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23rd June 2016

Julie Muscroft
Legal, Governance and Monitoring
Kirklees Council
2nd Floor High Street Buildings
High Street
Huddersfield
HD1 2ND

Objection – DEV/DW/D116-1608

Dear Julie,

I'd like to object to the proposed parking restrictions for the above numbered application and have provided a number of photographs to support my objection.

I park my car in the Lockwood / Thornton Lodge area because I live in the Holme Valley and work in the town centre. I can currently always easily find a space on St Stephens Road, anytime of day, and then enjoy a walk into work. At the end of the day I also avoid getting stuck in, or contributing to, all the congestion on the Ring Road and Chapel Hill. I am therefore at a loss to understand why the Council is pursuing this scheme – particularly at a time of public spending cuts.

This proposal is not in the public interest.

My understanding is the Statement of Reasons for the proposal is due to local residents being unable to park their vehicles. I would disagree with the statement therefore have provided a number of photos as evidence which I've purposeful taken outside working hours which clearly show that most households don't seem to own a car as the streets are clear. I've also visited the site at weekends and come to the same conclusion that the proposal cannot be substantiated.

Whereas I sympathise with households who may see an increase in traffic on their street my opinion is the introduction of parking restrictions will result in a waste of a public asset – the highway - as there are currently always spaces available at all times of day on St Stephens

Road. Why therefore prevent anyone other than local residents parking here? I would add that I avoid parking outside people's houses preferring other areas of the street and would safely say that others that I've regularly seen parking nearby also do the same.

I've a number of points to add:

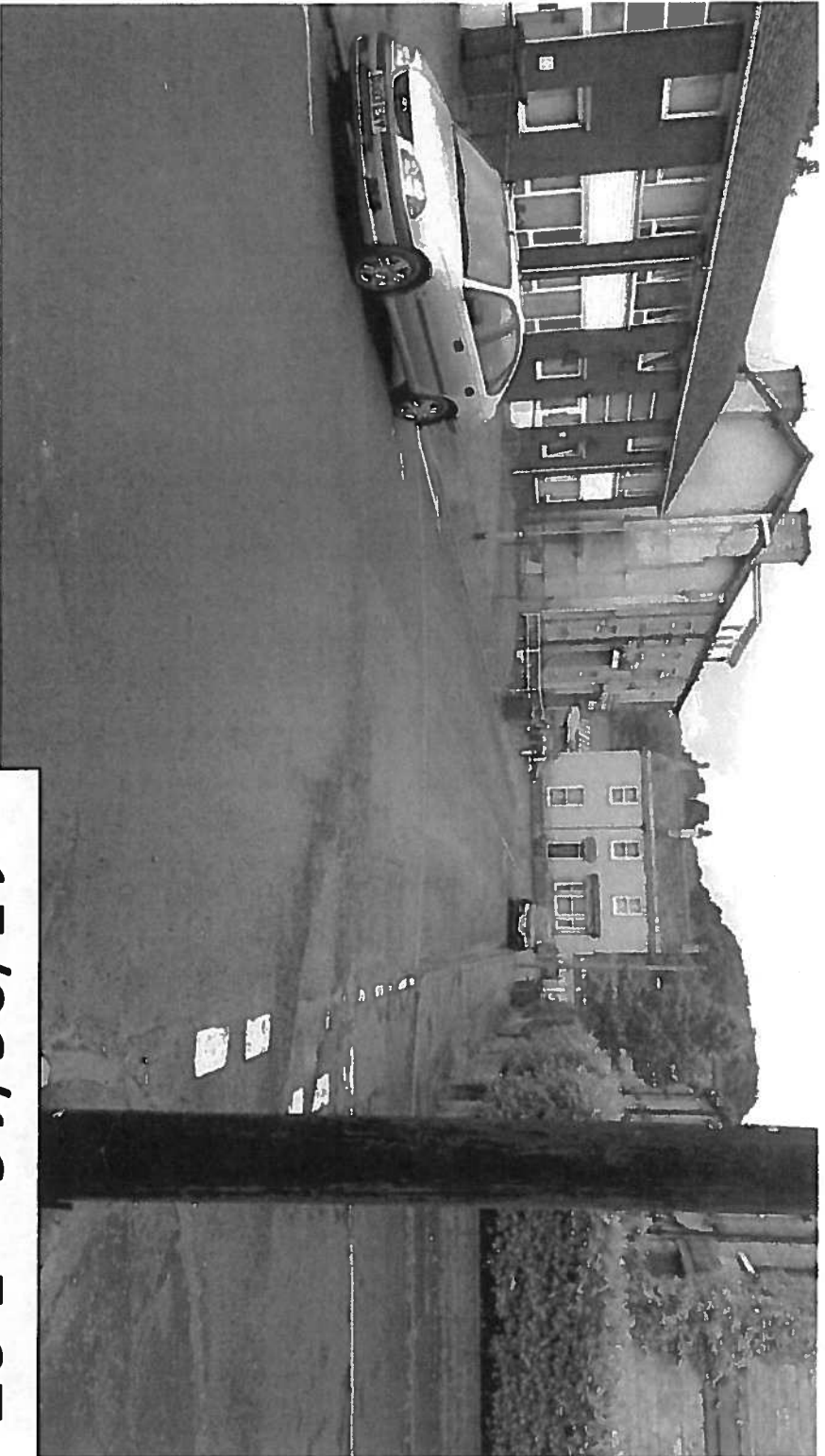
- Will the charges for permits adequately cover the resource that will be required to patrol and enforce the new restrictions? If not then where is the value for money to council tax payers?
- This surely is not good for local businesses as will reduce parking for customers
- Will encourage amongst local residents a perception that householders have exclusive rights to the road in front of their properties, and just fuel demand for resident permit holder schemes elsewhere
- Will shift those not eligible for permits onto neighbouring streets - shift the (perceived) "problem".
- Over the last few years I have noticed that there has been an increase in traffic since the opening of Kirklees College – particular on Victoria Road, Lockwood. Was a travel plan built into their application to build on their new site? If it was, has it been satisfactory achieved and if not is it being followed up and enforced?
- Since the opening of the Leisure Centre this has taken away valuable parking space in the town centre. In addition the introduction of the bus gates with the town seem to have had a detrimental impact on the streets and ring road. Just this morning (23rd June) I decided to try and park in the Springwood carpark on Castlegate but couldn't find a spot after 10 minutes of looking so head for the bus station car park where I seemed to get snarled up in traffic on Westgate therefore I headed back down Chapel Hill and parked on Victoria Road in Lockwood.

