

COUNTIES OF DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND

TYNE TUNNEL

BYELAWS

made by the County Councils of the Administrative Counties of Durham and Northumberland pursuant to Section 67 of the Tyne Tunnel Act 1946.

I.—INTERPRETATION.

1.—(1) In these byelaws, unless the subject or context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:-

"the Councils" means the County Council of the Administrative County of Durham and the County Council of the Administrative County of Northumberland;

"the Committee" means the Tyne Tunnel Joint Committee appointed by the Councils pursuant to section 66 of the Tyne Tunnel Act 1946;

"the tunnel" means and includes the tunnel for vehicular traffic with approach roads at each end constructed under the River Tyne between Jarrow in the County of Durham and Howdon in the County of Northumberland and described as Work No.2 in the Tyne Tunnel Act 1960, together with the buildings, works and land used or connected therewith, but excluding the administration precinct and adjoining car park;

"the cyclist and pedestrian tunnels" means and includes the two tunnels for cyclist and pedestrian traffic constructed under the River Tyne between Jarrow and Howdon aforesaid in accordance with the Tyne Tunnel Act 1946 together with the access passages, escalators, lifts, buildings, approach paths and steps and other works or land used or connected therewith;

"the tunnel approaches" means and includes the approach roads and new streets constructed pursuant to the Tyne Tunnel Acts 1946 to 1960 except the portions thereof which are included in and form part of the tunnel;

"the tunnel area" means and includes the tunnel and the tunnel approaches;

"the tunnels" means and includes the tunnel, the cyclist and pedestrian tunnels, the tunnel approaches, the landscaped areas adjacent thereto, and the administration precinct and adjoining car park;

"the Tunnel Manager" means the Tunnel Manager appointed by the Committee or any person authorised by him under byelaw 4 of these byelaws to exercise any function or functions on his behalf;

"traffic officer" means and includes the Tunnel Manager and any officer or servant of the Committee authorised in writing by the Tunnel Manager to carry out duties in relation to the regulation direction and control of traffic in the tunnels;

"member of the tunnel staff" includes any person employed by the Councils or the Committee and engaged in the administration, operation, supervision, maintenance or repair of the tunnels;

"vehicle" includes trailers;

"driver" includes "rider";

"drive" includes "ride".

"flammable liquid" means any liquid which gives off an inflammable vapour at a temperature of less than 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

(2) In byelaw 32 the expression "pedal bicycle or tricycle" shall not include any pedal bicycle or tricycle fitted with an auxiliary electrical or internal combustion engine.

(3) In byelaw 26(3)(b) the expression "duly authorised" means authorised by the Tunnel Manager in writing.

(4) In byelaw 27 the expression "duly authenticated document" means a document signed by the Joint Clerks of the Committee.

2.—The Interpretation Act 1889 shall apply to the interpretation of these byelaws as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3.—Nothing in these byelaws shall apply so as to restrict the execution of duties or the carrying out of works or services in the tunnels by any officers or servants of the Committee or of the Councils or by any duly authorised agents or contractors of the Committee or of the Councils or by any police or fire officer.

4.—For the purposes of exercising each or any of the functions conferred on him by these byelaws the Tunnel Manager may in his discretion authorise in writing such members of the tunnel staff as he may think fit to exercise such function or functions on his behalf.

II.—REGULATION OF TRAFFIC.

5.—No person shall use the tunnel except for the purpose of travelling on or in a vehicle from the tunnel approaches on one side of the River Tyne to the tunnel approaches on the other side of that river.

6.—The driver of a vehicle in the tunnel area shall comply with all signals and instructions given by a traffic officer.

7.—The driver of a vehicle in the tunnel shall keep to the left side of the road.

8.—(a) The maximum speed for a vehicle in the tunnel shall be 30 miles an hour, and subject to paragraph (b) hereof, the minimum speed shall be 10 miles an hour except where prevented by other vehicles or at the toll booths and other places where stops or a lower speed are unavoidable or are permitted or directed by a traffic officer.

(b) No person shall drive into the tunnel, except in accordance with such directions as shall be given to him by the Tunnel Manager any vehicle which is incapable of maintaining a speed of 10 miles an hour.

