

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT –13 SEPTEMBER 2018

**SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE AND VALE OF WHITE HORSE AREA –
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES - VARIOUS
LOCATIONS**

Report by Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Introduction

1. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation to amend and introduce disabled persons parking places (DPPP's) at various locations in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse areas.

Background

2. The above proposals have been put forward following requests from residents for a DPPP following a check of their eligibility applying the national guidelines on the provision part of such parking places. Plans showing the proposals where objections were received are provided at Annexes 1 to 6.

Consultation

3. Formal consultation on the proposals was carried out between 13 June and 13 July 2018. A public notice was placed in the Oxfordshire Herald series and Oxford Times newspapers and sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of the White Horse District Council and local County Councillors.
4. The following Parish and Town Councils were also consulted as part of the statutory process: Abingdon, Beckley & Stowood, Didcot, Dorchester-on-Thames, Faringdon, Grove, Henley-on-Thames, and North Stoke Wallingford, Watlington and Wantage.
5. Street notices were also placed near the proposed DPPP's and letters sent directly to approximately 250 properties in the vicinity of the various proposals.

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6. Thirty-two responses were received in total. These are summarised in the table below:

Location <small>(Annex number)</small>	Support	Object	Neither/No Objection
All			2
Bostock Road, Abingdon	1		1
High Street, Watlington ⁽¹⁾		5	3
Palmer Road, Faringdon ⁽²⁾	1	1	1
Park Road, Henley-on-Thames			1
Parsons Mead, Abingdon ⁽³⁾		3	1
Radnor Road, Wallingford	1		
Ruskin Close, Didcot ⁽⁴⁾	1	1	
Turner Road, Abingdon ⁽⁵⁾		1	1
White Horse Crescent, Grove	1		2
White House Road, North Stoke ⁽⁶⁾		1	

7. The full responses are summarised at Annex 8 and copies of these are available for inspection by County Councillors if required.

Response to objections and other comments

8. Thames Valley Police did not object to any of the proposed locations. The local member for Grove & Wantage had no objections to the three bays proposed in the division.

High Street, Watlington

9. Watlington Parish Council raised concerns that the proposed parking bay would overlap the existing bus stop which is the main stop for buses in Watlington and that parking in the High Street is very limited and already under pressure. Similar concerns were raised by members of the public responding to the consultation. In view of this it is recommended that a decision on the provision of this parking place be deferred until a site meeting with the interested parties has been held.

Palmer Road, Faringdon

10. The local member for the Faringdon division supported the proposed bay in Palmer Road, Faringdon and the Town Council also had no objection to this proposal. However, a resident of the area expressed an objection to this bay on the grounds of the parking pressure here and that the applicant had alternative parking provision.

Bostock Road, Parsons Mead and Turner Road, Abingdon

11. Abingdon Town Council raised no objections but did raise a concern from a member of public over the proposed bay in Bostock Road on the grounds that

it was considered that the applicant had access to off-street parking. A resident objected to the proposal for Turner Road on the grounds that it would remove the only parking available to the resident adjacent to their property. Three objections to the proposed bay in Parsons Mead were received on the grounds that there was no eligible applicant.

Ruskin Close, Didcot

12. Didcot Town Council were supportive of the proposed bay in Ruskin Close, but did request that the necessity for the space should be periodically reviewed. An objection was received from a member of the public but with no grounds given.

White House Road, North Stoke

13. An objection was received on the grounds of need, as the applicant has off-street parking. However, it appears that the latter is not in practice accessible to the applicant.

