

Divisions affected: *Multiple in South and Vale districts*

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 1 JULY 2021
SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE & VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE DISTRICTS
- VARIOUS LOCATIONS: PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
PARKING PLACES

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Recommendation

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to:
 - (a) approve proposed provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places (DPPP) at: The Oval, Didcot; Ridgeway Road, Didcot and removal of DPPP's at: Luker Avenue, Henley; High Street, Wheatley;
 - (b) but defer approval of proposals at the following locations at the applicant's request: Cotman Close, Abingdon; Fawkner Way, Stanford in the Vale; Barnacre, Watlington noting that the applicants for these locations subsequently withdrew their applications following the consultation.

Executive summary

2. Provision of Disabled Persons Parking Places (DPPPs) is reviewed when requested by members of the public and as part of reviews carried out by officers. Specific proposals are assessed applying national regulations and guidance on the suitability of providing new bays or amending or removing existing ones.

Introduction

3. This report presents objections received to a statutory consultation on proposals to remove, amend and introduce disabled persons parking places at various locations in the South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse districts.

Background

4. The above proposals have been put forward following requests from residents, including – where a new place has been requested - an assessment of eligibility, applying the national guidelines on the provision of such parking places. Annex 1 to Annex 6 provide plans of the locations for which objections have been received or concerns raised.

Financial Implications

- Funding for consultation on the proposals has been met from the County Council's revenue budget, which also funds implementation should they be approved.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

- The proposals will support residents with mobility impairments.

Sustainability Implications

- No implications in respect of sustainability have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Consultation

- Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 21 April and 21 May 2021. A notice was placed in the Herald Series newspaper and emails sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, South Oxfordshire District Council, the Vale of the White Horse District Council and local County Councillors. Notices were placed on site and letters sent directly to properties in the immediate vicinity, adjacent to the proposals.
- Thames Valley Police, Henley Town Council, Thame Town Council and Vale of the White Horse District Council did not object.
- Nine responses were received from members of the public during the course of the consultation. These are summarised in the tables below:

Town	Location / proposal	Support	Object	Concerns
Abingdon	Cotman Close / new DPPP			1
Didcot	Ridgeway Road / new DPPP		1	
	The Oval / New DPPP		1	
Henley on Thames	Luker Avenue / DPPP removal	1		
Stanford in the Vale	Fawkner Way / New DPPP		1	
Watlington	Barnacre / New DPPP		2	
Wheatley	High Street / DPPP removal	1	1	

- The responses are recorded at Annex 7 with copies of the full responses available for inspection by County Councillors

Response to objections and other comments

12. Comments and recommendations are provided in response to the concerns and objections as given in Annex 7 in respect of each of the proposed sites in the following paragraphs.

Abingdon – Cotman Close – proposed DPPP

13. A concern was raised and it is recommended not to proceed with the disabled parking place due to the applicant withdrawing their application for a disabled place.

Didcot – Ridgeway Road – proposed DPPP

14. One objection was received from a member of the public living adjacent to the proposals on the grounds that they considered there is enough space to park at all times and so no need for a disabled place. While noting this objection, officers consider from a site assessment that this DPPP is required and recommend that it is approved..

Didcot – The Oval – proposed DPPP

15. One objection was received from a member of the public living adjacent to the proposals on the grounds that the disabled bay would make it difficult for visitors to park, devalue their property and noting that the applicant had a driveway.
16. Officers consider from a site assessment that this DPPP is required and as the applicant needs a level kerbside disabled place to be able to access their car safely recommend that it is approved. There would be a distance of 4.5m from the top of the dropped kerb of the adjacent property to the proposed disabled place, so space remained to park one vehicle in front of the disabled place before the neighbours accessway.

Henley on Thames – Luker Avenue – proposed removal of the DPPP

17. One expression of support received. However, it is recommended to remove the disabled parking place given that no blue badge holder currently lives adjacent to or makes use of the current DPPP.

Stanford in the Vale – Fawkner Way – proposed DPPP

18. One objection was received. It is recommended not to proceed with the disabled parking place due to the applicant withdrawing their application for a disabled place.

Watlington – Barnacre – proposed DPPP

19. Two objections were received. It is recommended not to proceed with the

disabled parking place due to the applicant withdrawing their application for a disabled place.

