

<b>Project:</b>	<b>Greenhead College</b>		
<b>Project No:</b>	<b>40025</b>	<b>Document Ref:</b>	<b>GRHDC-FCL-HGN-FS-TN-X-0001</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Car Parking Survey Technical Note</b>		
<b>Originator:</b>	<b>LM</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>December 2024</b>

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Greenhead College is a sixth form college located in Huddersfield. It offers a range of A-Level courses to students and is known for being one of the highest performing sixth form colleges in the country.
- 1.2. Greenhead regularly turns away large volumes of student applicants wishing to attend the college due to the limited capacity of the buildings on the site.
- 1.3. The college is continuing to review and renew their estate to manage and accommodate projected growth in student numbers over the next five years.
- 1.4. During the construction of the most recently completed building on the Greenhead College campus, an unusual planning condition was implemented on the college estate as part of the planning permission granted. This condition limits the number of students allowed on the site to 2,800 at any one time.
- 1.5. It is believed that this unusual planning condition was applied due to concerns regarding transport and the volume of car parking occurring within the local area, affecting neighbouring residents.
- 1.6. The college is very well served by public transport, being a five-minute walk from the main bus station and the main railway station in Huddersfield.
- 1.7. Huddersfield Train Station, with direct train links to Leeds, Manchester, York and beyond is only a short walk away from the college campus. Greenhead Park is also directly adjacent to the college site. These factors mean it is likely that significant volumes of parking are not college users but commuters accessing Huddersfield Train Station, Huddersfield Town Centre or people accessing Greenhead Park. Greenhead Park is a grade 2 listed park with a number of public amenities such as a café, tennis courts, a skate park and several children's play areas.
- 1.8. Flinders Chase were engaged by Greenhead College to undertake two car parking surveys around the college site, one occurring within the summer holidays, when no staff or students were present, and one occurring once the college returned for the autumn term. This assessment will show if and how the levels of parking surrounding the site change due to the activity of college users.
- 1.9. This information will then accompany an updated Travel Plan submitted to the Local Authority as evidence as to why the planning condition should be amended and that it may not meet the six planning tests.
- 1.10. The sections below set out the methodology and findings of the two surveys undertaken and draw conclusions surrounding the parking usage and availability.

## 2. Methodology and Local Area

- 2.1. The two carparking surveys were both conducted over a span of approximately three hours to assess the changes in parking throughout the morning.
- 2.2. The location of Greenhead College, Greenhead Park and the roads surveyed are indicated on Figure 2-1 below. Beyond these roads are extensive resident parking zones.

