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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>The Petitions Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>1 February 2018</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>The Head of Legal and Property Services</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LP/013/18</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Peter MacDonald</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712618</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Port Glasgow Town Centre Residents Parking Scheme</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is bring before the Committee for consideration a petition by Miss Eileen Catterson (the Petitioner) seeking the introduction of a residents parking scheme in Port Glasgow Town Centre (King Street / Church Street) in areas currently subject to a 30 minute restriction.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 A petition has been created on the Council's website seeking the introduction of a residents parking scheme in Port Glasgow Town Centre (King Street / Church Street) in areas currently subject to a 30 minute restriction.
- 2.2 This petition was initiated on 28 September 2017 and as it has gathered in excess of 100 signatures within the publication period, it is now being brought before the Committee for consideration.
- 2.3 The comments on the Petition by the Council Services affected by it are set out in Appendix 2 and the comments on the Petition by the Petitioner are set out in Appendix 4.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee

- 3.1 considers the terms of the petition as set out in this report, and as part of that consideration consider oral representations (if any) made by the relevant Council officers and by the Petitioner, all in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Oral Representations adopted previously by the Committee (Appendix 1); and
- 3.2 following such consideration **either**:
- (a). supports this petition, remitting to the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services to bring a report to the appropriate substantive Committee of the Council with recommendations on this matter; **or**
  - (b). reject the petition, bringing matters to an end.

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Petitioner, an individual residing in the Inverclyde Council area created an online petition on the Council's website on 10 October 2017 seeking the introduction of a residents parking scheme in Port Glasgow Town Centre (King Street / Church Street) in areas currently subject to a 30 minute restriction.
- 4.2 The full description of this petition entered by the Petitioner and shown on the website is as follows:
- “Petition to allow residents to park in town centre (King Street / Church Street etc.) similar to the Greenock residents parking already in place i.e. allowing us to park with no restrictions in 30 min zones.”
- 4.3 As at the date of this report, this petition has received 103 signatures. As it has within the publication period received more than 100 signatures, the petition is being brought forward for consideration by the Committee, all as provided for in the Council's Petitions Criteria.
- 4.4 The Rules of Procedure for Oral Representations at the Petitions Committee were approved by the Committee at its meeting of 15 June 2017, and are designed to ensure a fair hearing for all concerned, in relation to petitions coming before the Committee. These will apply in relation to the consideration of this petition by the Committee and are reproduced at Appendix 1 for ease of reference.
- 4.5 The appropriate Council service, in this case Environmental and Commercial Services, has set out its view in relation to the Petition in terms of Appendix 2. The attention of the Committee is also drawn to the plan at Appendix 3. This plan is taken from the Council website and shows the parking restrictions presently in force through the Council in the Port Glasgow Town Centre area.
- 4.6 The Petitioner has also provided written additional written comment in relation to the Petition in terms of Appendix 4. This makes reference to a diagram which is included as Appendix 5.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

### **Finance**

- 5.1 None from this report.

### **Legal**

- 5.2 The Committee approved “The Rules of Procedure for Oral Representations at the Petitions Committee” on 15 June 2017, which designed to ensure a fair hearing for all concerned, in relation to petitions coming before the Committee. These rules will apply at this meeting of the Committee in relation to the consideration of this petition
- 5.3 In terms of the Council's approved petitions procedures, in their consideration of a petition, the Committee can decide that:
1. that the issues raised merit further action and will refer the matter to the relevant decision making body (which may be within the Council) and which may require further work, resolution or influence from the Council;
  2. that the issues raised do not merit any further action; or
  3. to take any other action, provided there is no financial impact for the Council's service committees, as may be decided as appropriate.

It is the view of Officers that, by its nature, support of this petition will have financial implications and that the appropriate route, should the Committee decide to support the petition, is that the matter be remitted to the appropriate Service Committee. Furthermore, the introduction of a scheme of the type sought will involve the promotion of a Traffic Regulation

Order, with a requirement for public consultation and the adherence of officers to the statutory procedures applying.

### **Human Resources**

5.5 None from this report.

### **Equalities**

5.6 None from this report.

### **Repopulation**

5.7 There are no repopulation implications.

## **6.0 CONSULTATIONS**

6.1 The Head of Environmental and Commercial Services has been consulted on the terms of this report.

## **7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.

**INVERCLYDE COUNCIL****PETITIONS COMMITTEE****RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ORAL REPRESENTATIONS AT THE PETITIONS COMMITTEE.**

During the consideration of a petition as an item of business (“**the Petition**”) at the Petitions Committee, the person responsible for the submission of the Petition (“**the Petitioner**”) will be given an opportunity to make oral representations in relation to the subject matter of the Petition. Council Officers (“**the Council Officer(s)**”) from affected Council Services will also be given the opportunity to make such representations, as will any Ward Members (see g) below). Below are the rules of procedure under which such representations will be heard at meetings of the Petitions Committee (“**the Rules of Procedure**”), and they have been designed to:

- create the right atmosphere for discussion;
- eliminate or reduce formalities; and
- give everybody a fair hearing.