How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives

14. The proposals would help facilitate the mobility of disabled persons.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

15. Funding for the proposed waiting restrictions has been provided from the County Council's revenue budget.

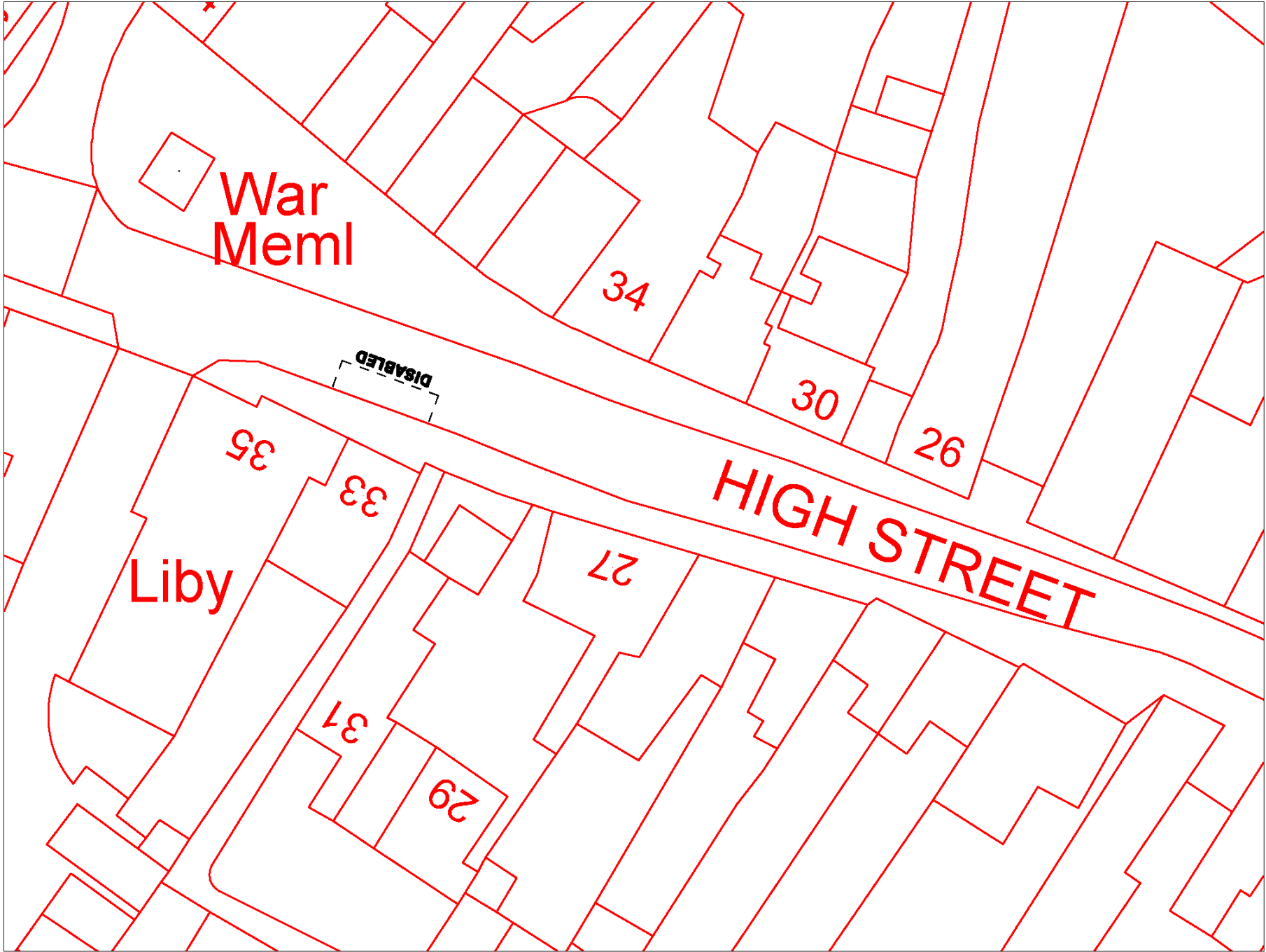
RECOMMENDATION

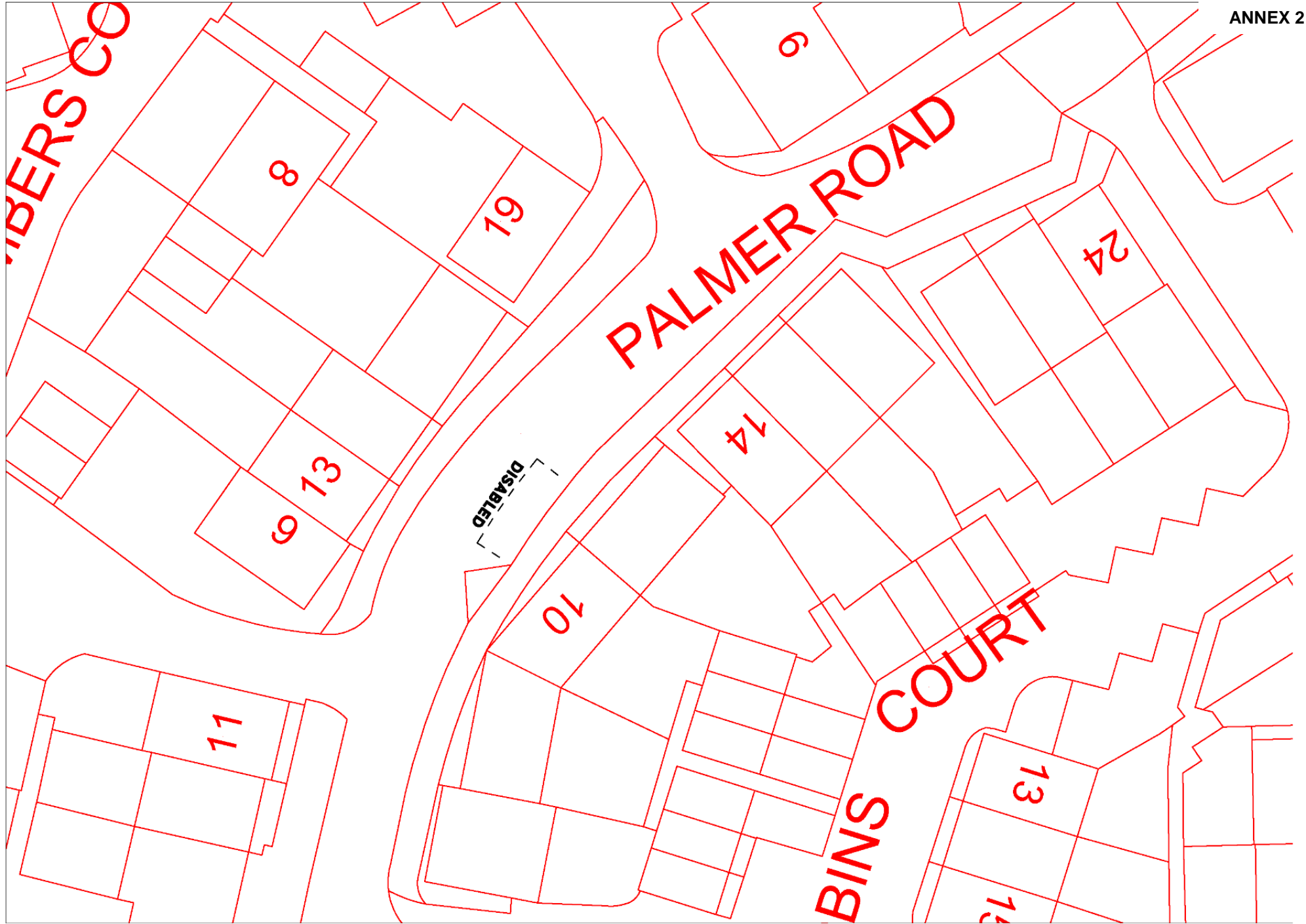
16. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to:**
 - a) **approve the proposals for Bostock Road, Abingdon; Park Road, Henley; Radnor Road, Wallingford; Ruskin Close, Didcot; Turner Road, Abingdon; White Horse Crescent, Grove and White House Road, North Stoke;**
 - b) **defer a decision to allow further investigation of the proposals for High Street, Watlington, Palmer Road, Faringdon and Parsons Mead, Abingdon.**