I hope to hear a favourable response to this letter. Thanks for taking the details provided into account.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Waddington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Seton Waddington



15/06/16 -- 5:27pm



14/06/16 -- 5:53pm

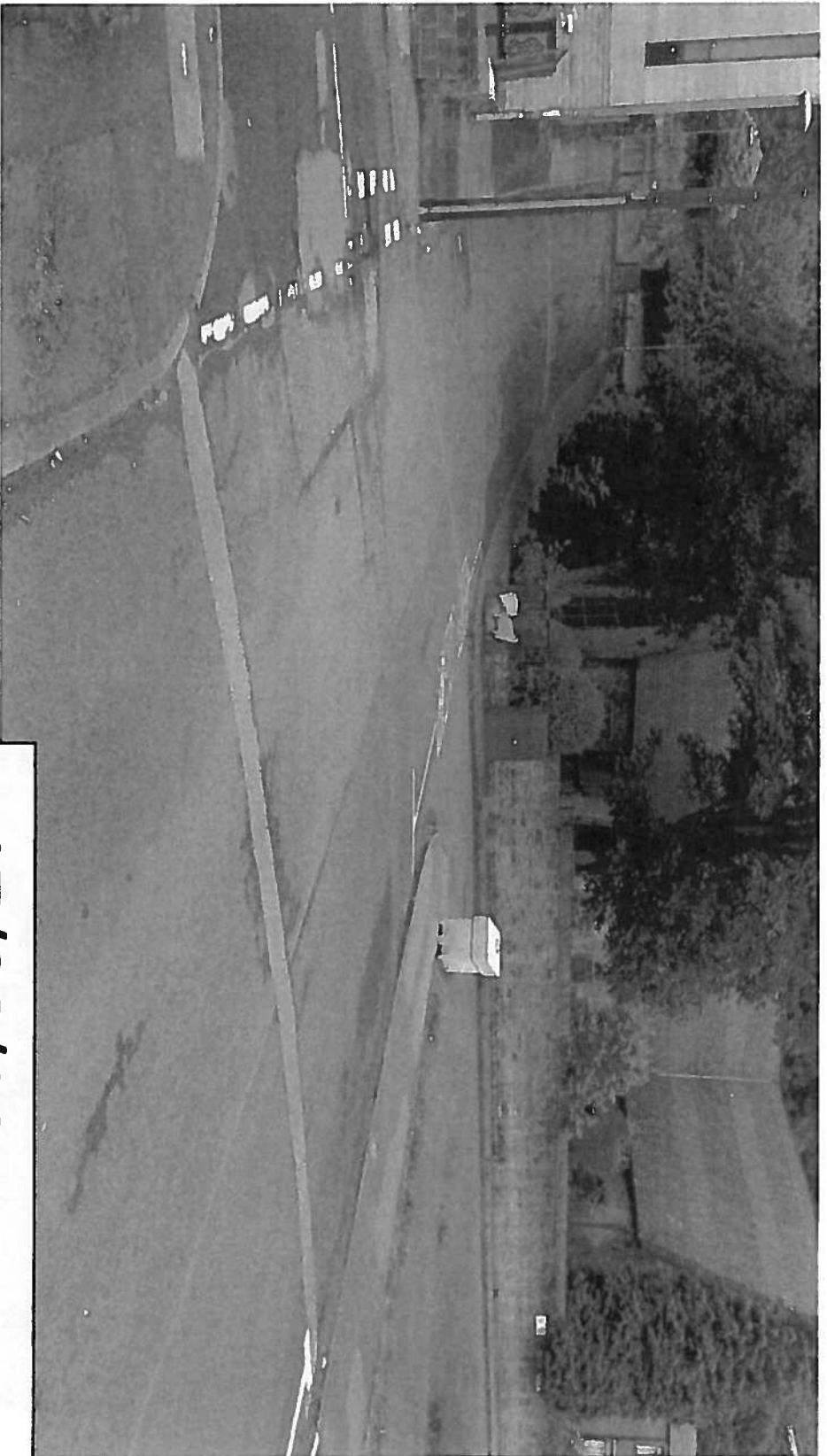


13/06/16 -- 8:10am

Report: 13/06/16
Time: 8:10am



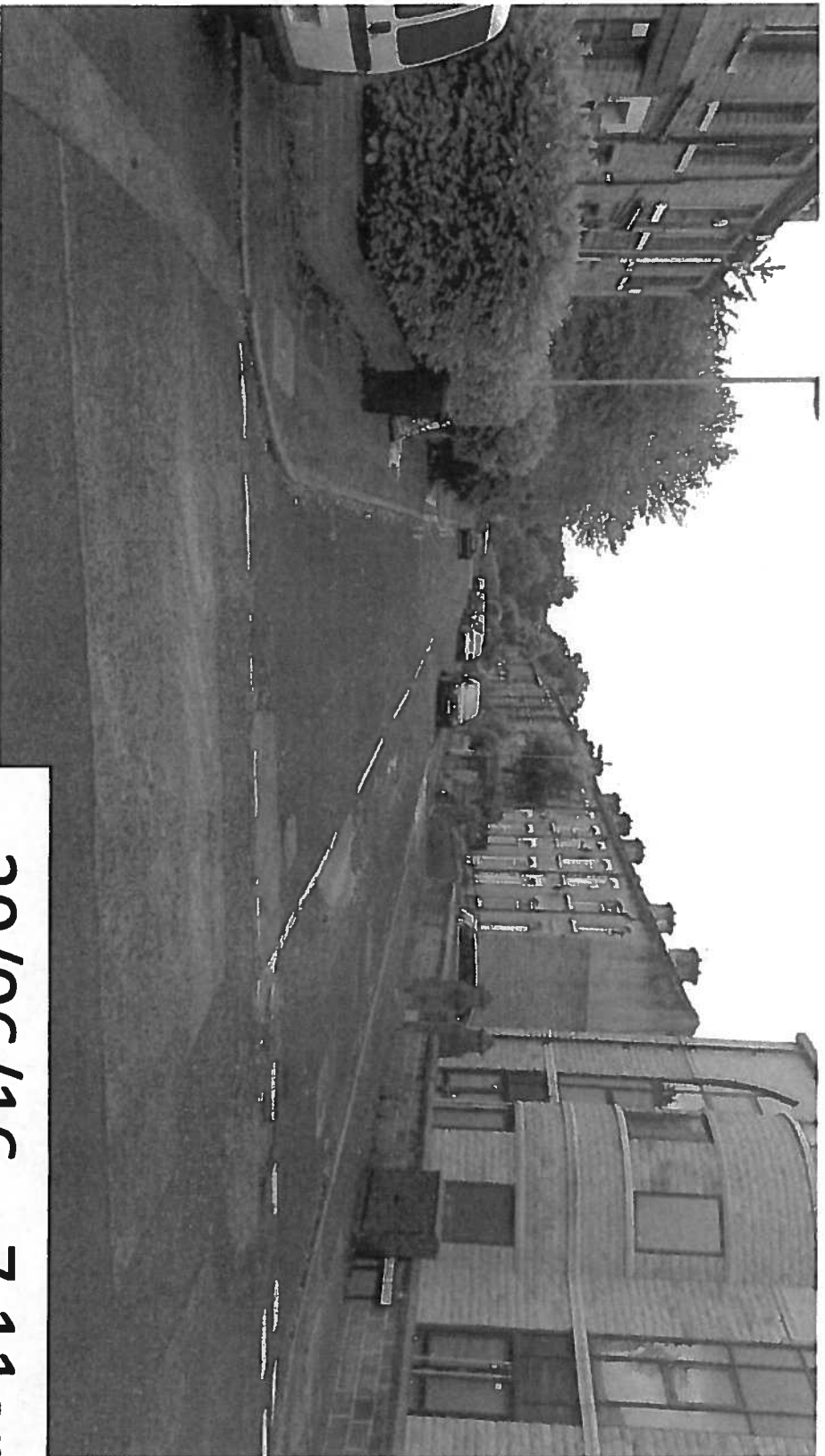
