

ANGUS COUNCIL**ROADS COMMITTEE****5 JUNE 1997**

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
CONGESTION AT NORTHMUIR PRIMARY SCHOOL, KIRRIEMUIR

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS**ABSTRACT**

This report discusses the problems of congestion at Northmuir Primary School caused by parents delivering their children to school and collecting them from school by car, and the costs of providing improved car parking at the school.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee agree to provide extra road-side parking at Northmuir Primary School as detailed in the accompanying plan.

2 INTRODUCTION

For a number of years now there has been local concern about the level of congestion around Northmuir Primary School caused by parents' cars as they deliver to or collect children from the school. Amendments were made to the waiting restrictions on Shiellhill Road to try and ease the problem and this has been of some success. Nevertheless the demand for parking outside the school can still lead to congestion, particularly when parents arrive early and wait to pick up their children.

3 DETAILS

- (i) Report No 249/96 'Road Safety - Safe Routes to School' approved by the Roads Committee on 25 April 1996, discussed the safety of children on their way to school and the possibility of implementing appropriate Traffic Engineering measures to help assist their safety. Para (iii) of that report stated:-

"In our modern society many parents choose to take their children to school by car even where the journey could be easily achieved on foot or on a cycle The presence of so many vehicles arriving at and leaving the school at the same time can cause congestion and parking problems in the surrounding streets and very often it is this volume of traffic which generates the most complaints from parents".

- (ii) The problems being experienced at Northmuir are not unique to this school, there are many other Angus schools where similar problems exist. Nationally it is estimated that 20% of rush hour traffic is generated by schools.

Northmuir however is one of the larger primary schools in Angus and therefore generates a greater than average number of car related journeys.

- (iii) At Northmuir there is a section of old road opposite the school which is currently used by parents and there have been suggestions that parking at the school could be increased by making better use of this area of ground.

At the south end of this old road parents park on the grass verge and have created a muddy parking area which could be improved by surfacing.

Essential maintenance of the existing lay-by is also required and this can be carried out at the same time as providing the additional parking.

The north section forms a cul-de-sac which is not very practical for parking. By opening this up, better use could be made of this area to provide extra parking spaces.

The attached plan details the proposals.

4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The estimated cost of the improved parking facility is £15,000. £6,000 of this can be met from the 1997/98 Capital Allocation of £75,000 for safe routes to schools with respect to the improved parking situation. The balance of £9,000 can be met from the structural/cyclic maintenance revenue budget for 1997/98.

Loan charges will amount to £800 per annum over a 15 year period.

Any increased maintenance costs will be contained within the structural and cyclic maintenance revenue budget.

5 **CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration, the Director of Finance and the Director of Education have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 **CONCLUSION**

Despite the provision of double yellow lines on Shiellhill Road in the area of the school there are still problems of parking and congestion at school times. It is therefore felt that expenditure for improved parking here can be justified.

Dr Bob McLellan
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

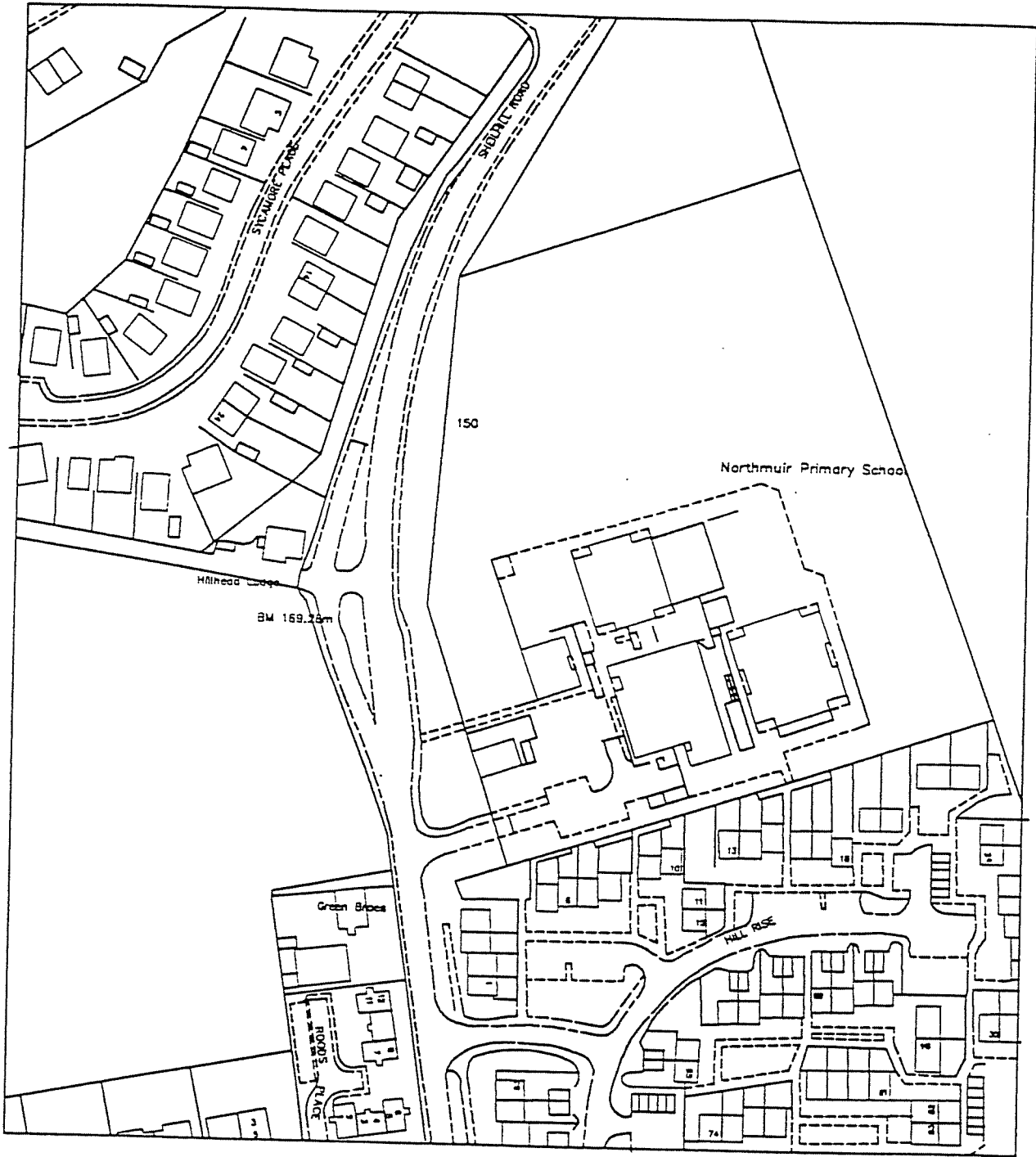
NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:-