The Rules of Procedure are as follows:

- a) The Convener will conduct the consideration of the Petition.
- b) At commencement of consideration of the Petition, the Convener will identify those intending to make oral representation on the merit of the Petition, namely : the Council Officer(s) present; the Petitioner (if present, or any person who, with the approval of the Convener, the Petitioner wishes to speak on his or her behalf); and any Ward Member in terms of g) below.
- c) The Convener will outline the procedure, explaining that it will take the form of a discussion which he will lead based on the Report to the Petitions Committee issued in relation to the Petition (“**the Report**”). The Report will have been circulated to the Members of the Committee, the Council Officer(s) and the Petitioner prior to the meeting. Copies will also be made available at the meeting.
- d) The Convener will ask the Petitioner whether or not he/she is content with the synopsis of the Petition contained in the Report. If the Petitioner disagrees with the summary he/she will be invited to clarify. This allows the Petitioner to ensure that the members of the Committee have a good understanding of the Petition.
- e) The Council Officer(s) will be invited to present the view of the affected Council Services on the merit or otherwise of and implications of the Petition, with their recommendation as to whether or not it should be supported, to set the scene for the discussion, with a time limit of 5 minutes.

- f) The Petitioner will be invited to speak to his/her Petition and comment on the representations made by the Council Officer(s), with a time limit of 5 minutes.
- g) Where the Petition relates to a specific part of the Inverclyde Council area, any Member of the Inverclyde Council whose ward includes all or some of that part ("**Ward Member**") may make representation in support of or against the Petition. Any such Ward Member present will be invited to do so, with a time limit of 5 minutes.
- h) Where a Ward Member makes representation in terms of g) above and is also a Member of the Committee, he or she will not be entitled to participate in the decision of the Committee on the Petition. Similarly, any Member of the Committee who has prior to the consideration of the Petition at the meeting made it clear that he or she is either for or against the Petition will also not be entitled to participate in the decision of the Committee on the Petition. This is essential to ensure that the Petition is given a fair and proper hearing and will avoid any impression of bias in relation to the Committee's decision-making processes.
- i) The Council Officer(s) will be invited to reply to the representations of the Petitioner or any Ward Member (introducing no new material), restricted to a time limit of 5 minutes.
- j) The Convener will allow the Petitioner the final word (introducing no new material), if he/she wishes it, by way of summary and in relation to any comments by a Ward Member, or the Council Officer(s), restricted again to a time limit of 5 minutes. The Convener will discourage repetitive or superfluous comments. At no time will cross examination be permitted. The Convener will indicate when he or she considers that sufficient clarification of the Petition has been achieved, and the discussion will then move on in terms of these rules, the oral representations element being at an end.
- k) The Committee will then proceed with consideration of the Petition as an item of business in terms of the Standing Orders.

Provision of Residents' Parking Permits in Port Glasgow.

Residents' Parking Permits were introduced in Greenock Town Centre in April 2016. This was due to the introduction of limited waiting and parking charges in Greenock Town Centre car parks resulting in residents not being able to park free of charge close to their homes. They had to park outwith the Town Centre during periods of enforcement.

The restrictions which are currently in place in Port Glasgow have been in place since 1968 and did not change following the introduction of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement.

Restrictions currently apply on Princes Street, John Wood Street, Bay Street, Scarlow Street and part of Church Street, Port Glasgow. The restrictions in place are "Limited Waiting Monday to Friday 8am-6pm 30 minutes, no return within 30 minutes.

There are no on-street limited waiting restrictions on King Street, Court Road, Crawford Street, Falconer Street, Huntly Terrace, Willison's Lane and part of Church Street adjacent to the bus station. These locations are predominantly adjacent to residential properties.

Off-Street car parking is also available free of charge and with no limited waiting restrictions at the Council maintained car parks in Fore Street and Shore Street. There is a further privately owned car park adjacent to the Star Hotel which also has no restrictions in place.

The only time limited off-street car park within Port Glasgow Town Centre is Princes Street car park which has a two hour time limit. No parking charge is applicable.

Due to the significant availability of free parking with no time limit, as outlined above, officers do not recommend the introduction of Residents' Parking Permits in Port Glasgow Town Centre.

