

Report from Cllr Payne from the Residents Parking Working Group for the May 19 Meeting

The Residents Parking Working Group were very pleased to hear Cllr Newcombe's Report in the recent planning meeting. Namely that the Land Registry had awarded to Kingswear Parish Council, First Registration of the strip of Land in Higher Contour Road. This is excellent news for the Parish since the Council will now be able to put up notices along the strip claiming ownership and so will be able to arrange proceedings for removing the offending vehicle that has been dumped there.

Moreover this can perhaps provide now a simpler and less expensive option for providing residents parking. In 2016 a proposal for making residents parking places for 20 cars in the vicinity of Redoubt Hill had to be abandoned because the marina raised its parking prices causing more non residents' cars to park in Higher Contour Road. The strip of land would provide approximately 20 extra parking places and so this original proposal might now become viable.

Restricted Parking could also be introduced to Brixham Road near Jubilee Park where parking is proving near impossible a lot of the time.

The minutes of the April 19 meeting contained a list of some Members' concerns about the proposed residents' Parking scheme. I think it would be useful for the residents of Kingswear to see the responses to the concerns provided in the Meeting. Residents can then have a balanced picture of the situation. So I provide below responses.

C/399/18 - To receive a report from Councillor Payne – New Proposal for Residents Parking produced by DCC Highways.

A copy of the new Residents Parking proposal has been sent to all Councillors. Cllr Payne recommended that this improved proposal be sent to Residents for them to vote on.

The following concerns were raised by Councillors:

- i) The requirement for short term parking to only be allowed in designated bays had not been fully explored as being necessary. **Response: the arrangement in Torquay whereby parking is allowed for two hours without having to designate bays is a good system but Devon Highways have not adopted this approach so it is not possible to do that.**
- ii) The map was only in draft form and the final map would be sent out without having been seen and approved by the council. **Response: the changes to the map were minimal and that a copy would be sent out to Members for their approval prior to printing it.**
- iii) Concern over cost of scheme £10,000 - The Council's precept would have to be increased again in 2020/21 to pay for this. **Response: the increase in precept would be a one off £10 for that year. Also that in the survey only 7 residents out of 214 had**

expressed concern about the cost to the Parish even though it had been made very clear that this would happen.

- iv) Concern that only residents in Kingswear would be allowed permits not Hillhead, but the increase in precept would affect both wards. Response: it is part of the culture of this country that minorities will be benefitted by the majority – a good example is the NHS. Moreover very few residents of Hillhead expressed concern about benefiting another part of the parish. Also Hillhead residents would benefit from the scheme since they would have unrestricted parking for two hours along Lower Contour Road between 9am and 4pm.

- v) Confirmation of the number of spaces provided in the scheme had not been provided or the number of permits that would be allocated. Response: the number of extra spaces provided by the scheme would be between 20 and 30 since the commuters from Dartmouth and walkers would not be able to clog up the road. Permits are available for any resident in Kingswear to apply for and it is not possible to know how each resident will decide.

It was also expressed that since there had been few changes to the original proposal which received 70% approval from those who responded that the proposal should be sent out to residents for them to vote.