

Quarry Road Objections

From: "Graeme Robertson" <gr@aberdeencity.gov.uk>
To: "Graeme McKenzie" <GMCKENZIE@aberdeencity.gov.uk>
Date: 8/14/2011 4:45 pm
Subject: Proposed vehicular waiting restrictions in the vicinity of Cults Parish Church, Quarry Road, Cults

Dear Mr McKenzie,

My apologies for accidentally copying you in to an email relating to the above last week. "Reply all" is a feature I generally don't use for exactly this reason - unfortunately on this occasion my "guard" slipped. I did try to contact you in the planning office immediately to retract the email however the colleague who was checking your emails while you were on holiday was unable to delete it.

I would however ask that you review the proposal, bearing in mind that the east side of Quarry Road is not normally used for parking - there seems to be an unwritten acceptance that it is not possible to park on both sides of the road and allow traffic to pass safely up and down.

I do appreciate the problem with buses turning in to Quarry Road from North Deeside Road and would support the extension of the existing restriction, but would suggest that single yellow line Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm would be sufficient to resolve this particular problem.

The proposed restrictions on the upper west side of Quarry Road will effectively reduce the number of spaces in the vicinity of the Church by approximately 50% and this will have a major impact particularly on the elderly, the infirm, and the mothers and toddlers who use our facilities throughout the week as well as on a Sunday. Given that the east side of Quarry Road is generally free of parked vehicles, I would suggest that this is not quite so severe a problem as might otherwise be envisaged and I would propose that reducing the speed limit for Quarry Road to 20mph might be a useful first step.

I do appreciate your having contacted the Church regarding the above proposal, apologise for the earlier email, but ask that you give the matters I have raised your consideration.

Kind regards

Graeme Robertson

Session Clerk
Cults Parish Church

From: "David Henderson"
To: <GMCKENZIE@aberdeencity.gov.uk>
CC:
Date: 8/11/2011 12:19 pm
Subject: Parking restrictions on Quarry Road, Cults

Dear Sir,

I write with regard to the recent communication regarding the proposed introduction of parking restrictions on Quarry Road, Cults.

Such an imposition will cause severe disruption and inconvenience to the members of Cults Parish Church, in particular the elderly who use our facilities on a regular basis. While we appreciate that school traffic use this route during the week there is no such traffic at the weekend so we would contend that these proposed restrictions are unnecessary at that time. The church is often in use for weddings on both Saturday and Sunday and is always in use on Sunday for worship services. Such a restriction in car parking at the weekend will cause great hardship for our members particularly those who are less mobile. We would request therefore that serious consideration be given to the lifting of these restrictions at least during the weekends.

Yours faithfully,

David A. Henderson

Clerk to the Congregational Board,

Cults Parish Church.

QUARRY ROAD, CULTS

With reference to my previous letter of objection to the proposal of extending parking restrictions in Quarry Road at Cults I should point out, that, while I write as an individual, I am also writing as the official representative of the congregation of Cults Parish Church. The current membership is currently around 800 members and in addition we provide facilities for non church members of the community, some 200-300 people, ranging in age from two years old to over eighty, who use our facilities during the week and over a period of time. Many of these people have various degrees of infirmity and for some it is the highlight of their week to be able to come and join the fellowship and friendship of others in our premises. This is a very valuable service which we provide for the wider community in the absence of other similar projects available in the area.

The very foundation of a parish church is worship and to that end the weekly service on a Sunday is at the core of our belief and of what we profess. Similarly the weekend is the time when most people would wish to hold a wedding ceremony and consequently the church building is much in use at that time. In both cases however the time span covering these activities is relatively short and is less stressful when there is reasonable parking around the premises as we have at present. To curtail parking any further will mean that cars will be parked in adjacent side streets with consequent difficulty for those who are not so agile as they might wish. I would respectfully suggest that those who have brought up this matter are mainly other car drivers who are fortunate enough to have good mobility and can have access to facilities which are not open to those who are less fortunate. Cults Parish Church has been on the current site for close to one hundred years and there has never been an issue with parking or road safety in all that time.

As has already been mentioned elsewhere the church is actively pursuing the building of new expanded facilities at a site nearer the centre of Cults and the mid week activities may well decrease when the new accommodation is completed, but the weekend activities will of necessity remain at the Quarry Road site. There is no doubt that a number of our less able members will be seriously disadvantaged if more stringent parking restrictions are imposed as the result of the wishes of a few more able bodied.

A colleague and I were very appreciative of the courtesy extended to us today by two members of the council staff who granted us an informal discussion on this matter when a number of possible suggestions and potential solutions were discussed. I trust that, in reaching a decision, the appropriate Committee will therefore take a sympathetic view of the position that faces the congregation at Cults.

For Cults Parish Church
David A. Henderson
Clerk to the Congregational Board

8 Cairnlee Avenue East,
Cults,
Aberdeen AB15 9NH

01224 861377

Dear Ms Swanson,

Objection to the proposed parking restrictions on Quarry Road

I am writing in my capacity as Co-Organiser of The Hub Coffee Shop of Cults Parish Church. The Coffee Shop provides a well-used and valuable facility for all the people of Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber as well as many from the town. We cater for all age groups from young mums to the elderly and the very elderly. We therefore provide an extremely valuable resource for the whole community and not just for our church members.

Currently, there is a dropping off area outside the disabled access to the sanctuary, which should be retained and preferably extended to allow people with reduced mobility to be dropped off as many are unable to walk long distances. I would urge the retention of as many parking places as possible close to the Quarry Road entrances.

I trust that the City Council will reconsider the planned parking restrictions on the west side of Quarry Road.

Yours sincerely,

Maureen Taylor

Dear Ms Swanson,

Objection to the proposed parking restrictions on Quarry Road

I am writing in my capacity as Co-convenor of the Outreach Committee of Cults Parish Church. This committee coordinates the activities which take place in the church premises. The sanctuary, main hall and north hall on Quarry Road are used by a wide range of community groups, including mother and baby, rising two's, playgroup, lunch club for the elderly, 050 for the over fifties, as well as our Hub café on Tuesdays and Wednesdays which mainly caters for young mums and their children and the elderly. Cults Parish Church therefore provides an extremely valuable resource for the whole community and not just for our church members.

Currently, there is a dropping off area outside the disabled access to the sanctuary, which should be retained and preferably extended to allow people with reduced mobility to be dropped off. With so many others who are unable to walk long distances using the premises, I would urge the retention of as many parking places as possible close to the Quarry Road entrances. Our experience is that the drop off area is not generally misused and drivers do not park on the east side of the road.

When our new community centre is built at 402/404 North Deeside Road, many, although not all, the activities will be accommodated in the new premises.

Although safety must be paramount, I hope that you will reconsider the planned parking restrictions on the west side of Quarry Road north of the hall entrances.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Catherine F. Paterson
Co-convenor of the Outreach Committee of Cults Parish Church