



Neil Ferris
Director of Economy & Place
City of York Council
West Offices
Station Rise
YORK
YO1 6GA

Dear Mr Ferris

The York Parking, Stopping and Waiting (Amendment) (No 14/43) Traffic Order 2020

Thank you for your letter of 7th February 2020 outlining proposals for amending the traffic restrictions in the Clifton area, notably around the curtilage of St Luke's Parish Church and Church Hall.

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Luke the Evangelist, York (the Trustees) formally objects to the proposals set out in your Notice, numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Whilst the problems of parking in the Clifton area are well known, the Trustees are very disappointed not to have been consulted on the proposals during their development as they will affect the function and operation of our Church and Church Hall. These proposals will make a bad situation worse by creating yet more pressure on the few remaining available car parking places in the vicinity of our buildings. Whilst the Trustees understand that the proposed restrictions will prevent all day commuter parking to the benefit of residents, the unintended consequences are that they will have a profound effect on our church and its activities. More than 50% of our congregation live outside our Parish.

Our church building is regularly used on Sundays – mornings, afternoons and evenings, and after 6pm on weekdays. Additionally we have weddings and funerals which take place during the day. Whilst the church services themselves will generally be able to be accommodated within the 120 minutes allowable time, this does not allow time for members of the congregation to move into the Church Hall afterwards for refreshments. The need for members of the congregation to relocate their vehicles after church services to enable them to stay for refreshments will be hugely problematic both in terms of highway safety with numbers of people having to relocate their vehicles at the same time, and also in terms of how we function as a church. Church Officers, musicians and Clergy can be at the church building around the times of services for up to four hours.



Our Church Hall, currently accessed from Shipton Street, relies on the availability of parking spaces in the vicinity of the entrance for people to load/unload equipment and resources. Hall bookings are generally for morning, afternoon or evening sessions, so a 120 minute restriction on parking will also adversely affect users of the Hall.

By the end of this year, we are hoping to have reconfigured and refurbished our Church Hall, so that the entrance to the Hall is via Burton Stone Lane, adjacent to the Barracks site. Whilst this does not affect anything said above, part of the overall project is to create a parking place for a funeral hearse on church land adjacent to the Barracks boundary wall. This will require a dropped kerb to be installed on Burton Stone Lane. For this reason it would make sense to extend the no waiting at any time restriction to cover the width of the new dropped kerb. A planning application for the St Luke's Community Hub, as we are calling it, will be submitted soon. Had we been consulted on your parking proposals at the development stage, you would of course have been made aware of this.

Again, had you consulted us, you would have known that our church buildings – the St Luke's Community Hub – are becoming very much more community focussed in support of our Local Members' Ward Priorities. Our weekly Community Café is supported by Citizen's Advice and CYC Adult Services as well as a number of charities, and our local Ward Members hold their monthly surgeries at our Community Coffee Morning.

I would like to suggest on behalf of the Trustees that even though you have now advertised these proposals, that you start a dialogue with us to amend your proposals in a way that achieves your objective of controlling parking in the area for the benefit of residents, whilst minimising the adverse effect on the function and operation of our church and buildings.

Yours sincerely

Church Warden

For and on behalf of the Trustees