9.—Subject to the provisions of byelaws 26 and 27 the driver of a vehicle using the tunnel shall, except in compliance with traffic signals or orders given by traffic officers, or unless prevented by traffic or other unavoidable cause:-

(a) proceed without stopping to the toll booths;

(b) not proceed further until he has paid the amount of toll for the vehicle authorised to be demanded and taken pursuant to the provisions of the Tyne Tunnel Act 1960 unless he or his vehicle be exempted therefrom; and

(c) having paid the said toll or being exempted therefrom drive straight on and, without stopping, leave the vehicular tunnel at the opposite end from which he entered it.

10.—Except and subject as is provided in byelaw 9, the driver of a vehicle on or in the tunnel approaches shall proceed along the carriageways without stopping.

Provided that this byelaw shall not prohibit:-

(a) Omnibuses from stopping at recognised bus stops and

(b) vehicles from stopping in the lay-bys provided.

11.—The driver of a vehicle in the tunnel shall not, unless authorised by a traffic officer, cause his vehicle to:-

(a) cross the lines or marks separating traffic lanes.

(b) overtake any other vehicle.

12.— The driver of a vehicle in the tunnel shall keep that vehicle in gear except when the vehicle is stationary.

13.— The driver of a vehicle in the tunnel shall maintain a safe and prudent distance between his own vehicle and the one immediately in front of it.

14.—Any vehicle towed into the tunnel shall be secured by means of towing equipment which is sufficient for the purpose.

15.—No person shall drive into the tunnel any vehicle which is not provided with sufficient petrol or other fuel and mechanical power to ensure that it maintains the minimum speed specified in these byelaws and is able to traverse the tunnel.

16.—The driver of a vehicle in the tunnel shall not use any forward facing lamp other than side lights or dim dipped headlamps.

17.—In the event of a vehicle in the tunnel being unable to proceed because of traffic congestion, the driver of such vehicle shall, when instructed by a traffic officer or by a traffic sign but not otherwise, stop the engine of such vehicle and shall not start the engine again until able to proceed on his journey.

18.—No person shall refuel any vehicle in the tunnel.

19.—No person shall except with the permission of a traffic officer undertake any repairs to a vehicle or change a tyre or wheel of a vehicle in the tunnel.

20.—If the driver of a vehicle in the tunnel area refuses to move the vehicle when ordered to do so by a traffic officer or if a vehicle in the tunnel area is unable to proceed because of a breakdown it shall be lawful for it to be removed at the cost and expense of the owner or person in charge of the vehicle by members of the tunnel staff to a place in the

tunnel area directed by the Tunnel Manager and no person shall obstruct any such member or members of the tunnel staff in carrying out such removal.

21.—Any driver of a vehicle overtaken by sudden illness or incapacity of such a nature as to impair or impede his ability to drive or control the vehicle shall not drive the vehicle into the tunnel and if the driver of a vehicle is overtaken by such illness or incapacity when in the tunnel he shall stop his vehicle at once and await the assistance of a person legally entitled to drive the said vehicle.

III.—FIRE PRECAUTIONS

22.—No person in the tunnel shall:-

- (a) smoke or carry a lighted pipe, cigar or cigarette;
- (b) ignite any match or lighter or expose any flame.

23.—In the event of a fire occurring in the tunnel, no person shall obstruct any member of the tunnel staff in his efforts to extinguish it.

24.—The use in the tunnel of any fire extinguishers other than those provided by the Councils, the Committee or Fire Brigades is prohibited. Provided that nothing in this byelaw shall prevent the driver of a vehicle or any passenger therein using any fire extinguisher carried on that vehicle to extinguish a fire.

25.—No person shall drive into the tunnel any vehicle containing hay, straw, or other similar combustible material unless the same be secured and covered to the satisfaction of the Tunnel Manager.

IV.—DANGEROUS TRAFFIC.