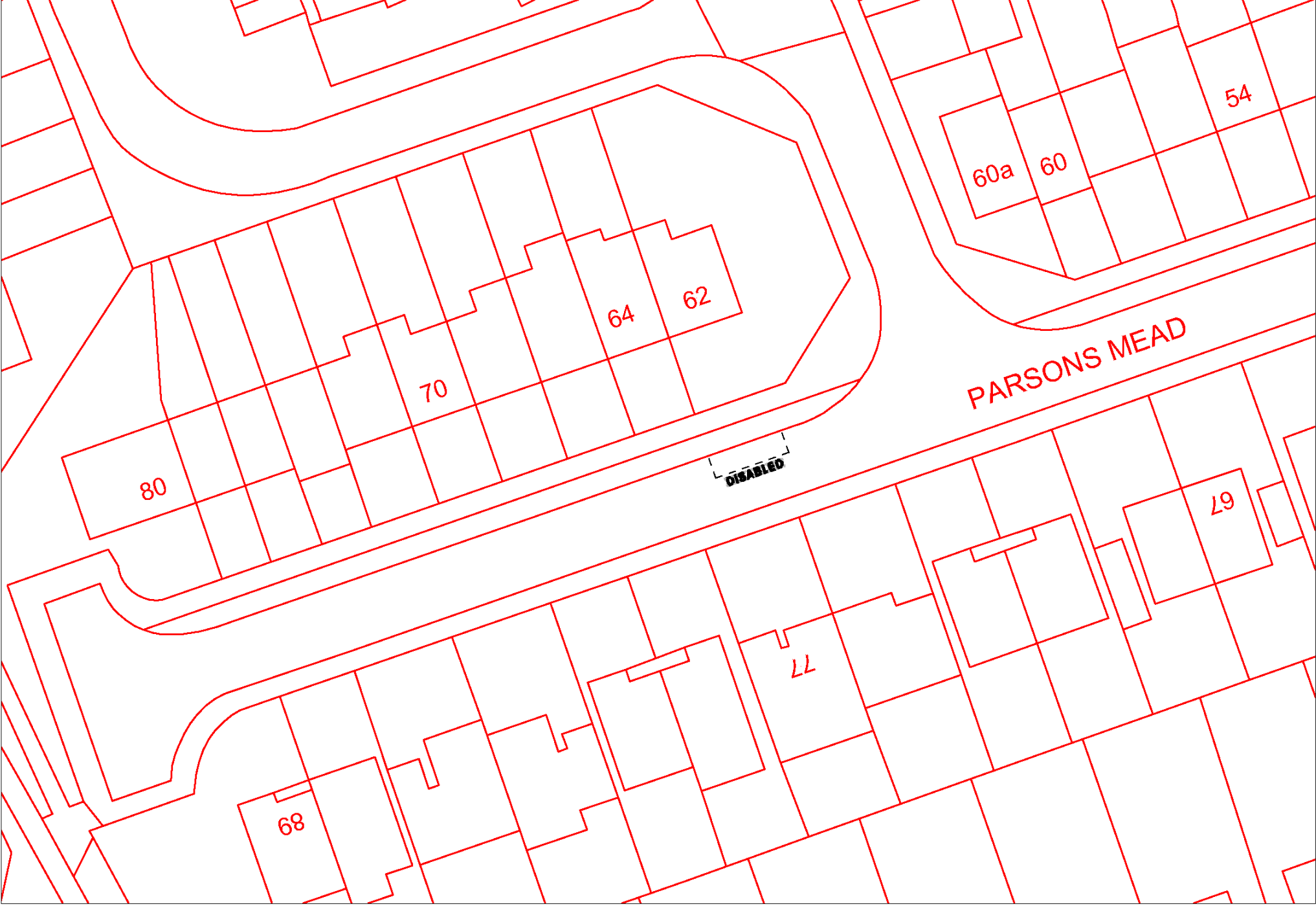
OWEN JENKINS
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

