

## Pownal Planning Board

Site Walk for Royal River Conservation Trust Proposed Parking Lot on Elmwood Rd.  
Attendees gathered at 4:00 pm on Thursday Nov. 5 2020 at the Site

Planning Board Members attending: Matt St Cyr, John Bowdren, Jesse Peters Marika Clark, Matt Altieri

Public Attending: Alan Stearns from RRCT, Bob Humphrey from RRCT, Heidi Curry - Select Board Member, Alice Kirkpatrick, Richard Connelly, Marcia Bowen, Jonathan Dawson, Marie Wendt

The Site walk started at 4:00 pm Alan Sterns showed where the proposed driveway was flagged and where it would enter from Elmwood road and pointed out the site distances (425 feet) along Elmwood and showed the signed Maine DOT Driveway/ Entrance permit they applied for and received, dated Oct. 20th, 2020, Alan noted that several Trees would have to be removed and tall grasses cut in the summer months, stressing that they would like to save as many trees as possible and also trimming up some branches for visibility. The Plan showed a 20 foot wide driveway (to allow 2 vehicles to pass) going back into the property 40 feet and then a parking lot for four (4) cars on a flat area that would have gravel. Alan pointed out wet areas to both sides of the parking lot and where the parking lot would intersect with the existing Trail on the abutting lot and where a small kiosk for hikers would go. Questions were asked about the Town owned Lot across the street and no plans at this point are contemplated to have parking Public parking or an extended trail connecting. Matt St Cyr asked if the DOT would put in writing that the sight lines would still be approved if the speed limit were raised to 50+ MPH and Alan said he would find out, the thought being that vehicles travel very fast now along this winding stretch of road. Matt S asked if the RRCT was open to having more than 4 spaces available, other PB members expressed an willingness to grant more spaces to keep people from parking along the road, a major concern. Alan said that at and after 5 parking spaces they would add a handicapped labelled spot. Matt S asked who would trim the grasses and limbs going forward, Alan said RRCT members and volunteers would do that and that it could be added to the permit as a condition of approval. Questions about Trail use included bicycle use along the trail and Alan mentioned that of the 5 properties the trail crosses 4 of them prohibit bicycle use. There will be no lighting as that seems to attract unwanted nighttime use, also no trash barrels are contemplated. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm

Respectfully submitted.  
John Bowdren