

Petition for Addition Parking at Aycliffe

With the introduction by the government of fines soon for parking on pavements etc Aycliffe residents are very concerned due to lack of space for parking. The residents do not want parking restrictions or permits. Most households now have two or three cars. That is a fact of modern life. It is also natural for people to park their pride and joy outside their own house.

How many of you councillors have parking problems? If you do you understand the problem. One councillor at the last Aycliffe Forum meeting stated that they would find it difficult to enforce this law due to lack of parking and that DCC understood the problem.

I have asked several councillors who represented Aycliffe in the past to help but none were forthcoming in their assistance until now.

At Aycliffe we have had to endure the A20 built next to the estate.

We have lost two play parks, football pitch and the local pub.

A hostel which the residents of Aycliffe strongly objected has been built.

We now also now have had to put up with TAP causing havoc next to estate with diesel and noise pollution.

All the development for the town has been at the other end of town. In Whitfield, they will have the new Sports centre and new Shops etc. In River money has been spent on Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens). The only exception is the regeneration in the middle of town.

What we are asking at Aycliffe is something be put back into the community by DCC to improve the parking at Aycliffe. The knock-on effect is better parking and improved health and safety. This can be achieved by widening roads to provide better access for emergency services and more parking spaces.

1. Here is a photos of addition parking space at Old Folkestone Road at the bottom of St Richard's walk and St Patrick's road. This could be extended to increase parking on Old Folkestone Road. There are still cars having to park on the pavement. Notice how it was

cutting into side of the road. This was completed after the estate was built. I think in the late eighties early nineties.

2. St David's Ave parking was assisted by widening the curb. Again, this was completed I believe in early eighties/nineties
3. Parking could be improved at St George's Crescent. The cutting could be extended along all of St George's Crescent. This will provide addition eight to fifteen parking spaces along the road and stop people parking on the pavement. We do not need to restrict the parking because this will move the problem on to another part of the estate.

There is no parking for the residents of the 8 houses and 16 flats of St Giles Walk. They take up parking space at either St George's Crescent or St David's Ave. Up to six vehicles can be parked on the pavement when busy.

4. In Devonport, Plymouth, there is a road where the city made combination of walkway/road a shared area. This could be another idea on how to create additional parking places on St George's Crescent.
5. On the overhead map of Aycliffe I have placed crosses where additional parking for the residents could be made available. This would relieve the pressure of parking in these areas. I would gladly take the councillors around Aycliffe and show them what can be done.
6. Due to fact Aycliffe seems to have lost 42 tonnes lorries coming on the estate wider roads would further help by allowing lorries room to manoeuvre and not damage people's cars. this has happened in the past.

In conclusion with better parking and widening of roads this would improve the quality of life for residents of Aycliffe and it will also improve the situation for access of Emergency services. It can be done as shown by the photos.

It states on your website that roads and pavements are the responsibility of Kent County Council but as my elected local council I believe you can help Aycliffe and its parking problems.

Thank you for your time and any questions.

Gary Dodd

Dear councillors

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I have been a resident in Aycliffe for 9 years and the parking on St George's Crescent has progressively got worse.

As you can appreciate, this is an estate with a large family percentage and a large amount of children outside playing. In St Georges crescent we have a number of disability parking bays. The first is very faded and we as residents are unsure of its status. The second is actively used and the third, the people who have requested it have had their Blue badge and motability car taken away as they do not meet the criteria.

Some households up here have multiple vehicles, and I mean 4 vehicles. Some if these are work vehicle to be parked up here alongside private vehicles.

There is not enough space for all of these vehicles and for 2 spaces to be reserved (disability bays) and never get used. Some residents have taken to double parking and this makes it difficult to navigate around the crescent. So we now have to squeeze past double parked vehicles, whilst looking for children who like to run out from behind them.

Many times I have almost got from 1 and to the other of St George's crescent, to be met by a car coming the other way and being forced to reverse all the way back to the beginning again just so the other car can pass. This is reversing through double parked cars, navigating bends and hills whilst being mindful of playing children. These double parked cars also have a negative impact on delivery drivers, your refuse collection operatives and emergency vehicles.

Going forward I believe the grass bank on St George's Crescent should be removed to widen the road, this will allow for more car parking spaces and a greater distance between the double parked cars.

Please look into the parking up here.

Yours sincerely

Paul Mitton



To Whom it may concern

I am writing this letter to support Mr Dodd, involving more parking in Aycliffe. There are a number of areas that are in need of more parking and better parking.

I raise the issues of safety, women and small children having to walk in the middle of the road, as they cannot walk on the path because of parked vehicles on the path, also it is a nightmare for emergency vehicles to get into these areas.

I identify these areas to be St George's Crescent and both Ropewalks, St George's being the worst, there is other areas that need minor improvements but these areas are priority.

Something needs to be done before someone is injured or dies because emergency vehicles cannot reach them

Thank you

Mr R. Williams

Chairman Aycliffe residents forum