13/06/16 -- 8:08am



17/06/16 -- 7:31am



17/06/16 -- 7:31am



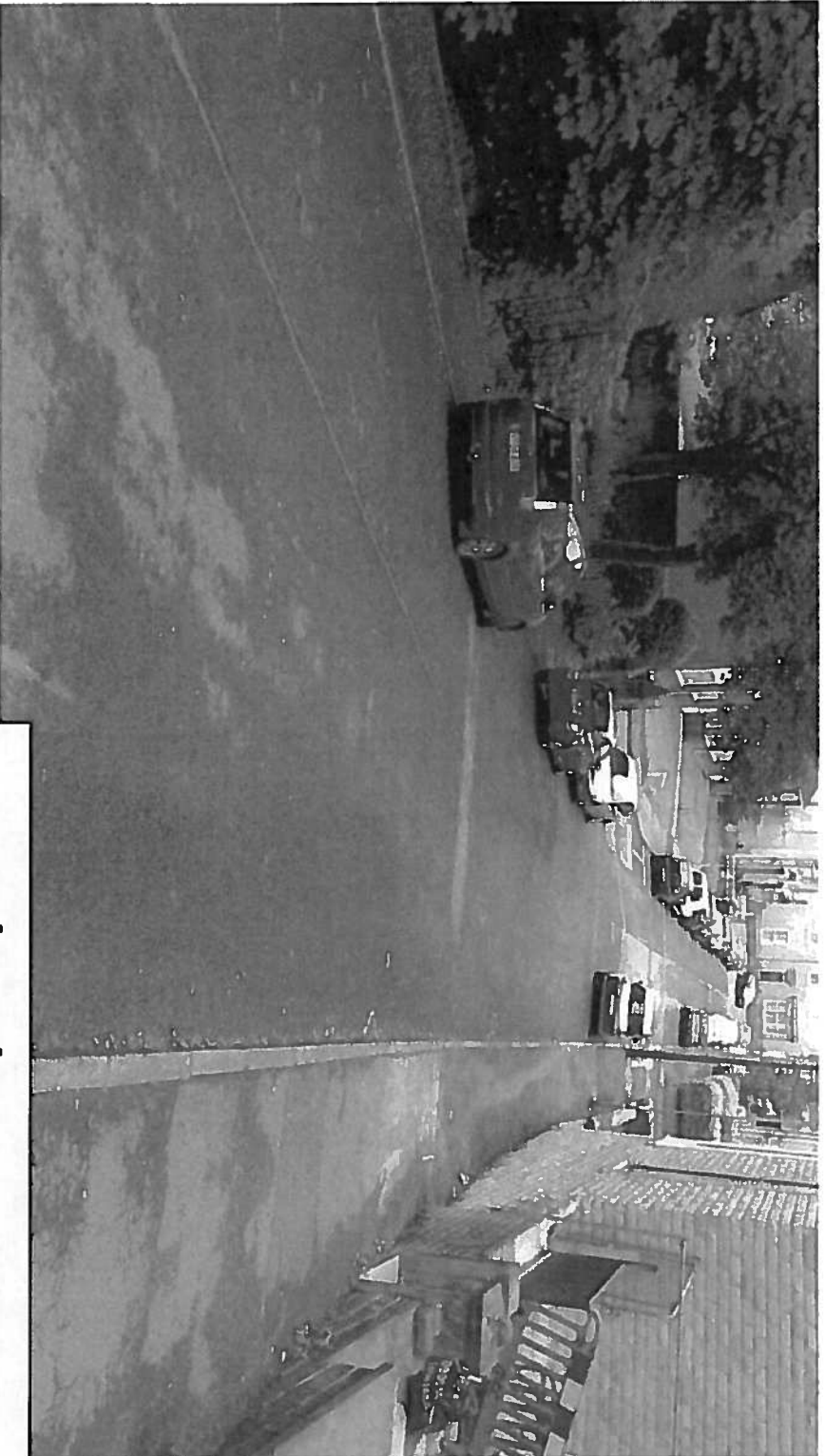
20/06/16 -- 7:11am



20/06/16 -- 7:12am

11/11/11

11/11/11



16/06/16 -- 9:03am



17/06/16 -- 7:31am