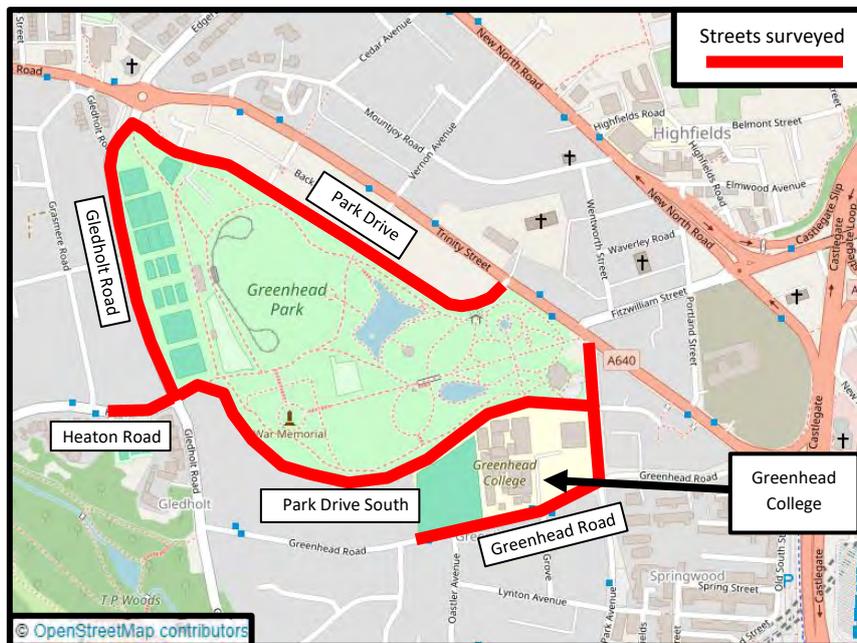


Figure 2-1 - Streets Surveyed

- 2.3. Photographs were taken at regular intervals to ensure all parked vehicles were recorded on all survey rounds, with the same photos taken each round and over both surveys to ensure consistency. Photographs for the summer survey can be seen in Appendix A and the autumn survey in Appendix B.
- 2.4. Areas of different parking restrictions exist around Greenhead College to allow either free parking with no restrictions, Timed Mon-Fri 8am – 6pm 3 hours No return within 1 hour parking or residents only parking within certain areas. These areas are shown below for the surrounding roads. It should be noted that many of the time restricted areas are made up of bays that have not been re-marked in a number of years and so are unclear in some areas. A small number of designated blue badge (disabled) bays are present close to the pedestrian entrance points into the park, these are also highlighted on Figure 2-2 below.

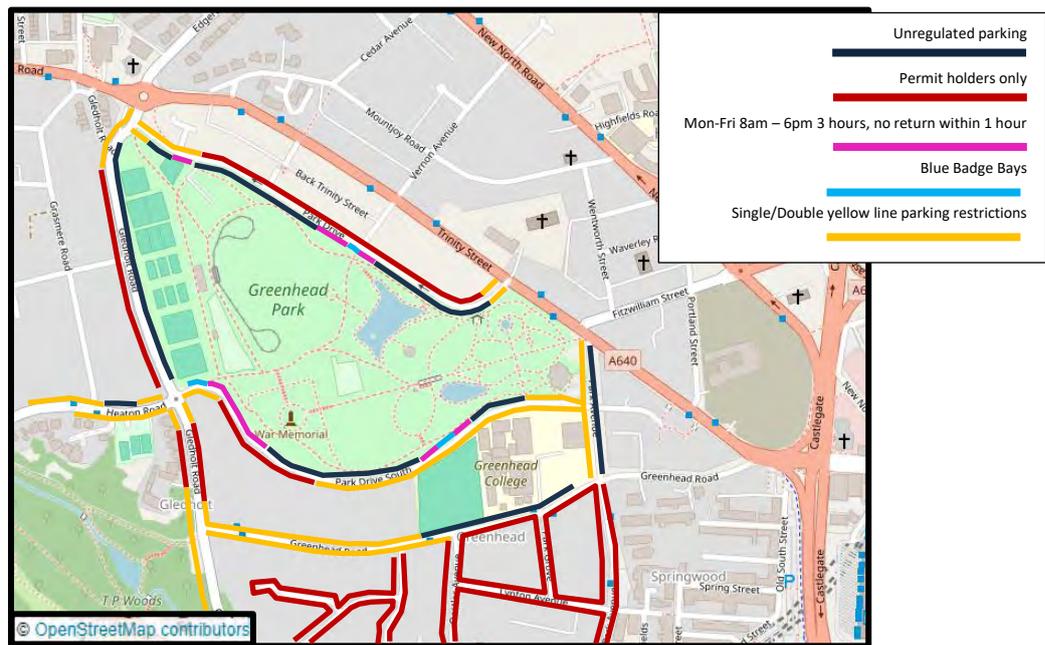


Figure 2-2 - Parking Restrictions Surrounding College Site

- 2.5. Survey photos were then collated and photographs for each round were compared to assess the number of cars that had either changed, left or parked up within the previous 45 minutes – 1 hour.
- 2.6. This report explains in detail the findings of the surveys and Appendix A and B present the pictures of the Summer and Autumn Parking Surveys respectively.