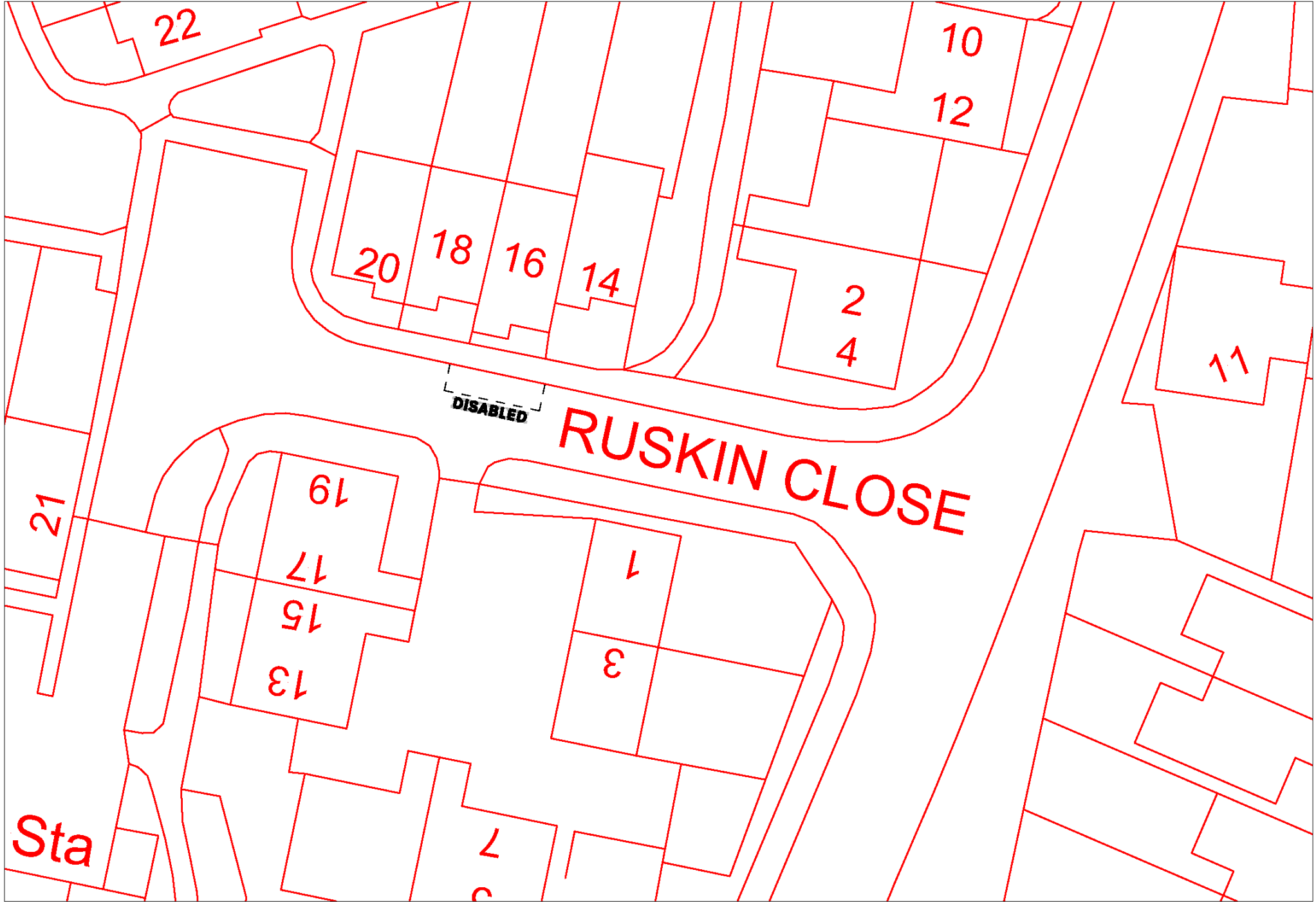
Background papers: Plan of proposed DPPP's
 Consultation responses

