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**SUMMARY OF POINTS DISCUSSED AT THE PUBLIC MEETING
REGARDING**

KINNINVIE CROSSROADS

**(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING AND NO ENTRY) (C41 MARWOOD)
EXPERIMENTAL ORDER 2023**

Wednesday 19th July at 7.00pm

@

Marwood Social Centre (DL12 8SQ)

Present:

- Durham County Council - Mark Jackson Head of Transport and Contract Services, Dave Lewin, Kieron Moralee and Michelle McIntosh
 - Durham Constabulary - Paul Emmerson Head of Traffic and Inspector Ed Turner
 - Councillor Ted Henderson, Councillor Richard Bell, Councillor James Rowlandson and Councillor George Richardson
 - Local Press
 - Members of the Public as on Attendance/Fire Register
1. An Agenda was issued which had already been issued on the website, on Marwood Parish Council's Notice Boards, to Durham County Council and the other relative parties directly.
 2. Welcome and Introduction by Marwood Parish Council Chairman - Adrian Mairs.
 3. Welcome and Introduction to Durham County Council - Mark Jackson Head of Transport and Contract Services, Dave Lewin, Kieron Moralee and Michelle McIntosh and from Durham Constabulary - Paul Emmerson Head of Traffic and Inspector Ed Turner.
 4. The Chairman also welcomed Woodland Parish Council members and Stainton and Streatlam Parish Council members as well as Barnard Castle County Councillors Ted Henderson, Richard Bell, James Rowlandson and George Richardson.
 5. Opening Statement from Marwood Parish Council - As per letter issued to Durham County Council on 4th July 2023 outlining our strong objections to date has already been distributed. He re-iterated the objections previously

Advised to Durham County Council following the public meeting held on the 3rd July 2023.

6. Prior to the meeting Marwood Parish Council's – Chairman - Adrian Mairs informed the meeting verbally that he had also sent numerous emails to local MP Dehenna Davison including a copy of the agenda, requesting her presence at the public meeting which was all to no avail.
7. Outlining of reasons and steps to date – Marwood Parish Council Chairman - A Mairs re-iterated the objections previously advised to Durham County Council following the public meeting held on the 3rd July 2023.
8. Durham Constabulary - Head of Traffic - Paul Emerson stated that following the last accident it was decided that the most effective way to prevent further incidents was to prohibit driving in a North Bound direction as indicated within the Experimental Order. He stated that the problem appears to be with non-local drivers overshooting the Crossroads and not Giving Way. He stated that to date no fatalities had occurred but, in his opinion, the matter had to be addressed urgently, and stated that the closure of the road was the quickest and preferred option.
9. Durham County Council - Head of Transport and Contract Services- Mark Jackson stated that the Order has been issued through proper channels and in his mind it should still proceed. He did however, state that the following the meeting on 3rd July 2023 at Marwood Social Centre the whole situation could have been handled better (due to Durham Constabulary and Durham County Councils absence) and lack of public awareness/involvement.
10. Questions from the Floor.
 - 10.1 A representative from Woodland Parish Council read a letter from Woodland Primary School outlining reasons for the Order to be rescinded and other alternatives where suggested.
 - 10.2 Numerous objections were raised by members of the public as follows:
 - 10.3 The proposed alternative route via Dent Gate Lane is more dangerous than the present route.
 - 10.4 The Crossroads on the B6279 East of Kinninvie for Copley/Stainton and the Coal Road has had numerous accidents which go un reported – this is mainly caused by drivers not Giving Way and over shooting. Will Durham County Council also consider closing this road to prevent accidents?
 - 10.5 The Caravan Park has delivery of static caravans on large HVG's and large Agricultural vehicles. The proposed new route would cause severe problems with such large vehicles and possible non delivery. The alternative route is some 2.3 miles longer using more narrower roads with sharp bends and hills. Further, the park has visitors from far afield and could be deterred from using the Park with a closed road. It was stated that the Order would severely affect their business and other businesses in the area.
 - 10.6 There were further remarks concerning the use of large vehicles including horse transporters and large Agricultural vehicles and how unsafe it would be for these to travel on the diversion route with foreseen difficulties regarding turning circles, lack of width of carriageway and blind sighting at junctions, hills and bends.
 - 10.7 A question was raised regarding the legal validity of the Order and the speaker outlined the reasons for this statement. The speaker urged that Durham County Council rescind this Order and produce new proposals

that could be presented at a less traumatic meeting since clearly the whole of the public present were against this Order.