### 3. Summer Holiday Parking Survey

- 3.1. The survey undertaken within the summer holiday period was undertaken on 13 August 2024.
- 3.2. The first picture of the survey was taken at 9:37am and the final picture taken at 12:56pm to ensure that any commuters who park close to Greenhead College to access Huddersfield Train Station would likely have arrived and to capture the changeover of people visiting Greenhead Park.
- 3.3. The college was open for staff during the time of the survey but not for students. The smaller of the car parks for the staff was relatively well used, with approximately 10% of spaces spare. The larger of the car parks, located to the western end of the college site, was open and did not have any spaces occupied by cars, see Photograph 3-1 below. It is therefore likely that none of the cars parked around the college site were owned by staff at the college due to the large spare capacity of parking available on the site on the day of the survey.
- 3.4. The weather was moderate with sunny intervals. No special activities were occurring at Greenhead Park at the time of the survey which may attract a significantly larger volume of people than standard to the park.
- 3.5. It should be noted, that Gledholt Road was only included within Survey Round 2 and 3.



*Photograph 3-1 - Main College Staff Car Park – Summer Survey*

- 3.6. Overall, there was a moderately high number of cars parked around the site during the first survey round, with approximately 75% of the spaces occupied on roads around the college site. During the second and third round of the car parking survey the number of spare parking spaces decreased as people were arriving, presumably to access Greenhead Park.
- 3.7. It was noted that 15 of the approximate 17 car parking spaces located on Park Avenue, which is the closest road to Huddersfield train station and town centre that has unregulated parking and borders the eastern boundary of the college site, did not change throughout the survey period. Only two of the cars parked on this stretch of unregulated parking changed during the survey period, with no spare spaces available on any of the three rounds.
- 3.8. On Park Drive South, to the north of the Greenhead College Campus and south of Greenhead Park there is a mixture of unregulated, time regulated, resident only and blue badge bay parking. To the east of Park Drive South, which is closer to the train station and town centre, there were a number of cars parked throughout all three survey rounds. To the eastern end of Park Drive South close to a main entrance into Greenhead Park, during the first survey round, there were a significant number of spare unregulated parking spaces available for use. These spaces filled over the second and third survey rounds, suggesting that people occupying these spaces were visiting Greenhead Park.
- 3.9. Greenhead Road bounds the southern side of the Greenhead College site and has double yellow parking restrictions to the west of the road, unregulated parking on the northern side of the carriageway east of Springwood Hall Gardens and permit parking only on the southern side of the carriageway over the same stretch. There is space for approximately 21 vehicles to be parked within the unregulated parking. Throughout the survey period, all spaces were occupied, and all cars remained parked within this area, with no changeover of vehicles.
- 3.10. Throughout the length of Park Drive, which borders the northern side of Greenhead Park, on the northern side of the carriageway is designated Permit Holder parking only. On the southern side of the carriageway is areas of unregulated parking, time regulated parking and designated blue badge bays. Throughout the full survey, the parking spaces along Park Drive were over 90% occupied with approximately 40% of vehicles changing at least once during the three survey rounds undertaken.

- 3.11. The last road surveyed was Gledholt Road from its junction with Park Drive in the North and its mini-roundabout with Heaton Road and Park Drive south to the south. This section of Gledholt Road bounds the western boundary of Greenhead Park. The section of Gledholt Road to the south of the mini-roundabout was not surveyed due to all parking being designated for permit holders only. Gledholt Road was only surveyed during round 2 and 3 of the summer survey. Throughout the two survey rounds there was little movement of vehicles with approximately 35% of the number of vehicles parked either changing, parking or leaving between the two survey rounds. Throughout both survey rounds there were a small number of spare parking spaces along Gledholt Road, with a slightly larger number of approximately 10% spare places during the third survey round.
- 3.12. Overall, from the summer survey it was observed that a significant volume of parking occurs around Greenhead College site and Greenhead Park during the summer months when students are not on site and there is significant spare capacity for parking for staff on site. In general terms, the parking spaces to the east of the site, closer to Huddersfield Town centre and Huddersfield Train Station, had on average a lower percentage of spare spaces throughout the survey period and a lower turnover of vehicles. Spaces to the west of Greenhead Park were less occupied during the first round of the survey and gradually became more occupied throughout the survey rounds.

