



Derek Whiteway <clerk@aldcliffewithstoddaypc.org>

Aldcliffe Road, Lancaster - Parking Issues

Townsend, Matt <Matt.Townsend@lancashire.gov.uk>

5 June 2026 at 13:17

To: Derek Whiteway <clerk@aldcliffewithstoddaypc.org>

Cc: "Dowding, Gina (Cllr)" <Gina.Dowding@lancashire.gov.uk>, "Goldsworthy, Warren (Cllr)" <warren.goldsworthy@lancashire.gov.uk>

Dear Mr Whiteway

Thank you for your email and the letter you sent earlier this week on behalf of Aldcliffe with Stodday Parish Council.

I understand that the parish council would like to see parking restrictions installed on the east side of Aldcliffe Road between Aldcliffe Hall Drive and Haverbreaks Road. At this time, we would not consider installing parking restrictions on this stretch of road. I will explain our position below.

We would only consider introducing new parking restrictions on the publicly maintainable highway in certain circumstances. In assessing requests of this nature, we consider a range of evidence, including road safety data, observed driver behaviour, and the function of the highway. Aldcliffe Road has a good road safety record, with no recorded injury collisions in the last five years. The current parking arrangement has been in place for many years without a demonstrable adverse impact on overall highway safety.

It is also important to note that much of the area used for parking lies outside the adopted highway and is not owned or maintained by Lancashire County Council. As you highlight, this land falls under the responsibility of the Canal and River Trust, and we understand they have previously indicated that they do not have concerns regarding its current use. The space also provides a valuable access point for canal users, and there are limited alternative locations nearby for this purpose.

While we recognise the difficulties the parish council describes, the removal of parking or the introduction of formal restrictions would be likely to increase vehicle speeds along this section of road. Our experience shows that parked vehicles can provide a degree of natural traffic calming, particularly where there are bends and adjacent public access points. Of course, any increase in speed could introduce new risks. In light of the above, we would not consider the introduction of parking restrictions here at this time.

As there are no parking restrictions on this stretch of Aldcliffe Road, any vehicle legally entitled to be on the highway can park here. This is as long as they comply with the Highway Code and do not park in a dangerous or obstructive manner. Should road users witness vehicles parked in such a manner, we encourage them to report this to their local policing team on their non-emergency number: 101. Alternatively, they can report them online at: ['Do It Online'](#).

As you note, we have recently installed H-bar markings, which are advisory in nature and are designed discourage parking at the informal crossing point. These markings are not intended to act as a passing place for vehicles.

We will contact the Canal and River Trust regarding the condition of their land where it meets the highway, particularly where deterioration appears to encroach onto the carriageway. This will allow us to explore whether a coordinated approach to maintenance or repair may be appropriate. However, we have recently assessed the condition of the sections of the carriageway surface that we are responsible for on Aldcliffe Road as part of our routine Highway Safety Inspections. Our most recent inspection was on 27 May 2026; we did not identify any defects that meet our criteria for repair.

Separately, we have reviewed the concerns about vegetation on the western side of the road. We completed a site visit on the morning of 4 June 2026, our assessment indicates that some of this growth is within the highway verge. We will look to arrange grass verge cutting here and removal of some of the larger self-seeded vegetation. This should help improve the available carriageway width and forward visibility for users travelling through this section.

Given this location's good safety record, we do not plan to introduce further measures or attend a site meeting at this time. However, we will continue to monitor the location through our routine inspection processes and will review the position should new evidence emerge.

I hope you this response helps explain our position.

Kind regards,

Matt Townsend

Director of Highways and Transport

Lancashire County Council

PO Box 78, Preston, PR1 0LD

T: 01772 534675

www.lancashire.gov.uk



Please note: I sometimes send emails outside of normal working hours, there is no expectation for you to respond outside of your normal working hours.

From: Derek Whiteway <clerk@aldcliffewithstoddaypc.org>

Sent: 02 June 2026 10:30

To: Goldsworthy, Warren (Cllr) <warren.goldsworthy@lancashire.gov.uk>; Townsend, Matt <Matt.Townsend@lancashire.gov.uk>

Cc: Dowding, Gina (Cllr) <Gina.Dowding@lancashire.gov.uk>

Subject: Aldcliffe Road, Lancaster - Parking Issues

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