10.8 It was asked from the floor if other schemes to improve the safety of the junction had been considered which would not affect the lives of the local inhabitants in their day-to-day business. Durham County Council produced a list of 13 options which are attached to this document that had been considered (some of them similar to that was discussed at 3rd July 2023 meeting).

They also stated that, in discussions with Durham Constabulary, the Experimental Order was the preferred option following on from an internal analysis of all options.

10.9 Access to the Defibullator would be prohibited by the closure of the road, what do Durham County Council suggest? Mark Jackson said that in an emergency and of the Defibullator was needed then the Police could be lenient and possibly not possibly prosecute due to mitigating circumstances.

10.10 Access for School Buses – Durham County Council agreed that the diversion route via Dent Gate was not suitable for Bus travel and would be given exemption to use the road under the Order. However, HGV's and Agricultural vehicles of similar size would not be exempt. This was pointed out to Durham County Council but they did not react to this Order, other than to say the situation would be reviewed.

10.11 It was asked concerning how promptly will Sat Nav software be updated. Durham County Council stated that they work in conjunction with 'One Line' which provide traffic information. It would be up to individual Sat Nav companies to provide individual updates.

11.0 Closing Remarks – Durham County Councillors

11.1 Councillor George Richardson

He stated that he was disappointed with Durham County Council and in particular with Mark Jackson who appeared to be present not to listen to the local inhabitants but only to defend his decision to proceed with the Experimental Order. The same comments were addressed to Paul Emerson.

11.2 Councillor Richard Bell

Again, he was disappointed with the steam roller approach of the Order and asked if this was going to be the approach for all dangerous locations. He re-iterated that the Order should be rescinded and an independent body be sought to undertake the review of the 13 options tabled.

He further re-iterated that before any decision is made that another public meeting should be arranged to seek the views of all concerned by the impacts of the options.

11.3 Councillor Ted Henderson

He re-iterated the comments made by the previous Councillors and suggested that great co-operation and dialogue be undertaken with the local inhabitants.

11.4 Councillor James Rowlandson

He was surprised that this scheme had reached this stage bearing in mind previous discussions with Mark Jackson. Again, he was disappointed with Durham County Council representative's attitude and if no satisfactory solution is forthcoming, he advised Marwood Parish Council to seek legal advice and representation against Durham County Council.

- 12.0 Next steps following this meeting – Durham County Council
Mark Jackson was adamant that the Experimental Order should go ahead, despite the fact that all the public present strongly oppose this Order. However, he will now seek the services of Independent Traffic Advisors to review the alternative methods as indicated on the list produced at the meeting. (i.e., B6279 Kinninvie Crossroads – Options Appraisal).
- 13.0 Next steps following this meeting – Durham Constabulary
re-iterated that the Order should proceed despite the hardship that this will incur to the local inhabitants.
- 14.0 Next steps following the meeting and closing remarks – Marwood Parish Council Chairman - Adrian Mairs.

Any further objections should be sent to Helen Lynch - Durham County Council Head of Legal and Democratic Services Durham County Services [e mail address: helen.lynch@durham.gov.uk](mailto:helen.lynch@durham.gov.uk); Also, any traffic incidents at the Kinninvie Crossroads and the surrounding roads no matter how small should be reported to Mark Jackson (Durham County Council) - Head of Transport and Contract Services [e mail address: mark.jackson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:mark.jackson@durham.gov.uk); and Durham Constabulary Inspector Ed Turner [email address: Edward.Turner@durham.police.uk](mailto:Edward.Turner@durham.police.uk) record purposes.

The Chairman - Adrian Mairs thanked Durham County Council and Durham Constabulary for attending this meeting.

The Chairman – Adrian Mairs also thanked everyone for their attendance tonight and continued support regarding this matter.

The Chairman - Adrian Mairs – closed the meeting @ 9.00 pm