26.—(1) No person shall, except with the consent of the Tunnel Manager, take or cause or permit to be taken into the tunnel any vehicle carrying any goods, substances or articles of a dangerous nature including (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing):-

- (a) any inflammable liquid;
- (b) corrosive substances;
- (c) compressed gasses (whether permanent or liquefiable) in cylinders;
- (d) empty compressed gas cylinders;
- (e) loaded firearms or any explosive within the meaning of the Explosives Acts 1875 and 1923 or any Order in Council made thereunder, or any explosive substance as defined by the Explosive Substances Act 1883;
- (f) petroleum or petroleum-spirit within the meaning of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928 or any Order in Council made thereunder (other than petroleum or oil carried by a vehicle for use only in connection with the propulsion of that vehicle); and
- (g) any empty petrol or other tank wagons which have contained any inflammable liquid,

(2) The consignor of any goods, substances or articles referred to in paragraph (1) of this byelaw shall give or cause to be given to the Tunnel Manager a written declaration as to the nature and quantity of such goods, substances or articles, and the person in charge of any empty petrol or other tank wagon shall give or cause to be given to the Tunnel Manager a written declaration as to the nature of the substance or substances last carried in such wagon.

(3) The permission of the Tunnel Manager under paragraph (1) of this byelaw, if granted, shall be subject to the following conditions, namely:-

- (a) no person shall drive into the tunnel any vehicle to which paragraph (1) of this byelaw applies except with such escort of traffic officers as may be directed or required by the Tunnel Manager and the driver of every such vehicle shall take and comply with such other precautionary measures as the Tunnel Manager shall consider to be expedient;
- (b) any driver of a vehicle to which paragraph (1) of this byelaw applies not accompanied by a person legally entitled to drive the said vehicle shall, if the Tunnel Manager so requires, admit into the driving cab of the vehicle a duly authorised member of the tunnel staff who shall be capable of stopping the vehicle in the event of sudden illness or incapacity overtaking the driver while in the vehicular tunnel.

(4) The driver of every vehicle to which paragraph (1) of this byelaw applies and who is proceeding in a northerly direction shall stop on arriving at the traffic control office at the Durham end of the tunnel and shall not proceed further into the tunnel until he has received the permission of the Tunnel Manager under this byelaw.

27.—For the purposes of enforcing byelaw 26 every person in the tunnel shall allow the Tunnel Manager to search any vehicle or package brought to the tunnel by such person and the Tunnel Manager, on producing if so required some duly authenticated document showing his authority, may open any such package if he has reason to suspect that such package contains any goods, substances or articles referred to in paragraph (1) of such byelaw the necessary permission for the entry of which has not been duly granted,

V.—EXCLUDED TRAFFIC.

28.—No person shall take or cause or permit to be taken into the tunnel any horse drawn vehicle and, except it be conveyed as the load or part of the load of any vehicle, any pedal bicycle or tricycle or any animal.

29.—No person shall take or cause or permit to be taken into the tunnel any of the following vehicles:-

- (a) vehicles which emit smoke, visible vapour, grit, sparks, ashes, cinders or oily substance in a manner which contravenes any Regulations for the time being in force under the Road Traffic Act, 1960 or any amendment thereof, relating to the construction and use of motor vehicles;
- (b) vehicles which in the opinion of the Tunnel Manager, are in such a condition or are so loaded, built or equipped as to be likely to retard traffic, injure persons or damage property;
- (c) vehicles which are conveying faecal or offensive or noxious matter or any other substance which in the opinion of the Tunnel Manager is being carried or conveyed in such manner as to be or be likely to give rise to a nuisance to any person or to injure any person or to damage property.

VI.—SPECIAL TYPE VEHICLES.

30.—(1) No person shall take or permit or cause to be taken into the tunnel, without the written permission of the Tunnel Manager and subject to such conditions as he may direct, any vehicle whose height, length, width, or weight (including load in each case) exceeds the following:-

Height 15 feet 8 inches.

Length 36 feet, or in the case of vehicles and trailers, a combined length (including load or loads and drawbar) of 60 feet.

Weight On any one wheel 6 tons, or on anyone axle 11 tons.

Width 8 feet 2½ inches.

(2) Application for the permission of the Tunnel Manager under this byelaw shall be made in writing at least six clear days before the proposed arrival at the tunnel of the vehicle the subject of the application.

VII.—CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN TUNNELS.

31.—No person shall use the cyclist and pedestrian tunnels except for the purpose of travelling as a pedestrian or a pedal cyclist from the entrance to the said tunnels on one side of the River Tyne to the entrance to the said tunnels on the other side of that river.

32.—No person shall drive, propel, lead or otherwise bring within the cyclist and pedestrian tunnels any vehicle other than a perambulator or pedal bicycle or tricycle, or any animal other than a domestic animal secured by a lead or carried clear of the ground.