#### 4. Autumn Term Parking Survey

- 4.1. The survey undertaken within the Autumn Term was undertaken on 15 October 2024.
- 4.2. The first picture of the autumn survey was taken at 9:37am and the final picture taken at 12:03pm.
- 4.3. The college was open to both year 12 and year 13-year groups during a standard teaching week. The main car park located on the western side of the college site was very well used, this can be seen in *Photograph 4-1* below.



*Photograph 4-1 - Main College Staff Car Park – Autumn Survey*

- 4.4. The weather was overcast but dry, with light wind. No special activities were occurring at Greenhead Park at the time of the survey which may attract a significantly larger volume of people than standard to the park.
- 4.5. All roads designated within *Figure 2-1* above were surveyed in all three survey rounds.
- 4.6. As within the Summer survey, the spaces available for parking on Park Avenue were significantly well used. With over 90% of the vehicles parked within these spaces staying throughout all three survey periods. As detailed previously, these are the closest un-restricted car parking spaces located to both Greenhead College and Huddersfield Town Centre/ Train Station/ Bus Station.
- 4.7. Likewise, the Autumn and Summer surveys correspond, as to the east of Park Drive South a large proportion of the vehicles did not change throughout the three survey rounds. To the west of Park Drive South, a larger changeover of vehicles was seen, however, this number was still minimal with the majority of vehicles remaining parked throughout the three survey rounds.
- 4.8. Greenhead Road, that bounds the southern side of the Greenhead College site, had a moderate volume of parking occurring throughout the three-autumn survey rounds with a moderate turnover rate of vehicles. Four vehicles changed during the survey rounds, totalling approximately 21% of the parked vehicle spaces.
- 4.9. Park Drive, located to the north of Greenhead Park, had a significant volume of parking occurring throughout the three survey rounds. A moderate volume of changeover was witnessed mainly surrounding Vernon Avenue and the north-eastern park pedestrian access point. Smaller volume of changeover was witnessed during the Autumn Survey than during the Summer Survey.
- 4.10. Gledholt Road to the west of Greenhead Road had a moderate volume of cars parked throughout the surveyed road. Throughout the length, it was seen that a lower number of vehicles were parked than surveyed within the summer period with vehicles having larger spaces between them during the Autumn period. This area received the largest changeover of vehicles witnessed within the Autumn survey period, suggesting that these vehicles were used by people accessing Greenhead Park.
- 4.11. Overall, there was still a significant number of parked vehicles surrounding the Greenhead College site and Greenhead Park, with little turnover of vehicles especially to the eastern roads surveyed. Gledholt Road has the lowest density of parked cars in addition to the highest turnover of cars over the three survey rounds. The majority of the vehicles parked within the surveyed areas did not arrive/ leave/ change during the survey rounds.

## 5. Conclusions

- 5.1. It was found that over both surveys, there was a significant volume of parking occurring surrounding the Greenhead College site and Greenhead Park. In most areas, the volume of parking was relatively consistent between the two time-periods, with the density of parking occurring on Gledholt Road being lower during the Autumn Period than the Summer Period.
- 5.2. By assessing the parking occurring around Greenhead College and Greenhead Park, it appears that a large number of the vehicles are from commuters accessing transport hubs and/or the

town centre. There was no difference in the levels of car parking on the roads closest to Huddersfield town centre during term-time or non-term time.

- 5.3. There is no evidence that the observed parking on the local highway is staff car parking. A travel survey was undertaken on the staff cohort in Autumn 2024. All staff who responded to the survey and indicated that they drove to the college site regularly, indicated that they parked on-site in the college car parks and not on local highways.

