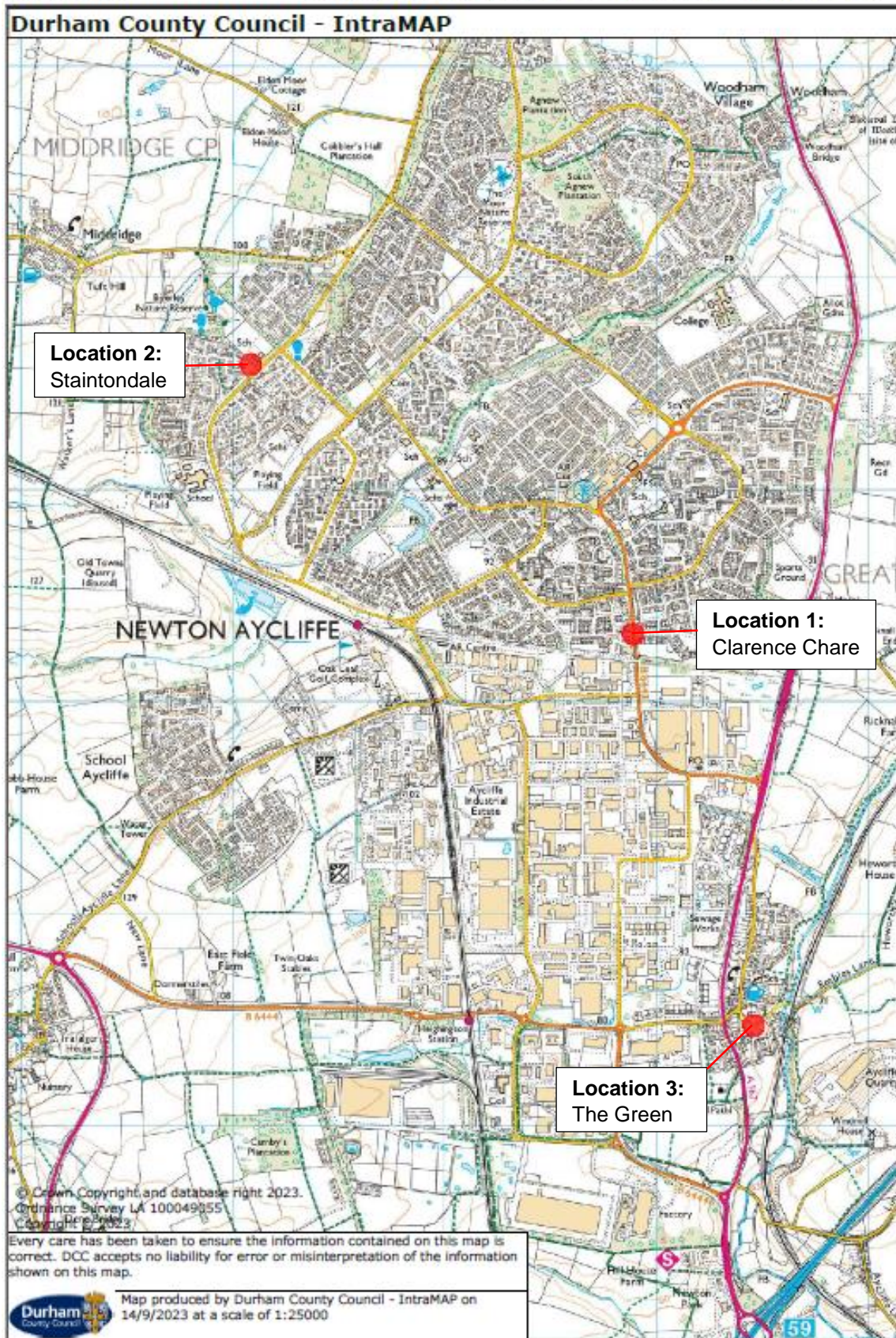
Procurement

Operations, DCC.

Appendix 2: Location of Proposals

14/09/2023, 15:08

Plan for identification purposes only, not to be used for scaling or formal documentation



Appendix 3: Request History

Location 1: Clarence Chare

From: Cllr Neville Jones <Neville.Jones@durham.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, October 21, 2022 12:54:55 PM

To: Ewan Brown <ewan.brown@durham.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Newton Aycliffe Traffic Regulation Order

Thanks Ewan,

The issue is with Residents Parking virtually right on the Junction, it's a Bus Route and the Arriva Drivers are having an awful time getting round.