33.—No person shall travel on a moving escalator otherwise than in the direction in which such escalator is travelling or propel or carry a perambulator or a tricycle on an escalator or cause or permit an animal to travel on an escalator unless such animal be carried clear of the ground.

34.—No person shall, when travelling on an escalator, sit, kneel or lie upon the treads or handrail of such escalator.

35.—No person shall ride a bicycle or tricycle in any part of the cyclist and pedestrian tunnels except the cyclist tunnel under the river as so marked, or travel otherwise than on the left hand side of the said cyclist tunnel. Unless so directed by a member of the tunnel staff, no person shall push or otherwise propel a bicycle or a tricycle in the pedestrian tunnel as so marked nor shall any person other than a cyclist use the cyclist tunnel.

36.—All persons using the cyclist and pedestrian tunnels shall observe and obey any instructions or signals given to them by members of the tunnel staff with regard to the way in which or the route by which they are to travel.

37.—Unless so directed by a member of the tunnel staff, no person shall use the escalators or the access buildings thereof between the hours of 10.30 p.m. and 5.30 a.m.

VIII.—PREVENTION OF DAMAGE AND NUISANCES.

38.—No person in the tunnels shall climb upon, damage or remove any part of the structure of the tunnels, ventilating plant or shafts, toll booths, escalators, lifts, equipment, machinery, fittings or appurtenances thereof or any other property of the Councils, or post any bill, placard or notice, or write, stamp, cut, print, draw or make marks in any manner on any part thereof.

39.—No person shall move, alter, deface or otherwise interfere with any notice, notice board or sign belonging to the Councils and exhibited or placed on or in the tunnels.

40.—No person shall operate any machinery, switches, brakes, gates, or other mechanism of the tunnels, escalators, lifts and lighting and ventilation plant other than (a) to apply the escalator emergency stopping switch when necessary to prevent injury or damage to any person or thing, (b) to operate fire fighting equipment in case of emergency and (c) to use a telephone in an emergency.

41.—No person shall place or attempt to place any object not being current coin of the United Kingdom in any receptacle provided for the automatic payment of tolls payable under the Tyne Tunnel Act 1960.

42.—No person shall throw or drop in any part of the tunnels anything whatsoever capable of injuring or damaging the tunnels or any person or property.

43.—No person shall place or deposit or leave on or in the tunnels any vehicle or any glass, china, earthenware, tin, carton, paper or other rubbish so as to create or tend to create a litter.

44.—No person shall wilfully obstruct or impede any member of the tunnel staff in the execution of his duty in or about the tunnels.

45.—No person shall offer for sale or sell any article or produce of any description in the tunnels without the express written permission of the Committee.

46.—No person shall loiter or remain in the tunnels or in any vehicle therein after having been requested by a member of the tunnel staff to move therefrom.

47.—No person shall commit any nuisance contrary to public decency or propriety in the tunnels.

48.—No person in the tunnel shall:-

(a) use any threatening abusive obscene or offensive language; or

(b) behave in a riotous disorderly indecent or offensive manner.

IX.—PENALTY FOR OFFENCES.

49.—Any person who shall offend against any of the foregoing byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five pounds for each offence and in the case of a continuing offence a further fine not exceeding forty shillings for each day during which the offence continues after conviction therefor.

X.—REVOCATION OF EXISTING BYELAWS AND SHORT TITLE.

50.—The Counties of Durham and Northumberland (Tyne Tunnel) Byelaws 1951 are hereby revoked.

51.—These byelaws may be cited as "The Counties of Durham and Northumberland (Tyne Tunnel) Byelaws 1967."

THE COMMON SEALS of the County Councils of the Administrative Counties of Durham and Northumberland were hereunto affixed this eleventh day of May 1967 in the presence of:-

BY ORDER

(Sgd.) J T. BROCKBANK

*Clerk of the Durham
County Council.*



(Sgd.) RIDLEY

*Chairman of the Northumberland
County Council.*



(Sgd.) B. P. HARVEY

*Clerk of the Northumberland
County Council.*

The Minister of Transport hereby confirms the foregoing byelaws which shall come into operation on the nineteenth day of October, 1967.

Signed on behalf of the Minister of Transport this tenth day of October, 1967.

(Sgd.) J. M. ENTWISTLE

A Principal Executive Officer of the Ministry of Transport.