Wheatley – High Street – proposed removal of DPPP

20. Officers identified that this DPPP originally provided due to be being close to the former Post Office in the village and also close to a resident who was a blue badge holder was no longer considered to be in a suitable location due to the Post Office having relocated further west and there being no disabled resident nearby. It was also noted that the current location was not ideal due to there being an access on the south side of the road opposite the DPPP. While one objection was received on the grounds that disabled persons living in Wheatley rely heavily on disabled parking places it is not considered that this specific DPPP should be retained and while it is recommended that it be removed investigations could be carried out to identify a more suitable location nearer the shops..

Sustainability implications

21. The proposals would help facilitate the mobility of disabled persons in the vicinity of their places of residence.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

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

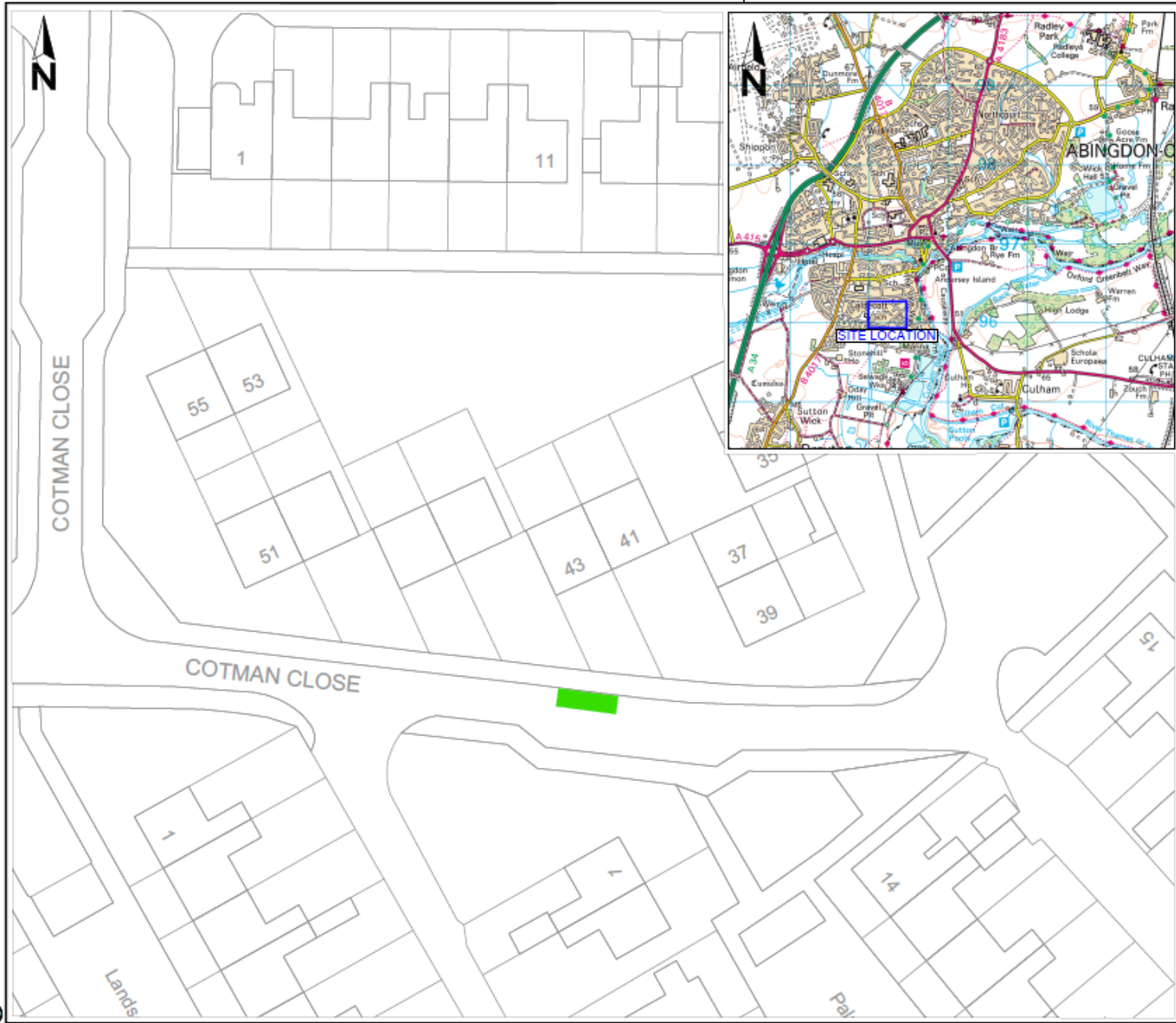
Equalities and Inclusion Implications

23. Provision of disabled persons parking places assists those with a mobility impairment

BILL COTTON
Director for Environment and Place

Background papers: Plans of proposed disabled persons parking places to be removed or provided where an objection or concern on the proposal has been received.
Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Tim Shickle – 07920 591545



Drawing No. Revision 0

Key

Proposed Disabled Parking Bay

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Project title
**PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS
PARKING PLACE**

