

PARKING AND VISIBILITY AT JUNCTIONS

Would it be possible to allow parking behind the Bell Inn for customers to go to the newsagent/PO?

Parking is a real problem in the village, outside the co-op means people can't see to get out of the junction. By the chip shop and Chinese it can get very congested. There needs to be a car parking area for people to safely leave their cars while they visit businesses. In Ryders Way I have called the police over frequent inconsiderate parking on pavements and double parking which has meant other vehicles have not been able to pass...what if an ambulance or fire engine needed to get through? The police have always moved the vehicles on but it's not a permanent solution.

No parking available at the Greyhound – full of residents' cars. Residents unable to park when coming home at night on The Street, full of vans, trucks, etc. Infuriating!! Residents not using their own parking space and taking up spaces unnecessarily. Visitors to the pubs leaving their cars as unable to drive home, blocking spaces the next day. The Greyhound pub informed the Parish Council there would be eight spaces for parking for visitors. This is of course untrue.

It is very annoying to see people park in front of the Post Office/Shop when there are parking spaces across the road. Similarly there is a real issue with visibility near the Co-op.

Inconsiderate parking is a major issue for us. People park over our driveway preventing access (by Jessamine Lodge). Parking by the Rickinghall sign opposite the Greyhound is also a problem. I've struggle to get past with my push chair and I often have to cross the road because the pavement is impassable. If the police ticketed vehicles parked on pavements and across driveways, this would soon deter people. One day of ticketing a week for a couple of months would go a long way to helping resolve the problem

A first sight the number of cars parked in the street may seem a problem BUT there is no alternative parking and without parked vehicles, the speeding problem would be much worse. Probably not a lot to be done other than reinforce awareness of speed limits.

It is difficult to separate the issues of inconsiderate parking and lack of visibility at junctions, as one causes the other. Cars constantly park on the pavement outside the Old Chapel and Southgate Farmhouse and completely block the line of sight leftwards for motorists turning out of the drive between the Old Chapel and Cheyleswood. This is dangerous and I have not been able to see an oncoming car on more than one occasion when pulling out of my drive. Bollards would help outside of the Old Chapel on the edge near the road. Cars parked all over pavements also cause a hazard for pedestrians, especially children, as many domestic drives cross the pavement.

Vision obstructed when turning into the Street coming from Fen lane as vans and cars park on the pavement near the phone box opposite the Greyhound pub.

Parking on pavements restricts passage for pedestrians – mothers with pushchairs and small children as well as the elderly, are forced to walk in the road. Drivers will sometimes drive towards us on the pavement, particularly near the newsagent. If cars are parked legally on the highway then moving traffic is forced to slow down to overtake, which aids the speed issues in the village.

Problem with long-term parking – some of it is almost permanent.

The junction coming from Mill Road to the main road is dangerous as the yellow lines need to be longer. The hedge at Street Farm leading to Mill Lane needs cutting back as it goes over ¼ of the road and makes that corner dangerous for people walking and driving.

Need yellow lines to stop parking at Garden House Lane junction and Co-op junction.

One-sided parking would help in The Street. No-one should park on the pavement. This happens in The Drift, especially at school time as well as The Street. The hedge at the right-hand corner of The Drift and Back Hills is nearly always overgrown. Difficult for people using the pavement and cars to see the traffic coming from the right on Back Hills on coming out of The Drift.

Double-parking is the main issue in this village! Myself while trying to pass two parked cars either side of the road hit another car wing mirror. Luckily the owner was still in his car and I only damaged mine! Double parking outside the post office and take-away shops must be stopped! You can't speed in this village, it's too difficult to even if you wanted to.

Visibility at the Back Hills/Fen Lane/The Street junction is often restricted by parked cars – in both directions on occasions – and also the board advertising the Fish n Chip shop! I'm sure that no-one would want to support action which may have negative impact on our valued businesses/shops in the village. However,

perhaps posters displayed in their premises, e.g. gentle reminders such as "have you considered where you're parked" or similar – may just be a nudge in support of more formal works that may be undertaken.

Stop street parking where it reduces road width down to one vehicle. Stop parking on pavements. Because of parking at the bottom of Back Hills means width restriction and incurs service lorries i.e. oil tank delivery reversing back up whole length of Hill.

Please ask the chippie to move the Chip Shop sign as this is a problem when exiting Back Hills onto The Street. In a car, the sign obscures all visibility.

I live opposite the post office. While cars and vans are parked outside the PO and blocking my driveway, on several occasions I have nearly been involved in an accident. There is no way I can see oncoming traffic without coming out to the middle of the road. I feel there should be yellow lines along the post office as well as yellow lines in front of mine and three of my neighbours' driveways.

The parking all along the main street is a nightmare. Garden house lane suffers from cars parked opposite the junction on the street. It makes it very difficult to see what is coming when turning into Garden House Lane coming from Bury direction.

Parking helps slow traffic, as people mainly from village understand the issues.