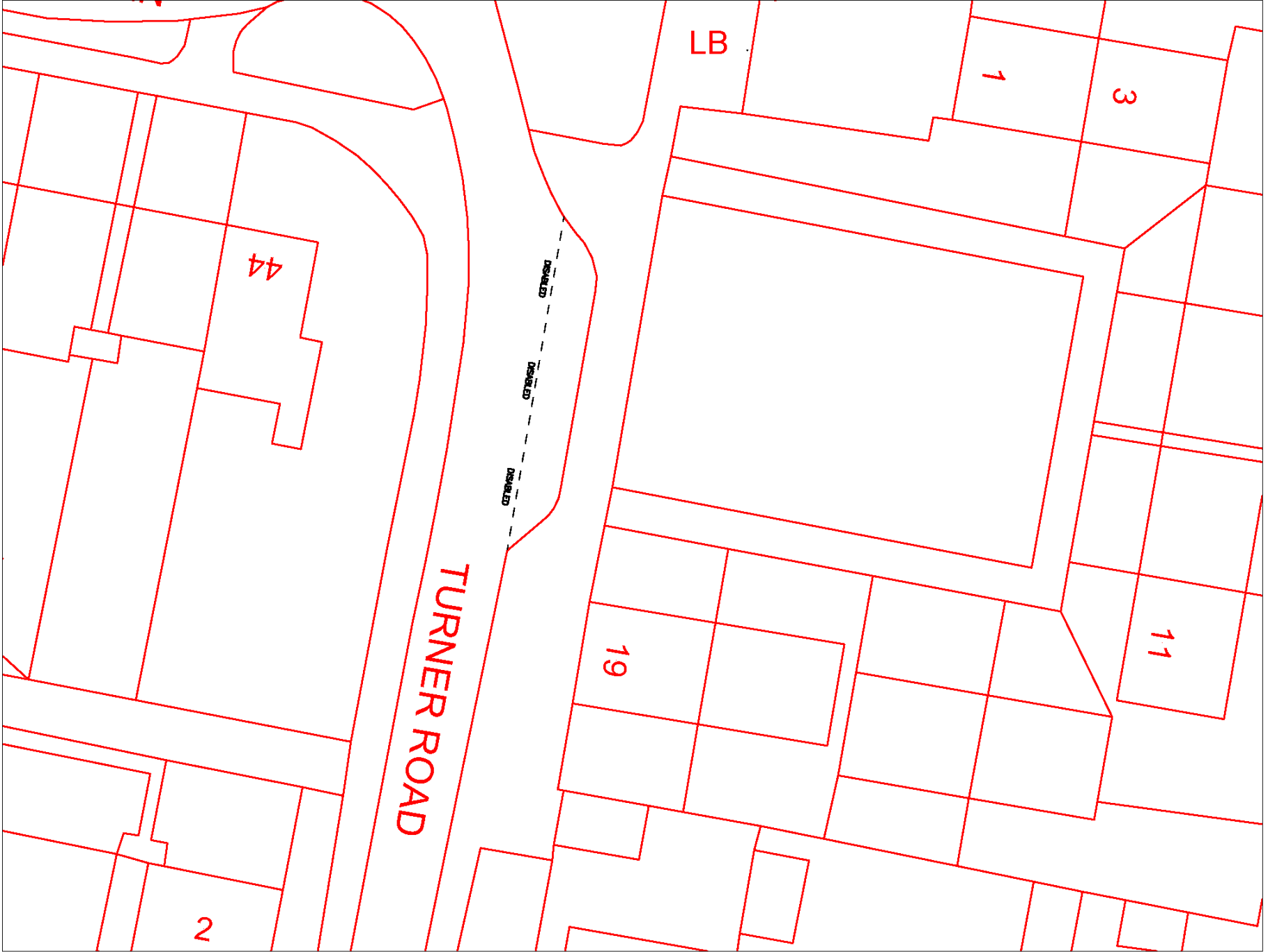
Contact Officers: Hugh Potter 07766 998704
September 2018











North Stoke



RESPONDENT	LOCATION	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (TVP)	All	No objection
(2) Local County Councillor, (Grove & Wantage)	White Horse Crecent, Grove Grove Street & Naldertown, Wantage	No objection
(F1) Local County Councillor, (Faringdon)	Palmer Road, Faringdon	Support
(4) OCC Group Manager, (South Area Operations)	South & Vale	No objection
(A1) Abingdon Town Council	Bostock Road, Parsons Mead & Turner Road, Abingdon	No objection - A member of the council stated that a member of the public had commented that in relation to the request for Bostock Road the property benefitted from off-street parking and therefore queried the need for an allocated on-street disabled persons parking bay. There were no other comments.
(F2) Faringdon Town Council	Palmer Road, Faringdon	No objection
(D1) Didcot Town Council	Ruskin Close, Didcot	Support - Didcot Town Council supports the creation of a parking bay on Ruskin Close but asks that the necessity of the space be reviewed periodically in line with current policy.

