



BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Judith M. Hart
Clerk to the Council

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Mr Ian Roberts
Devon County Council
Legal Services Room G03
County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
EX2 4QD

11 January 2021

Dear Mr Roberts,

Re: Devon County Council (Teignbridge HATOC) (Traffic Regulation) Amendment Order

The proposed amendments to the regulation of traffic in Buckfastleigh (namely Jordan Street, Fore Street, Station Road and Silver Street Buckfastleigh) were circulated via our website to residents and discussed at our Town Council meeting held on 6 January 2021.

We have received one email from a resident of Jordan Street that highlighted both his and his neighbours' struggles with parking there, especially those who work irregular hours or who have small children. He suggested a residents parking permit scheme for Jordan Street and some other ideas that are beyond the remit of Town Council to facilitate. I believe that this resident has responded to the consultation directly and that others in the street have too.

Parking and traffic obstruction issues are a strong bone of contention in our town. We have mostly narrow streets and many residents who rely on on-street parking close to their homes. We are also aware of issues with access for emergency vehicles and at our meeting examples were provided where both the fire and ambulance service have been impeded in their essential work by carelessly parked cars. We as a council believe in taking a creative approach to helping to remedy this and in the past have set up our own consultations and surveys and have approached landowners in the centre of town with suggestions about possible solutions.

Buckfastleigh has a lower than average household income than neighbouring towns (such as South Brent and Ashburton) and is very poorly served by public transport. As a result, many residents are dependent upon their vehicles to access employment, education, and shops. Whilst we agree that areas such as Silver Street and Station Road have been hotspots for indiscriminate parking and obstruction of road users and that additional measures may be welcome to remedy this, we are concerned that residents in Jordan Street feel that extra restrictions would make life especially difficult for them. There is also a feeling that possibly too much weight may be being given to the commercial forestry operations that periodically traverse the street with large vehicles that have in the past caused damage to the vehicles parked there.

We have urged as many residents as possible to respond to the consultation individually with their concerns and would welcome the opportunity to be included in any further discussion on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'S'.

Susan Clarke
Chair of Buckfastleigh Town Council