Cllr Atkinson and I have commissioned a Parking Scheme for the other side of the road but without parking restrictions on the opposite side it'll be a waste of a project. I'll take some pictures for you so you can fully understand it.

Kindest Regards



Nev

Cllr Neville Jones
22 Van Mildert Road
Newton Aycliffe

Tel: 03000269390
Call/Text: 07765784149

Location 2: Staintondale

FS-Case-382521145

Summary

Details

Type of issue: Request for new

Type of road marking: No parking

Additional information: Cars are parking on both sides of road at the entrance to school and all the way up the road and this is causing obstruction fir residents trying to get home.

Location 3: The Green

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Mr. Dan Austin, CILCA, CPFA
Town Clerk

Telephone : 01325 300700
Fax No. : 01325 301053

E-mail : Daniel.Austin@great-aycliffe.gov.uk



Council Offices
School Aycliffe Lane
Newton Aycliffe
County Durham
DL5 6QF

Road Markings and Pavement Obstructions Department
Durham County Council Highways Sub Office
Holywell Lane
Wolsingham
Bishop Auckland
DL13 3HD

Illegal and Inconsiderate Parking in Aycliffe Village

Dear Sir / Madam

29th September 2022

At a meeting of the Council's Environment Committee on 7th September, Members considered a report setting out the public safety concerns of a local resident as a consequence of illegal and inconsiderate parking in Aycliffe Village.

The resident was seeking the support of the Town Council in lobbying Durham County Council as the highways authority and Durham Constabulary as the highways enforcement authority to take action to address the concerns and specifically in:

- a) Requesting that Durham County Council consider implementing parking restrictions in key problem areas in the form of double yellow lines.
- b) If cost is given as a reason for rejecting the above request, granting permission to the resident to raise funding for the required works.
- c) Providing Durham Police with details of the specific problems and concerns in relation to crime and disorder, including illegal parking, obstruction of pedestrians, and a specific public disorder incident and asking how they might be able to respond to and address the concerns.

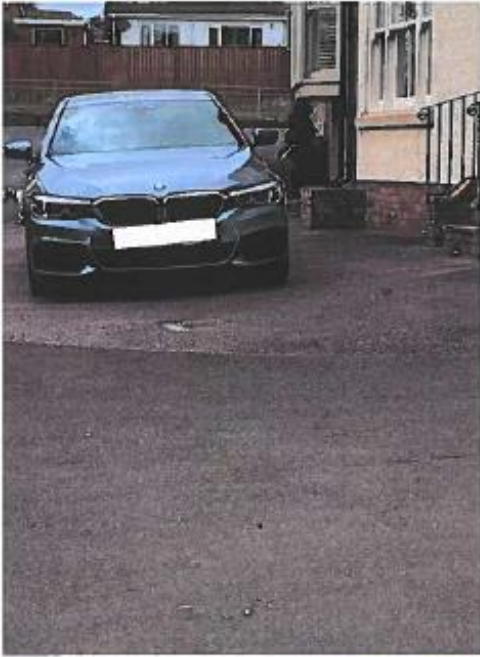
It was resolved at the meeting that the Town Council support the resident by writing to Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary to lobby them to take action and forwarding a copy of the letter to the County Councillors for Great Aycliffe asking them to support the resident.

Please note that the resident has contacted Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary on a number of occasions by both letter and telephone and has yet to receive a formal response.

I have attached a copy of the report to the Council's Environment Committee which includes copies of letters that the resident previously sent to Durham County Council (name and address redacted) and photographic evidence of the illegal parking.

I would be grateful if you could investigate the concerns raised and come back to me with your response.

If you are not the correct department at Durham County Council to look into these issues, please forward this letter onto the relevant department.



Appendix 4: Objection Details

Location 1: Clarence Chare

**PROPOSED SCHEME
CONSULTATION RESPONSE CARD**



Please tick the appropriate box:

- I am in favour of the scheme
 I am opposed to the scheme

REF clarence chare

Comments

This proposal will cause more
congestion in the street - off road parking
(Please use BLOCK CAPITALS) on both sides is needed.
Two housing developments have increased traffic flow
55mph

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Location 2: Staintondale

E. BROWN

STRATEGIC TRAFFIC.