Location	Appendix A – Summer Photographs and Details		
1			
	9:37am	10:18am	11:27am
	2		
9:37am		10:18am	11:28am
3			
	9:37am	10:18am	11:28am

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	<p>11:01am</p>	<p>12:09pm</p>	<p>12:50pm</p>
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		<p>12:11pm</p>	<p>12:52pm</p>
<p>51</p>			
		<p>12:12pm</p>	<p>12:53pm</p>

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		12:12pm	12:53pm
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		12:15pm	12:55pm
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		12:15pm	12:56pm

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Location	Appendix B - Photographs and Details		
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	9:37am		
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	9:37am	10:34am	11:23am
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	9:37am	10:34am	11:23am

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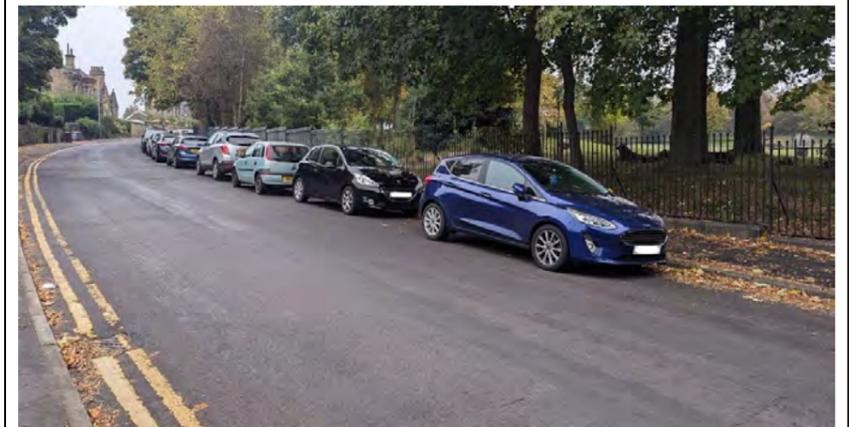
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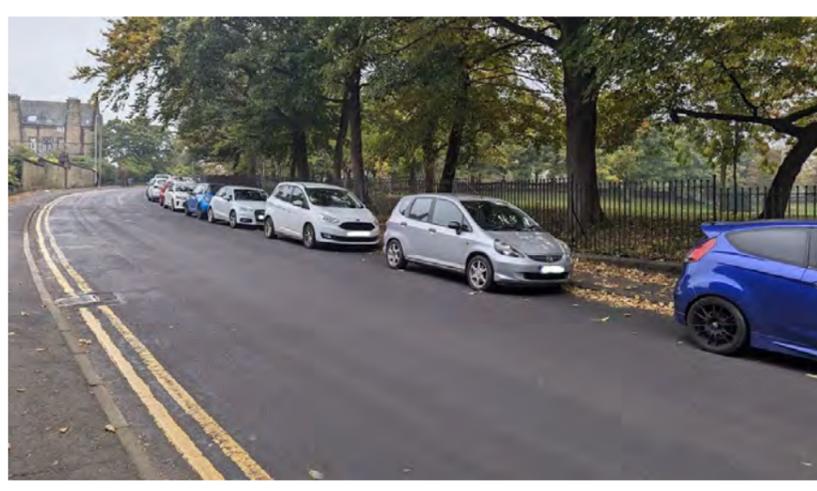