# Port Glasgow Parking Zones






From June 2016

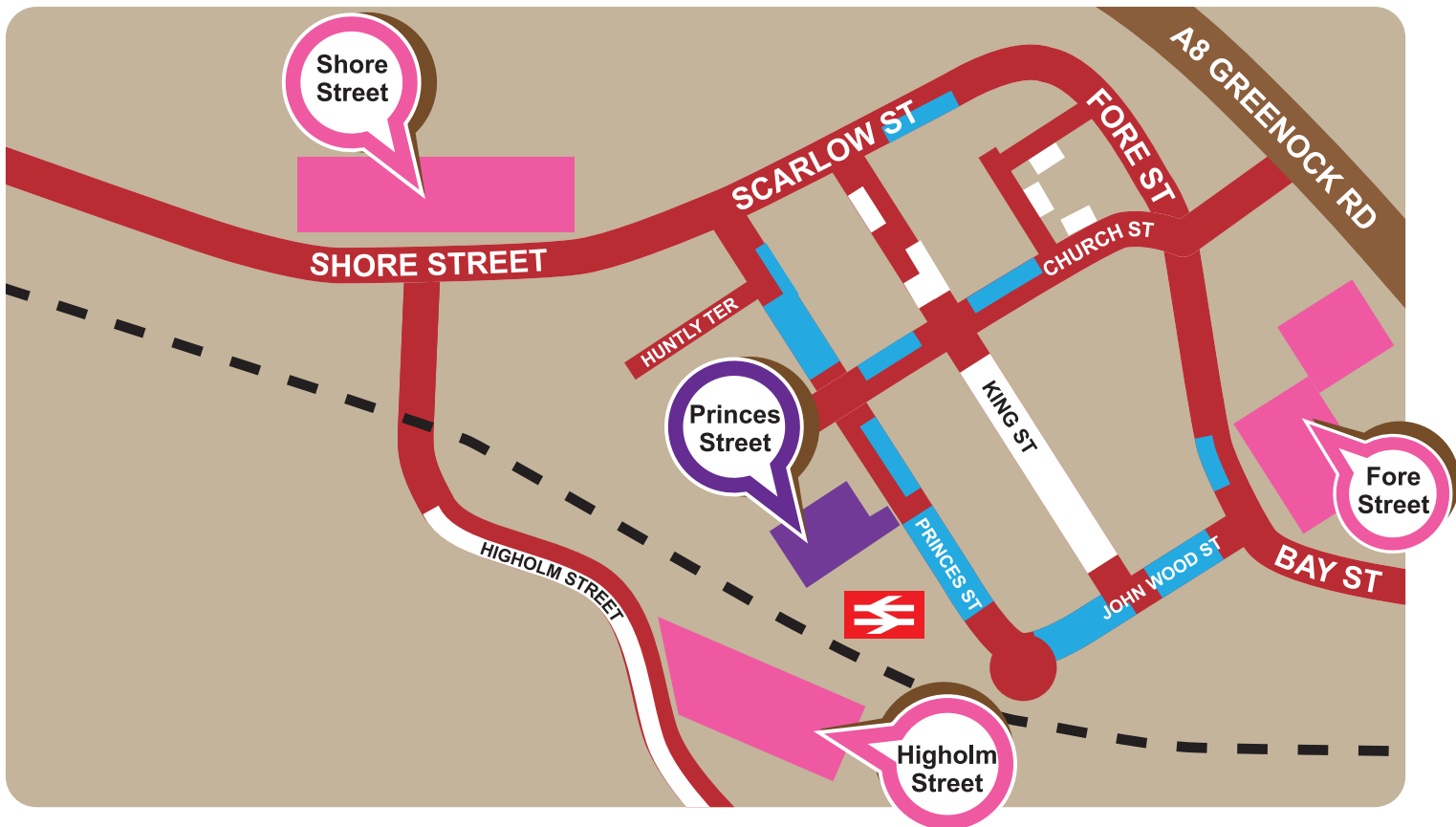
For more information visit

[www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking](http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking)

Inverclyde  
council

**Restrictions apply Monday - Saturday, 8am to 6pm**

- |  |   |   |   |   |                                       |
|--|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
|  | <b>On-street</b><br>No waiting or parking |  | <b>On-street</b><br>30 minutes stay free<br>Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm |  | <b>On-street</b><br>Unlimited parking |
|  | <b>Car park</b><br>Unlimited parking      |  | <b>Car park</b><br>Up to 2 hours max stay free                          |   |                                       |



Residents Parking PermitsKing Street Port Glasgow and Surrounding AreasEileen Catterson 15/01/2018

Further to my initial petition, I would like to add some backing to my request for parking permits for myself and my neighbours.