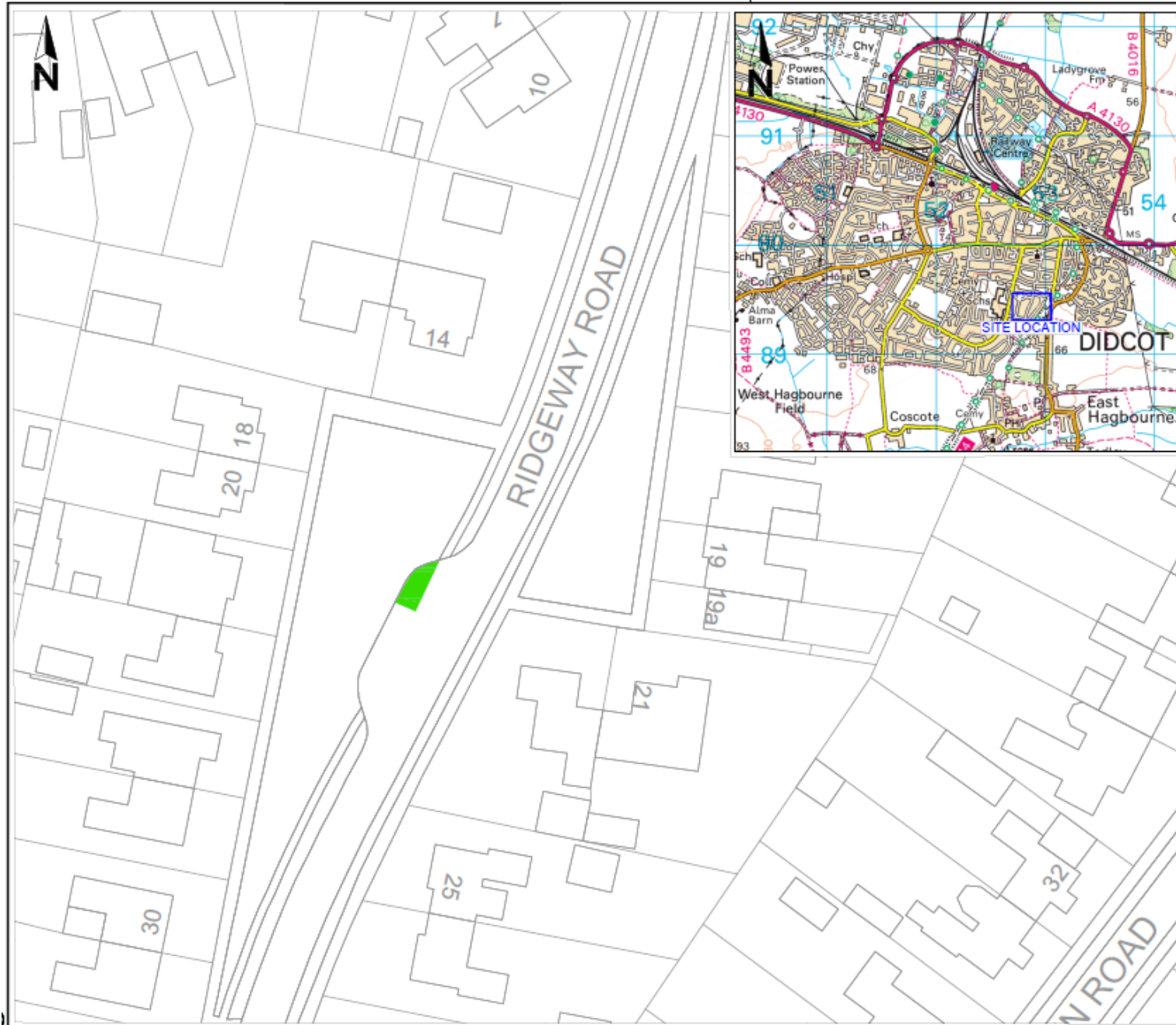
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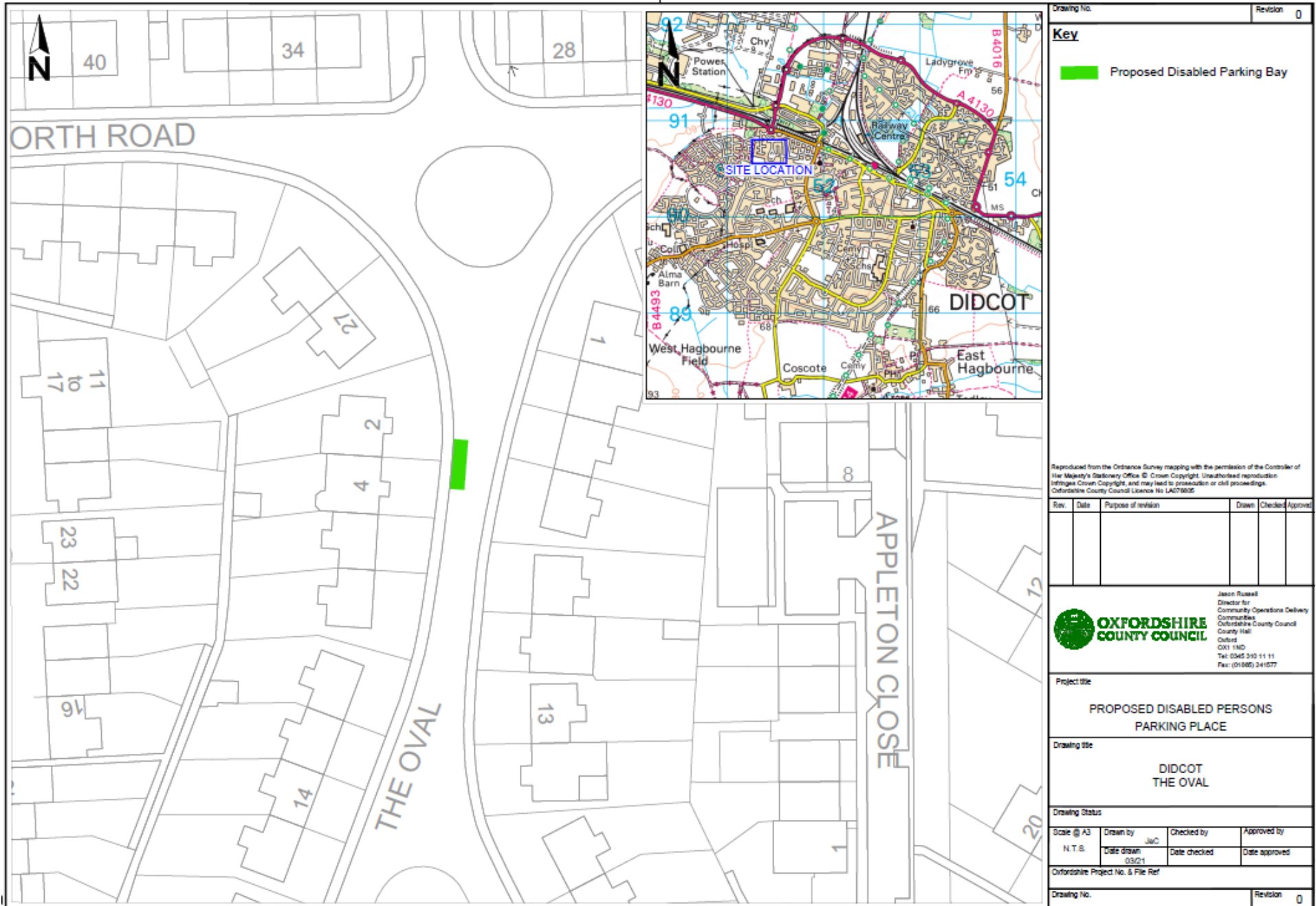
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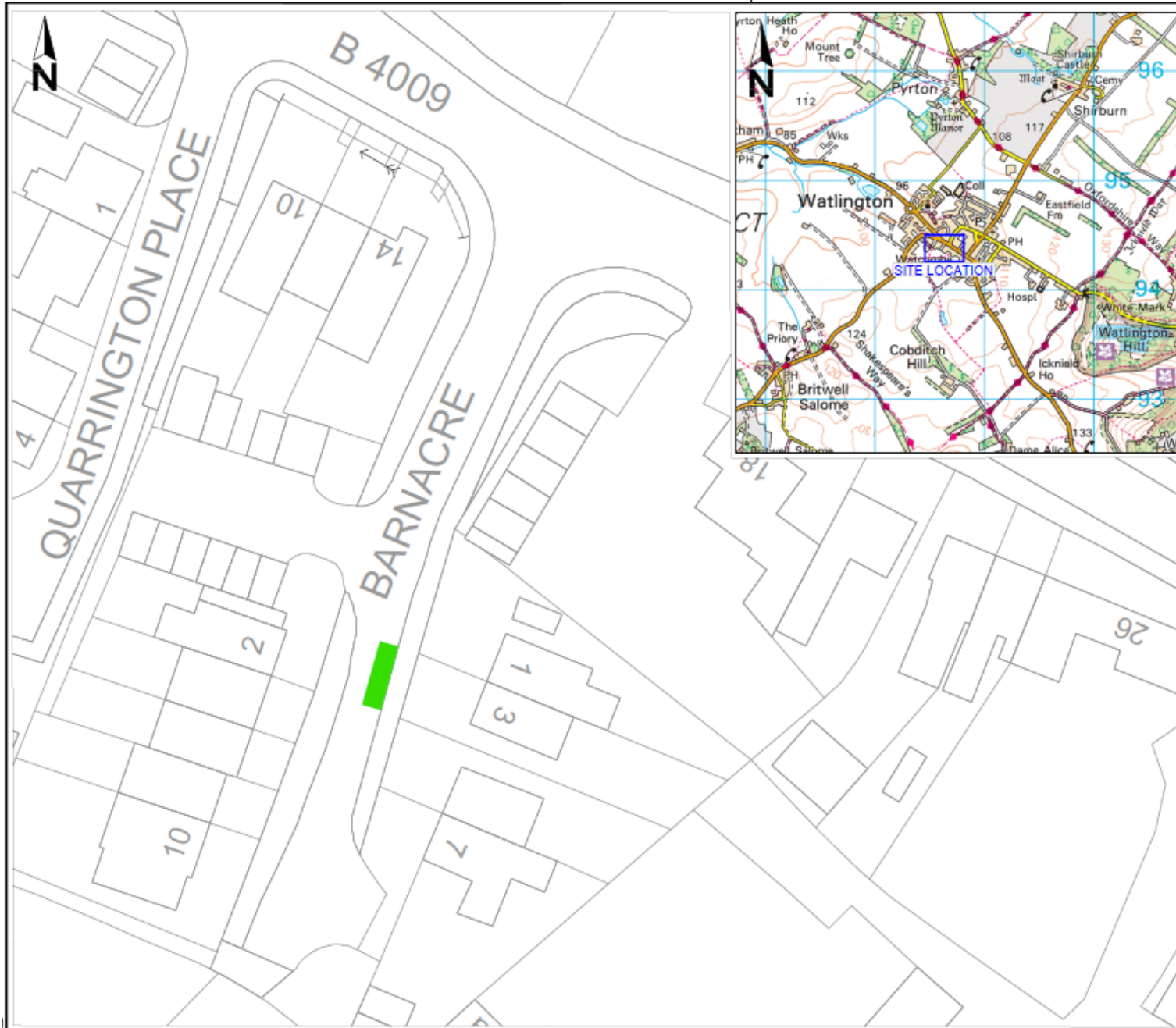
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Project title			