Parking on pavements is inconsiderate and contrary to law. Parking the wrong way round at night is a major problem.

Coming out of Back Hills onto Main Street visibility to the left is often obscured by Fish and Chip shop sign, especially in smaller cars.

The illegal parking outside of the Newsagents and up over the hill towards Rickinghall needs to be double yellow lines with a CCTV monitor. Whilst the parking outside of the shop is an issue it is the lack of visibility while travelling south from Botesdale that is the real danger.

With regards to parking outside the post office/newsagents I would prohibit this with the painting of double yellow lines from the entrance to The Bell carpark up to the entrance of Warren Lane. Ample parking is available on the opposite side of the road but all too often this is ignored for the convenience of saving a few steps by parking directly outside the shop. Between 8:45 and 9:00am (weekdays) there is a line of parked cars on the road outside the village hall in Botesdale, despite there being a carpark, and this is on a bend making it difficult and dangerous for other motorists to pass with no room to pull in. Again, inconsiderate behaviour taking precedence over 'convenience'. Because there is a large carpark then I would make this stretch of road a no stopping zone. Approaching the village from Rickinghall, the on-road parking from the junction of Garden House Lane onwards greatly diminishes visibility and is dangerous. Yellow lines are no more unsightly than parked cars and in any case the main issue is that these areas create a high risk of an accident - either motorist or pedestrian. This increased risk is avoidable and so to my mind it would be remiss not to take action now.

The main problem to me is the inconsiderate parking especially as the width of the main street alters considerable and suddenly. (I appreciate this is a difficult problem when the village grew up before the days of cars!)

With the increase in the width of modern vehicles, particularly 4x4, all of the parking spaces in the village are too narrow for on the road parking. That allied with speeding vehicles coming down the hill from the post office, towards Redgrave, and a very narrow footpath on the Honister House side means that pedestrians frequently have to stop and step back because of the possibility of being struck by a cars wing mirror. One foot extra on the other side of the road would reduce this risk considerably.

Of the six possible solutions proposed by the Council only two are (partially) relevant to the critical issue of parking in the village. I suggest: 1 Prevent parking outside the Newsagents/Post Office between The Bell car park and point which permits unrestricted access to Warren Lane using double yellow lines on the north side of the road 2 Parked vehicles are the problem, not large vehicles, not speeding. 3 Safety needs to take priority and this should certainly take precedence over parking convenience.

Parents by parking outside the school is a joke, they block driveways, park too close to corners and cause obstructions. They also park in the doctors and along the main road outside the village hall causing problems. They illegally park on corners and often "overhang" from the junction of The Drift & Back Hills, Rose Lane & Back Hills and The Fairstead & Back Hills and total disregard for the no parking area in front of the school.

My main concern is with inappropriate and dangerous parking and there are a number of areas where this is particularly an issue, namely: opposite the end of Garden House Lane, at the junction to the Co-op on the Rickinghall side, outside the Newsagent's, along Back Hills and near the old Post Office though this is less of an issue now. The very narrow road at the top of the hill by St. George's Drive is also a concern especially if there are parked cars on the left as you approach from Rickinghall. Perhaps priority could be given to cars travelling up the hill as visibility is more restricted in that direction. There are often delivery lorries mounting the pavement at that point which makes crossing the road with young children hazardous.

Living at the end of Botesdale we don't see too much of the congestion, but some people will park right outside the post office even when there are spaces available in the parking area opposite causing severe holdups. Whether bollards would help or just make the situation worse I am not sure!

Apart from visibility at junctions, inconsiderate parking is a close second. When properties are built more consideration must be given to parking for more than 1/2 vehicles and access to public highway.

Visibility at junctions and cars parked poorly on the street leading to people having to pull well into the road to be able to see I think is the biggest problem.

Our concern is the lane facing the Post Office where we live. People still park across the lane stopping us from getting out and because of all the cars parked along the road, the visibility is really bad when you're trying to pull out of the lane. We are sure sooner or later there is going to be a bad accident there.

Please consider disabled access, alongside double yellow lines...these can be used as temporary parking giving cause to same issues following implementation, so strongly suggest disabled parking be assigned as well as double yellow lines. I've also witnessed super sized vehicles charging thru the village, often not give enough room for standard vehicles. Especially delivery drivers. Co-op access/exit is dangerous, especially if traffic has not slowed, or there are congested vehicles limited by street parking in the village. I.e. Considerate drivers giving way, to those caught up in trying to get around parked vehicles.

My main area of concern is The Street; double yellow lines from 100m the Rickinghall side of the Co-Op to The Greyhound should help, as would the suggested bollards. I also find the road very narrow between the Co-Op and the Newsagent, notably on the brow of the hill, which isn't helped when cars park incorrectly near the old post office. Lastly - although not mentioned in the survey - the congestion caused by thoughtless parking at both the primary school and the doctors' surgery has to be seen to be believed at peak times. An accident waiting to happen in my opinion. Very pleased to see that something positive MAY come from this survey!