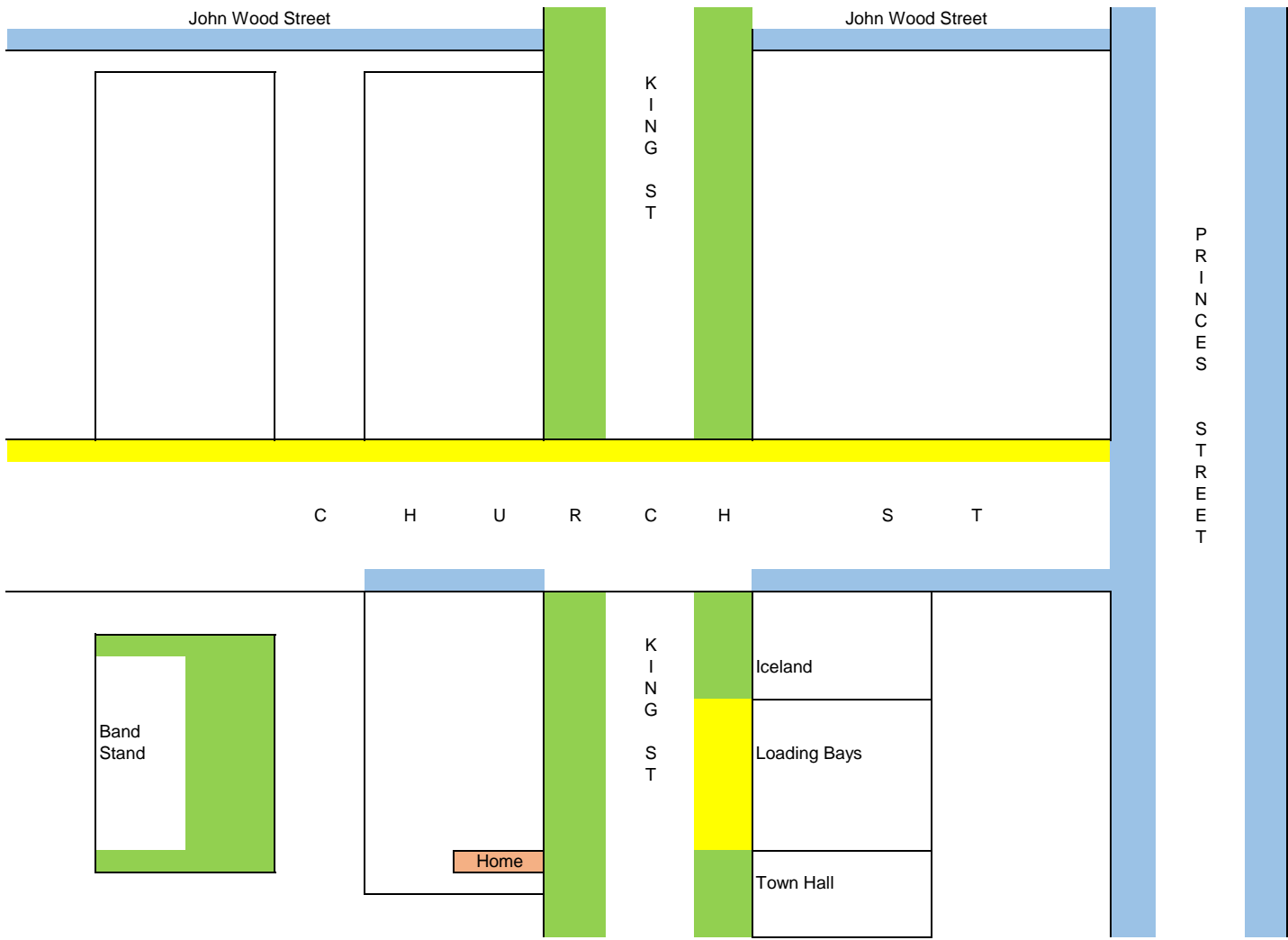
As you can see from my diagram, there is very little parking round about, especially during the day for those who are off midweek.

Where there is parking, it is very difficult to actually get one of these spaces, due to the amount of residents, and also shoppers coming in to the town. Take, for example, where I live in “The Wee Alley” on King Street. There are 7 closes on my courtyard, with six flats in each, so potentially a need for 42 spaces. The “Big Alley” also on King Street, will have a need for much more, but as per my diagram **[see Appendix 5]**, spaces are woefully lacking. If after work, I get a space on Church Street after 6pm, and am off the next day, I need to get up and drive round town until I manage to get a space in one of the free parking areas – easier said than done when the shops are open.

Whilst I am sensitive to the commercial needs of the town, I feel that Port Glasgow residents should be given the same access to residents parking permits as the residents in Greenock town centre. I believe that Cathcart Street, Ann Street and Sir Michael Street, to name but a few, currently have access to these passes?

Thank you for your time and consideration, and hope we can have a positive response.





**KEY**  
 Parking available all day  
 Double Yellow Lines  
 Mon-Fri 8am-6pm 30 mins