DEPARTMENT.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL DH15UL

6-12-22.

DEAR SIR,

THIS IS A FOLLOW UP LETTER TO THE NOTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ROAD MARKINGS IN STAINTONDALE THERE IS NO PROBLEMS WITH PARKING WHERE THE EXISTING MARKINGS ARE, THE PROBLEMS ARE IN FRONT OF THE HOUSES UP FROM THESE MARKINGS.

RESIDENTS STRUGGLE TO LEAVE OR ENTER THEIR DRIVES FOR ALMOST ONE HOUR IN A MORNING AND THE SAME ON AN AFTERNOON DUE TO THE PARKED VEHICLES, ALTERING THE ROAD MARKINGS AS PROPOSED WOULD MAKE IT WORSE AND NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEMS.

MY NEIGHBOUR HAS TWO LARGE BUSINESS VANS. ONE THAT PARKS ON THE RIGHT OF MY DRIVE WAY AND THE OTHER ON THE KEEP CLEAR SIGNS ON A EVENING AND WEEK ENDS. IF THE PROPOSED CHANGES GO A HEAD THE SECOND VAN WILL MORE THAN LIKELY PARK IN FRONT OF MY PROPERTY MEANING I WILL HAVE A LARGE VAN PARKED AT EITHER SIDE OF MY DRIVE.

THE SOLUTION RESIDENTS WOULD LIKE IS A CHANGE THAT WILL CLEAR SOME OF THE PARKING AND FREE UP THE ROAD. I WOULD LIKE TO PROBBE A NO PARKING FROM 8AM TILL 6 PM FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE ROAD FROM THE ZIG ZAGS TO THE JUNCTION OF ZETA AND HUNT, THIS WOULD CLEAR ONE HALF OF THE ROAD FOR A BETTER FLOW OF TRAFFIC.

AND THE PROPERTIES ON THIS SIDE (NO 10) HAVE A MINIMUM OF PARKING OF THREE VEHICLES ON THEIR DRIVES

ALSO NO PARKING SIGNS ON THE JUNCTION OF ROOKWOOD HANT AS THIS CAUSES A BOTTLE NECK TO PARKING ON THE CORNER AND KERBS.

AS THE ESTATE ONLY HAS ONE ENTRANCE/EXIT AT SCHOOL TIMES THIS IS A NO GO AREA FOR COUNCIL REFUSE WAGONS AND WOULD BE THE SAME FOR THE EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

IF ANY OF YOUR TEAM CAME OUT AND LOOKED AT THIS IT COULD SOLVE THE PROBLEMS AS THEY ARE GETTING WORSE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEAR WHAT YOU THINK OF THESE PROPOSALS AS I THINK ANYTHING ELSE WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME AND TAXPAYERS MONEY AND NOT SOLVE ANY OF THE PROBLEMS.

YOUR SINCERELY

[REDACTED]

**PROPOSED SCHEME
CONSULTATION RESPONSE CARD**



Please tick the appropriate box:

- I am in favour of the scheme
- I am opposed to the scheme

REF Staintondale

Comments THIS WOULD MEAN ONE OF THE NEIGHBOURS TWO COMPANY VANS PARKING IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE 7 DAYS A WEEK WITH VANS PARKING EACH SIDE OF MY DRIVE
(Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**)


Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

48612 RLS

Location 3: The Green

**PROPOSED SCHEME
CONSULTATION RESPONSE CARD**



Please tick the appropriate box:

I am in favour of the scheme

I am opposed to the scheme

REF ² *The Green*.....


Comments *not necessary - an eyesore & money could be better spent!*.....

(Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**)

Name:
Address:

45612 RLS

**PROPOSED SCHEME
CONSULTATION RESPONSE CARD**



Please tick the appropriate box:

I am in favour of the scheme

I am opposed to the scheme

REF *The Green B*.....

Comments *I BELIEVE IT WILL ONLY FORCE THE CARS DOWN THE GREEN*.....

(Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**)

Name:
Address:

45612 RLS