People should park on own property if they've got it.

The lane opposite the Post Office with adjoining land would make an ideal parking area.

There is also a problem with drivers overtaking parked cars onto oncoming traffic.

More people need to use their own private parking areas. Introduce fee to be paid for regular street usage for parking.

Probably some of those cars could be parked in owners' yards and garages.

Priority: restrict parking on street N.E. of Garden House Lane junction – current parking leaves space for one-way traffic only and visibility up and down the Street is poor here because of the curve in the road. A regular source of conflict.

Bad parking should be enforced. People park opposite the end of Garden House Lane, on the bend next to the junction, to close to the Co-op junction and on the brow of the rise – all contravening the Highway Code.

Stop all parking on pavements. Paint white lines outside entrances to ensure no-one parks in front of private driveways. Paint double-yellow lines restricting parking at junction, e.g. Co-op.

People who park within 10m of the junction of Mill Road and The Street restrict the visibility when turning out, so much that vehicles have to be beyond the white line and in the line of traffic coming down the hill to be able to see any vehicles coming up the hill. This is both hazardous and dangerous. People also do u-turns at this junction – especially when visiting the Chinese restaurant. It may be too expensive but a mini-roundabout may solve this problem – first suggested at the time of the bypass but rejected by Simonds buses as making it too difficult to get round the corner. No longer applicable, it would also slow down traffic coming down the hill.

Speeding traffic and inconsiderate parking, particularly in the area between Maypole Meadow and beyond the Fish Shop is a problem. I have recently seen a bus and a lorry unable to get through because cars are parked on both sides of the road. The parking inevitably causes problems around road junctions as people cannot see to exit safely.

Yellow lines put opposite Garden House Lane as people park there and along that part opposite the flats making it difficult to turn up Garden House Lane. Plus cars parked near junction of Garden House Lane. Cars also parking on bend in Wheatfields. There is a car park at back of flats and houses – use it.

Parking – residents of Walsingham Mews have parking areas at the back and should be used. Also parking across the junction making visibility difficult. Back Hills – the bit from the Fairstead to Chilvers most inconsiderate having to weave in and out of the cars. An emergency vehicle would not be able to get through. Why people cannot park within their curtilage beggars belief.

The parking of residents' cars along The Street, especially in the evening when it is very dark is a huge hazard. The pavements in some areas are too wide and could be made smaller to enable wider roads. Has the fact that the street lights being switched off in the evening been impact assessed in accordance with the Equality Act especially the Disability strand of the act?

The junction of Garden House Lane and The Street is a problem particularly when cars park opposite the Lane (which I think is illegal anyway) in the bus stop pull-in. It is often very difficult to board the bus to Diss when vehicles are parked in the bus lay-by. Perhaps a bus stop flag and yellow Bus Stop road markings might help solve the situation.

Cars parked on The Street slow down the traffic so could be thought useful? But some are parked very inconsiderately. The road is narrow. Quite a lot of houses don't have off-street parking and are unable to provide it. Most houses have more than one car. If we want a living village we have to put up with the traffic.

Relocation of notice boards in Market Square. These obscure vision of oncoming traffic. Removal of cars parked on pavement in Market Square.

Sometimes it is difficult to get out of Garden House Lane because cars or vans are parked between the entrance to Walsingham Mews and the junction. This means to pass you have to go on the opposite side of the road and cars coming from the Bury direction cannot see cars pulling out. Walsingham Mews needs a parking space for visiting tradesmen and yellow lines painted at the junction.

Cars parked opposite or close to turnings, or at the top of the hill by Maypole Meadow, seriously restrict the vision of those approaching or exiting the turnings to an extent that it is dangerous. To these areas must of course be added the Co-op and village hall where parking on either side of the car park entrance is a hazard for cars and cyclists including many children. So yellow lines should also be considered at this point in Hinderclay Road.

Parking is a huge issue in Rickinghall/Botesdale. Double-yellow lines should be enforced in the following areas: 1) Bottom of Rectory Hill as you sit at the junction opposite the bus stop / church to the left there should be at least 3 car lengths double yellow lines. 2) Right hand side of The Street from Walsingham Mews up to the Co-op. 3) People double park outside the Greyhound and Fish & Chip shop. I leave the Health Centre around 6.30 some evenings and cannot see to get out of that junction. Very dangerous.

Would it be possible to put double-yellow lines up Garden House Lane from The Street to the junction with Wheatfields? Also on the other side of the junction outside Pound Farm. Visibility is poor at Rectory Hill/The Street junction. Could yellow lines be put around that area also?

We need double-yellow lines introducing in several places – The bottom of Garden House Lane; near the Co-op entrance; between the Chinese and the Greyhound on the florist's side.

Residents parking too near the junction of Rectory Hill and Bury Road restrict visibility and safe traffic flow (causing you to pull out into oncoming traffic).