
STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]

RE. PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE PARKING BAYS ON FRENCHAY ROAD

OCC DECISIONS MEETING, 24TH APRIL 2025

1. I live at [REDACTED] Oxford. My house is on the corner of the crossroads between Frenchay, Hayfield and Bainton Roads, and immediately adjacent to the parking bay under consideration.
2. I understand the proposal is to relocate the residents parking bay on the south side of the road to be partially located on the pavement.
3. I make this statement as I am **strongly AGAINST** the proposal, for the following reasons:
 - i. The current arrangement of parking bays serves as a **traffic calming measure**. The parking bays narrow the road to the acceptable width of a (carefully driven) lorry or fire engine, however they do cause any driver to need to slow down to pass through. The Hayfield-Bainton route is heavily used by cyclists – *particularly parents taking/accompanying children to school on bicycles who want to avoid the main Woodstock Road that runs parallel* – it is a busy back route for cyclists. The Frenchay/Bainton/Hayfield crossroads are already hazardous as on the other side of the crossroads, cars and delivery vans often do not slow down or stop where they are supposed to, but fly over the junction. It is a near DAILY occurrence that I hear / see angry cyclists ringing their bells and shouting at drivers who do not stop at the crossroads. Altering the parking bays on the west side of the junction would simply exacerbate the problem, particularly as cars approaching from the west would be driving at a greater velocity having the momentum of the hill of the bridge behind them.
 - ii. The south side pavement under proposal for cars to partially park on is not wide. Restricting the width further would be **problematic for wheelchair and pushchair users** who are unable to use the north side pavement as it does not have a dropped kerb at one end and simply stops before it reaches the bridge, necessitating crossing the road with a pram or wheelchair very close to the brow of the hill (and therefore a blind spot for oncoming cars).
 - iii. I am confused by this proposal as it seems to advocate for the use of cars, **prioritizing car use over the welfare, facilitation and encouragement of cycling and walking**. It seems at odds with the other policies of the Council who are making otherwise commendable efforts to reduce car use.
 - iv. I am **genuinely fearful that if this proposal is approved, a cyclist will be injured or killed on the junction**.