

## Appendix 1

Comment to the Car Parking at Railway Stations consultation by Northumberland County Council.

### **Response from Thirlwall Parish Council to Car Parking Consultation**

Thirlwall Parish Council object to the charge of £3 per day at Haltwhistle Railway Station.

Haltwhistle is not merely a tourist station it is a commuter station for local people travelling to the nearest larger town for work, shopping or recreation.

This particularly applies to people in the outlying countryside and villages who now have to drive into Haltwhistle and park at the station.

The charge would put £15 per week onto the travel bill of anyone working a 5 day week in Hexham, Newcastle, Carlisle etc. Which, with the current state of our local rural economy, is not sustainable. Even with the annual parking pass this is still a large amount to pay. This proposal will not support the campaign for sustainable communities.

Who would benefit financially from this and would the revenue make a case for the initial investment and upkeep costs? As the proposed charges are fairly nominal, there would be minimal revenue from this proposal. Regular users would lose out.

Another concern would be the loss of parking in the town as people moved away from the pay and display and took much needed parking for residents and tourists.