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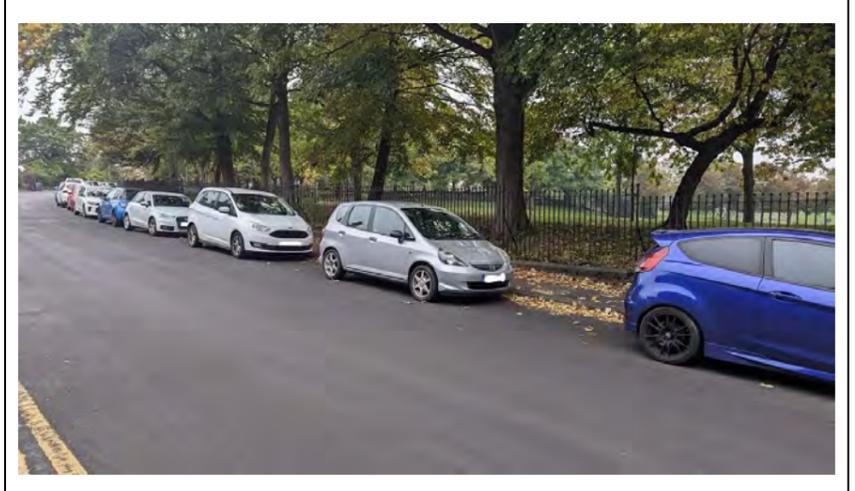
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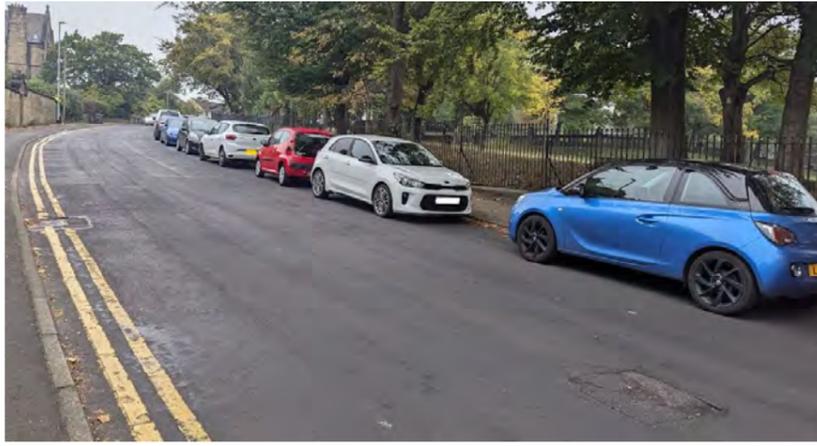


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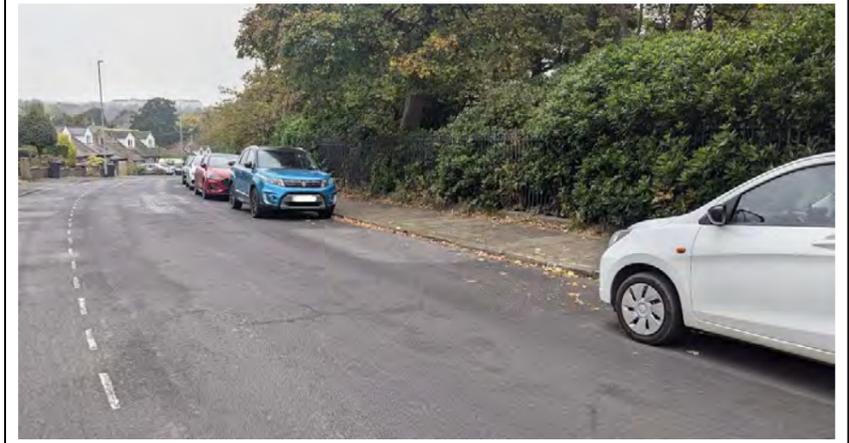
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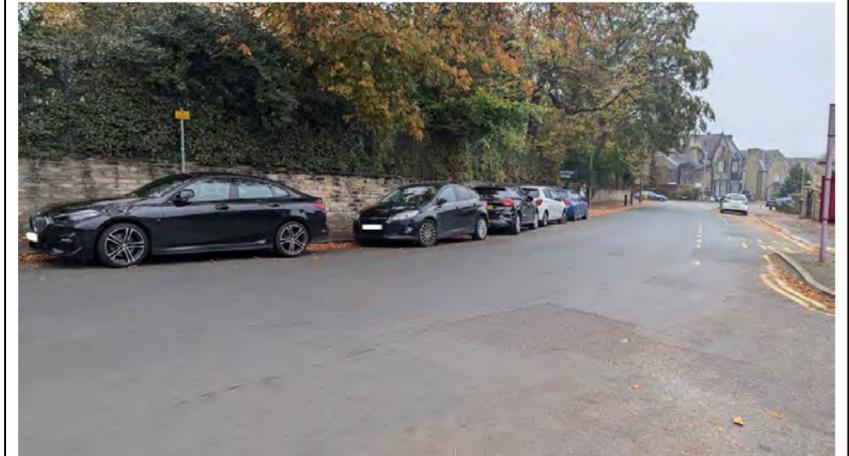
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