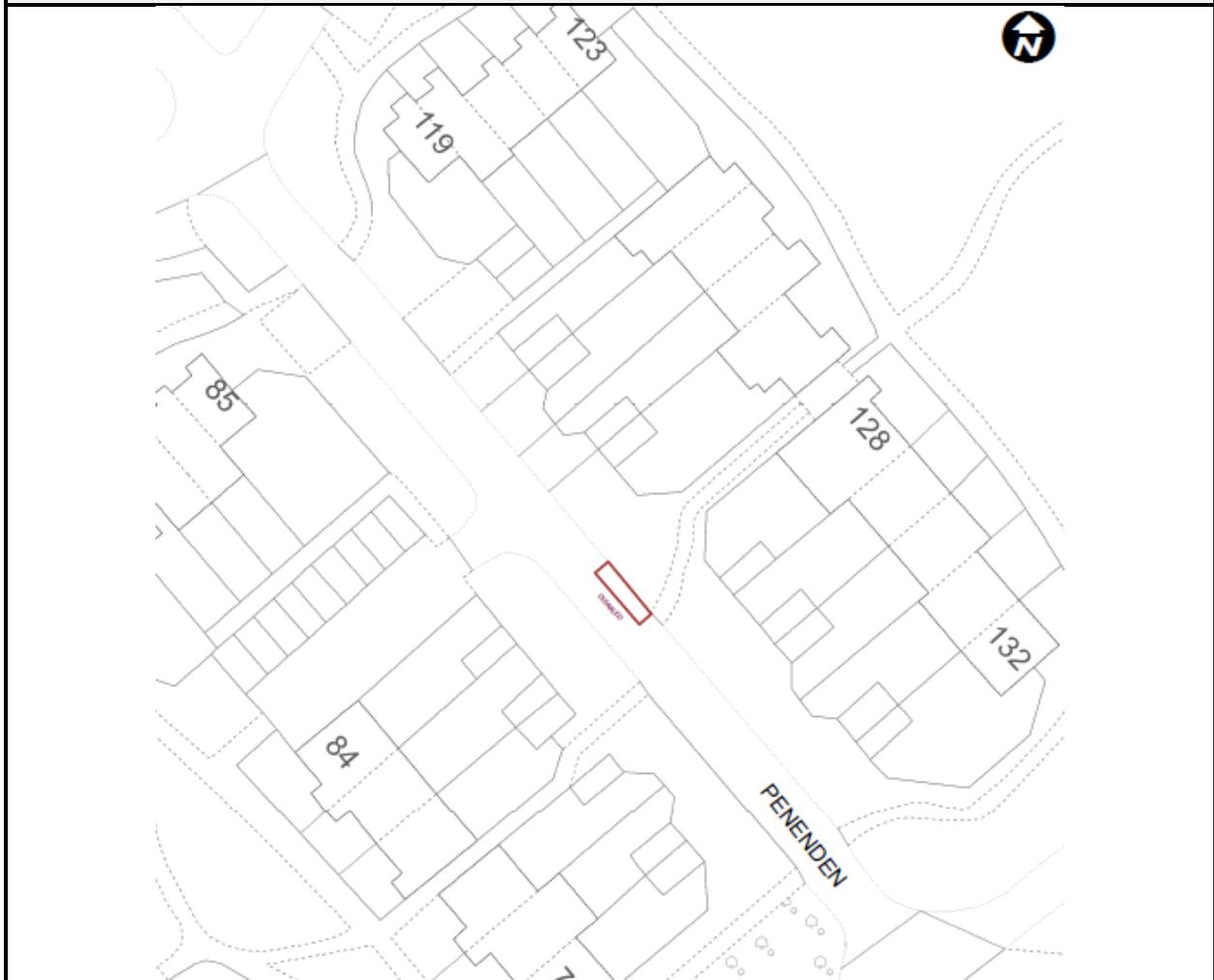


APPENDIX 2(ii) - FOR CONSIDERATION

Application for a disabled persons (blue badge) parking bay which meets Kent County Council's assessment criteria, together with a location plan and Officers' comments

NEW ASH GREEN: Penenden



INFORMAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

1. I have a few thoughts around this application as follows:
Parking on Penenden, as most places, is at a premium at present. One reason being is that garages are not being used, as cars are much bigger now, they won't fit it! Bushes have been removed next to the garage (of the applicant). Could this not be used for extra width on the driveway! It appears the residents have a 2nd car so they would have 1 car on the driveway and 1 car in the disabled bay. If allowed. Would this be fair?
Residents have been asking for some time for extra parking spaces, however the Residents Society say this is not possible! In my opinion there are several spaces that could be used for parking.
I have sympathy for the resident in question, however I believe another resident is disabled, would that mean if they parked on there would that cause a problem?

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2.	I would question that a reserved disabled bay is required as all the properties have a dedicated driveway attached to the rear of each house with gated access to the rear garden from the driveway. I would therefore like to register my view that the disabled bay application be rejected as parking on the road is always busy and spaces are always at a premium and the loss of space will cause inconvenience to many residents.
3.	We are vehemently opposed to a blue badge bay as there is not a requirement for a disabled resident to have further parking. Each of the properties in the vicinity has its own parking bay in the form of a short driveway in front of their own garage. If the application is from a resident other than from numbers 124-132 & 79-84 then there are parking bays that do not cause an obstruction closer to those homes. From our own driveway a car parked in the position indicated would block our vision when pulling out and could cause an accident. One other possible consideration is the fact that a number of properties in Penenden are being rented and regularly change residents; if the application is from one such resident then in the future the space will be obsolete. Please do not grant this unnecessary application.
4.	The Amenity Committee of New Ash Green Village Association has no objection to the provision of a disabled persons parking bay in Penenden, in the location shown.
5.	The Penenden Residents Committee has no objections to the position of the proposed disabled bay. We have not contacted the residents in the area about the proposed bay, and are only confirming that the proposed position does not block any paths/access.

OFFICERS' COMMENTS & PROPOSALS

COMMENTS

This application for a disabled persons (blue badge) parking bay meets personal and locational assessment criteria.

A parking bay is required on the public highway to provide for the applicant's mobility and accessibility needs, as the applicant is currently unable to use their off-street parking due to their disability.

Parking already takes place in the location of the proposed parking bay, and hence the provision of a parking bay is unlikely to worsen visibility from adjoining driveways.

Adaptations are planned to the applicant's hardstanding, which it is hoped will enable them to use their off-street parking. If the parking bay is no longer required once these adaptations have been completed, it can be removed.

PROPOSED ACTION

That, subject to any comments, the application be approved, and an interim disabled persons (blue badge) parking bay be marked.

The need for the parking bay will be reassessed, once the planned adaptations to the applicant's hardstanding are completed.