Report No 249/96 - Safe Routes to School - Approved by Angus Council Roads Committee on 25 April 1996.

Report No 977/96 - Road Safety - Safe Routes to School - Approved by Angus Council Roads Committee on 28 November 1996.

NJ/JSG
26 May 1997
REPORTS/safe.routes




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<h3 style="margin: 0;">Northmuir Primary School</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">Location of Proposed Parking Area</p>			
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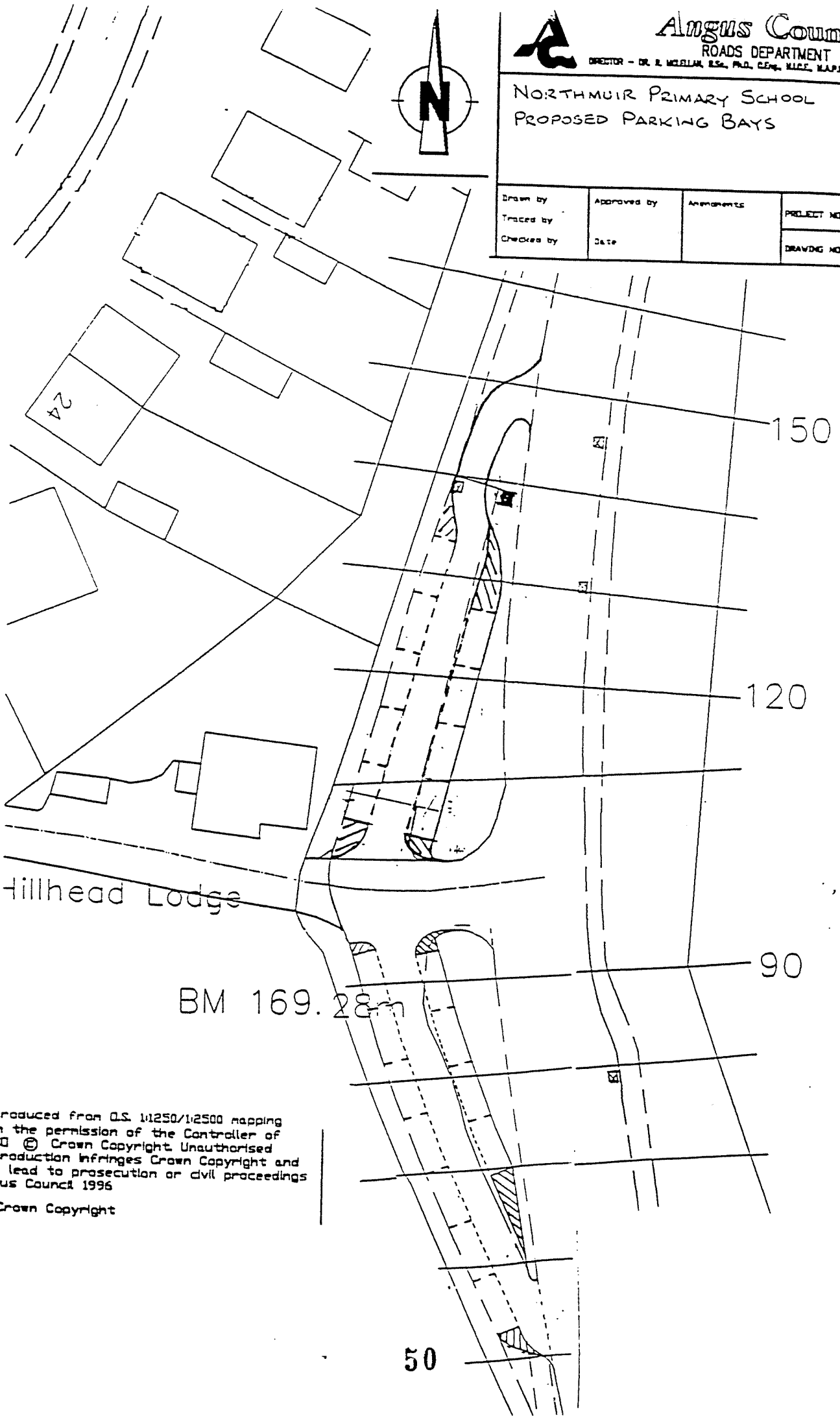
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NORTHMUIR PRIMARY SCHOOL
PROPOSED PARKING BAYS



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