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<p>(W1) Watlington Parish Council</p>	<p>High Street, Watlington</p>	<p>Concerns - We have some problems with the proposed location, namely that as it is shown on the plan you provided it overlaps with the bus stop which is the main stop for buses in Watlington, and secondly that parking in the High Street is very limited and under some pressure for use by shoppers. There is disabled parking in the town car park at Hill Road and there is also a single disabled parking space behind the library, only twenty or thirty metres from the place you have indicated.</p>
<p>(A2) Online Response, (unknown)</p>	<p>Bostock Road, Abingdon</p>	<p>Support - You will need to change the single yellow line opposite the new disabled bay, to a double yellow line, to stop the disabled bay being unusable during non-restricted hours.</p>
<p>(W2) Online Response, (unknown)</p>	<p>High Street, Watlington</p>	<p>Object - As parking is very limited in Watlington high street and there is no one to enforce any parking restrictions. The need for more limited parking seems very detrimental to the area. As there are a number of disabled parking spaces in the town's car park behind the co-op disabled parking here is more than suitable. To have a parking space at the other end of the high street to the local shops seems a waste of time as I feel only residents that live that end of the road will benefit from this space and thus leaving everyone else a very already limited place to park. I live between two of the shops and have a keep clear box with double yellow lines box quite clearly marked and no one gives this any attention. As they still park in it and half of the time blocking the pavement at the same time. So if there is no enforcement on regulations that are in place all ready then what's to stop anyone from parking in the clearly marked disabled bay. As I was walking past the entrance to the paddock I noticed that there is a disabled person parking bay in the rear of the library already so I don't think that that end of the high street needs more bays.</p>
<p>(W3) Local Business, (Watlington)</p>	<p>High Street, Watlington</p>	<p>Concerns - The proposed disabled parking space as per you plan is right in the middle of the bus stop. It there a plan to move the bus stop somewhere else? If not I would suggest putting the disables spaces at the top of the high street near the shops as it is a long walk from outside the library for a disabled person to go to the Co-Op.</p>
<p>(W4) Local Resident, (Watlington)</p>	<p>High Street, Watlington</p>	<p>Object - I would like to register my objection on the grounds that there is very little on street parking for shoppers, residents and visitors. There are disabled spaces elsewhere and in particular in the library car park. It would be a very bad day for Watlington to lose such a parking space, which would be only occasionally used and so close to a good, existing alternative.</p>
<p>(W5) Local Business, (Watlington)</p>	<p>High Street, Watlington</p>	<p>Concerns - We have two significant observations. Firstly, I consider that the need for more disabled parking places in the town is a matter for Watlington Parish Council. I am copying this reply to them with the assurance that we plan to support any recommendations that they might put forward about disabled need. Secondly, the proposed parking space shown on the map attached to your letter lies, in part, on the bus stop in front of our Library. Whether or not this depiction was deliberate, or merely a drawing error, it is unacceptable and must be rejected. The bus stop, which is the key terminal for buses coming to and from Watlington, appears to be of limited length already. Regularly we see buses having to reverse to get fully into the existing bus stop; if</p>

