**Proposals to solve parking issues at Newtown NNR**

**September 2020**

At busy times, and particularly during this summer there have been excessive degrees of parking on the narrow road and verges between Noahs Ark and Fleetlands Farm entrance, by people wanting to avoid parking charges, gain access to the NNR and launch kayaks at Cassey Bridge slipway. This has obstructed traffic, spoilt the quiet nature of the area, put pressure of the slipway and the number of small craft accessing the Estuary at high tide times, and annoyed local residents.

**It is proposed to install earth banks** as shown on accompanying maps, with the material being won from a ditch excavated on the inside of the bank on the east side of the road and for some of this material to be used for constructing the bank on the west side of the road where the verge is narrow and there are underground services.

Dimensions approx. 2.5m wide X 0.5m high with 45 degree batter. The foot of the earth bank would be set in 0.5m from the edge of the metalled highway.

Permission from Natural England (SSSI designation), IWC Planning, and Conservation Area designation would need to be sought.

**It is proposed to create a small parking area** south of Cassey Bridge to provide limited parking for cars launching small craft – up to 6 cars. The **creation of a clearway** would make it illegal to park anywhere else along the road. People would be advised that they have to park in the NT car park or find another time when there is an available parking space.

This parking area would be created by clearing a narrow band of scrub (35m X 3m) and laying the chipped material on the ground. There is enough thickness of remaining scrub to retain a screen against the estuary and for the parking not to be too intrusive when viewed from the north side. There is a mains electric cable overhead, but the addition of an extra telegraph pole would raise the cable enough to clear cars. It is currently hanging at a height of about 9 m at its lowest point.

Permission would need to be sought from Natural England (SSSI), IWC planning and BT approached to see if they are willing to install an extra telegraph pole (contribution to helping to protect the NNR?) Permission from the land owner – Land Registry search required and an agreement for future maintenance of the parking area.