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE			
Drawing title			
DIDCOT RIDGEWAY ROAD			
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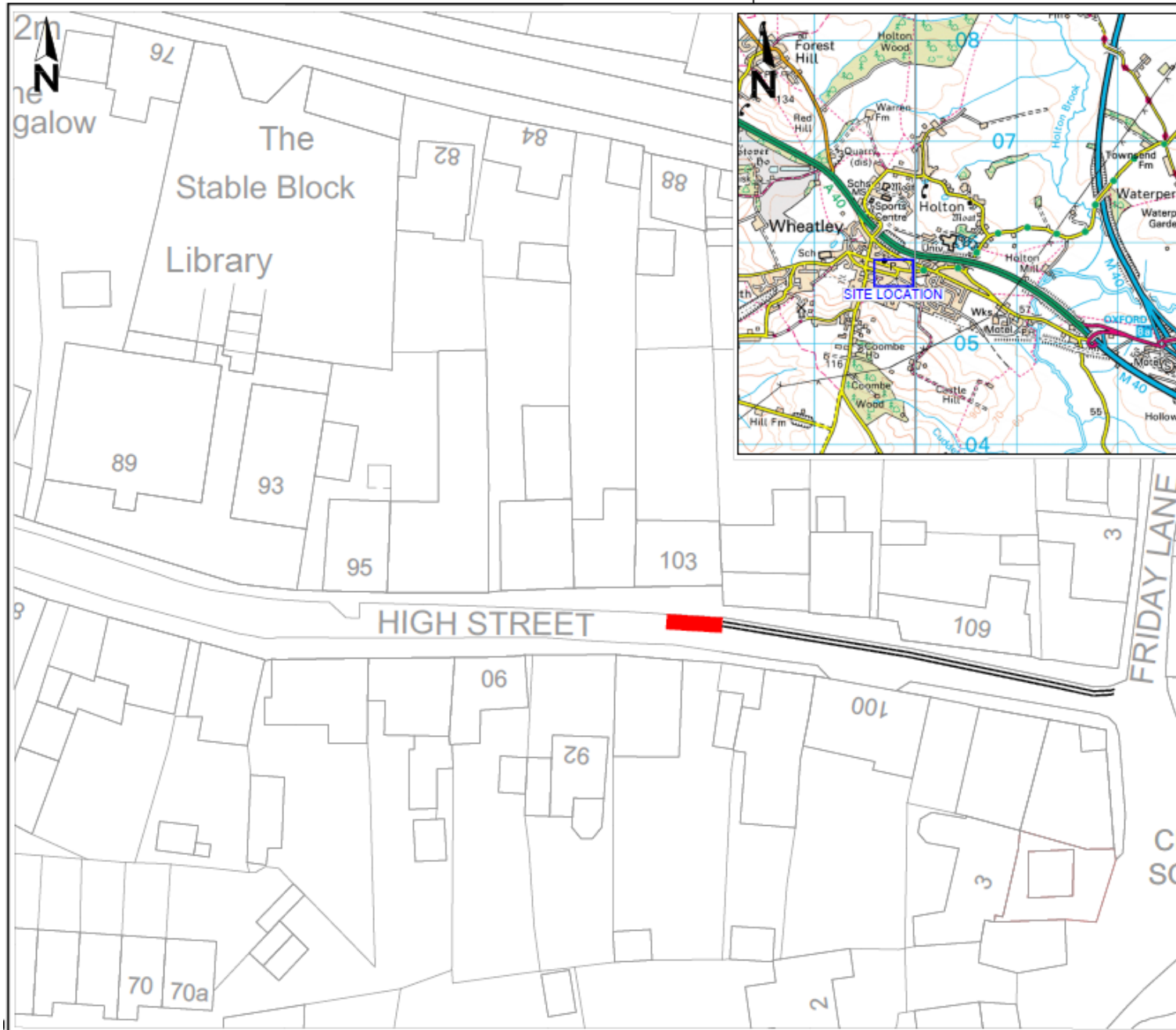
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Project title			
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Project title			
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE			
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STANFORD IN THE VALE FAWKNOR WAY			
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Project title			
PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE			
Drawing title			
WATLINGTON BARNACRE			
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- Key**
- Proposed REMOVAL of Disabled Parking Bay to be replaced with 'No waiting at any Time' parking restriction
 - Existing 'No Waiting at any Time' parking restriction to remain