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		<p>they did not, the fronts of many buses would extend beyond the bus stop and thereby block the pedestrian and vehicular access into the car park and garages behind the Library.</p> <p>Therefore, as the existing bus stop cannot be moved forward, your proposal to reduce its length is clearly unacceptable and should be rejected outright.</p>
(W6) Local Resident, (Watlington)	High Street, Watlington	<p>Object - on a number of grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is already a disabled car parking space close by, in the library car park, which is sufficient; 2. The proposed disabled space is at the wrong - far - end of High Street from the shops and would be better placed in any case at the top of High Street; 3. The proposed space is presently taken by a bus stop: Where is the bus stop to go? 4. Traffic in Watlington is a constant problem; we have a right of way directly outside our gate, which we allow all to park in, to ease the congestion. If a disabled space is introduced, this reserving of a space will exacerbate the lack of general parking in High Street and would cause us to reconsider whether we should seek to restrict the use of the right of way outside our gate.
(W7) Local Resident, (Watlington)	High Street, Watlington	<p>Object - the existing parking places in this area are extremely important to us, the residents, for access. If this parking place is to be part of the bus stop outside the library I find it hard to see why, firstly as there will not be enough room for the buses to stop, and secondly, there is a disabled parking space within 10 metres of the proposed location, beside the library, which is constantly being abused. (Please see attachment).</p>
(W8) Local Resident, (Watlington)	High Street, Watlington	<p>Object - feels this is not feasible.</p>
(F3) Online Response, (unknown)	Palmer Road, Faringdon	<p>Object - Parking within the estate is very limited with only an average of 1.3 space being allocated per property, regardless of their size. This is particularly an issue at the entrance to the estate where this proposed disabled space is and cars regularly park blocking the narrow road to larger vehicles e.g. fire engines and ambulances because of the lack of parking spaces.</p> <p>By removing the said space from the residents and visitors use (who Bloor Homes originally designed this area for) it will be left empty and unable for anyone else to use while the said disabled car is not there. Causing more unsafe on road parking.</p> <p>The car for who the disabled space is proposed do have their own private drive and garage to use which is very close to their property.</p>

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(H1) Local Resident, (Henley-on-Thames)	Park Road, Henley-on-Thames	Concerns - I cannot justify objecting to a disabled persons request for a parking space. However, parking is at a premium in Park Road every day and more so at this time of year. In the spirit of equality for all, we are all struggling to get a parking space in our road (I had to drive into Henley the other evening to park).
(A3) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	Parsons Mead, Abingdon	Object – expressed view that there is no legitimate user for the proposed bay
(A4) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	Parsons Mead, Abingdon	Object – expressed view that there is no legitimate user for the proposed bay
(A5) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	Parsons Mead, Abingdon	No objection – (if space is needed) but there is sufficient land not being used to drop the curb and have parking very close to the front door which would give better access to transportation. The increased parking demand could be reduced by making parking spaces at the turn around by house no 80 shown on the map enclosed which would be a great help if the grass was removed and parking provided to relieve the parking in the street. Could this also be considered?
(A6) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	Parsons Mead, Abingdon	Object – expressed view that there is no legitimate user for the proposed bay
(WALL1) Local Resident, (Wallingford)	Radnor Road, Wallingford	Support - I feel sure that extra Disabled Persons Parking Places in Radnor Road would be most welcome, but i don't know where they would be needed.
(D1) Online Response, (unknown)	Ruskin Close, Didcot	Object – <i>No comments.</i>
(A7) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	Turner Road, Abingdon	Object - not everyone has a car or has a need for disabled parking at these bungalows, it would cause me a great deal of difficulty and concern that I would no longer be able to park by my property.Would it not make sense

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		to perhaps leave one bay for normal parking for people like myself.
(G1) Local Resident, (Grove)	White Horse Crescent, Grove	Concerns - worry though that when we pull our car out of the drive that if there is a car parked in the bay, it could affect visibility of both us and seeing other vehicles. We also have another worry that once the bay is in place people might try and park behind the bay either part or fully blocking our drive.
(G2) Local Resident, (Grove)	White Horse Crescent, Grove	Support - Good idea about the above parking space, but in White horse crescent parking is awful, double parking (illegal) parking on pavements (illegal too) company vans are parking and in a residential road these vans are not supposed to park unless the company are working on a property, also people from other roads are parking in this road too, going on holiday and leaving their cars in this road. Very unfair on the people who have not got off road parking.
(NS1) Local Resident, (North Stoke)	White House Road, North Stoke	Object - Every house has a private driveway on Whitehouse Road, as I understand it, the parking outside the front of the bungalows is for Ambulance use. Maybe suggest parking as yellow Ambulance parking zone, instead of a personal disabled parking space?