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PROPOSED REMOVAL OF DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE

Drawing title
WHEATLEY HIGH STREET

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	Date drawn 03/21	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

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RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection
(2) Henley Town Council	No objection
(3) Thame Town Council	No objection
(4) Vale of the White Horse	No objection
<i>Cotman Close (Abingdon) - Proposed new DPPP</i>	
(1) Local Resident, (Abingdon)	Concerns (Cotman Close) – I don't object to the extra disabled parking in Cotman Close but I think the flower borders and green outside my property could be dug up to resolve the parking issues as to be honest it is a local toilet for cats and dogs and very untidy most of the time. This would create more spaces for residential parking and would look a lot neater.
<i>Ridgeway Road (Didcot) – Proposed new DPPP</i>	
(2) Local Resident, (Didcot)	Object (Ridgeway Road) – There is plenty of room in the layby for them to park there at all times so there is no need for a disabled space. I do not want it outside my house as I have 2 cars and a van from my household. The disabled space that you want to put there would cause a lot of problems.

<p><i>The Oval (Didcot) - Proposed new DPPP</i></p>	
<p>(3) Local Resident, (Didcot)</p>	<p>Object (The Oval) - I am writing to place a formal objection to the proposed disabled person parking space in The Oval area.</p> <p>I firmly disagree with this proposal as it makes it difficult for my family as well as my neighbours to park our vehicles. As it stands, our nearby neighbours use our off-street parking to park their extra vehicles. As you can understand, this can be incredibly frustrating and causes an inconvenience as it is time consuming to strategically park in and out of our driveway, to get to and from and from work. This is even more so difficult during the evening when there is limited visibility.</p> <p>Furthermore, No. 4 The Oval has decided to build a shed on his driveway, which has meant they have less parking space to park their multiple vehicles.</p> <p>In addition to this, in case of emergency it's hard to manoeuvre in and out of the driveway as it is constantly blocked by other vehicles therefore delaying the process.</p> <p>We are looking into paving our driveway and making further house renovations as we are wanting to sell our property and, therefore, increase the value of the property. A disabled parking space will further devalue our property.</p> <p>I understand and can sympathise with the proposed plan for the disabled space but believe it isn't needed. As the shed has been built it obstructs access for the vehicle which is vital for a disabled person to be able to get in and out of the car, as quickly and as safely as possible. If the shed wasn't built this disabled parking space would not be needed.</p> <p>When coming to a decision about this proposal, I would greatly appreciate that you take my considerations on-board.</p>
<p><i>Luker Avenue (Henley on Thames) - Proposed removal of DPPP</i></p>	

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(4) Local Resident (Henley on Thames)	Support (Luker Avenue) - I agree with the removal as Luker Avenue is very congested and the bay is not used.
<i>Fawkner Way (Stanford in the Vale) - Proposed new DPPP</i>	
(5) Local Resident (Stanford in the Vale)	Object (Fawkner Way) - I see no reason why there is a need for a specific disabled person parking space when each house in the area of this estate has a designated off road parking space. These are no further in walking distance to the front or rear doors of the houses from what I can see.
<i>Barnacre (Watlington) - Proposed new DPPP</i>	
(6) Local Resident (Watlington)	Object (Barnacre) - Although I have no issue with a disabled parking space in Barnacre the proposed location is not very practical and will cause access issues to the far end of Barnacre if it is being used. Why can't the space be nearer the entrance to Barnacre where there is more space?
(7) Local Resident (Watlington)	Object (Barnacre) - With the amount of cars parked up Barnacre during the evening, it would be impossible for emergency vehicles to get to the top end of Barnacre. A resident of Barnacre has had the fire brigade out to her house fire and they struggled to get to her house with cars being parked on the pavement only.
<i>High Street (Wheatley) - Proposed removal of DPPP</i>	
(8) Local Resident (Wheatley)	Support (High Street) - Removal will benefit us living opposite as we have to reverse into our driveway and cars here can cause issues with access, including people parking further up High Street on the double yellow lines. If parking opposite was used for short term parking as intended it wouldn't be an issue but as more people are working from home, cars are regularly left parked here for over a week at a time.
(9) Local Resident (Wheatley)	Object (High Street) - As a disabled person living in the village I rely heavily on the disabled parking bays.