

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Environment (including Transport) Thursday, 24 July 2014

ADDENDA

2. Questions from County Councillors

Question from Councillor Jean Fooks

The North Oxford CPZ was agreed at your February 27th meeting, We are now almost into August and the scheme is still not in place. Residents rightly feel very let down by the County Council. Can you give me and my constituents a firm date by which they will have received letters, seen the signs in place and been able to purchase permits if wanted , ready for enforcement as soon as possible thereafter?

Could I also request that a 'light touch ' enforcement regime is used for the first two or three weeks, to enable people to get used to the scheme being operational at last?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Environment

I am sorry that this has taken such a long time to implement but officers are working hard to fit this in alongside other priorities. I have been assured that letters with information on the approved scheme and how to apply for permits, along with permit application forms, will be sent out by post to all the residents next week. Permits will be issued from 16 August onwards.

All the signs (approx. 250 in total) have now been manufactured and the contractor will be erecting them during the second week of August and the Zone will become operational at the end of August. As is our normal practice with new schemes, the enforcement will initially involve the issuing of warning notices to vehicles without a permit or parking incorrectly.

3. Petitions and Public Address

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Item</i>
County Councillor John Howson (St Margaret's) <i>County Councillor Susanna Pressel (Jericho & Osney)</i>)) 4. Frideswide Square, Oxford))
County Councillor Jean Fooks (Wolvercote & Summertown)	5. Proposed Parking Restrictions - Wolvercote
County Councillor Laura Price (Witney South & Central)	7. Proposed Amendments to Parking Restrictions – Corn Street, Witney

6. Proposed Parking Restrictions - Various Locations, Banbury

County Councillor Mark Cherry (Banbury Calthorpe) is unable to attend the meeting but supports introduction of no waiting restriction plans on Bankside and as soon as possible before there is an accident at the end of Bankside onto Hightown road.

7. Proposed Amendments to Parking Restrictions - Corn Street, Witney

Additional representations

Councillor. David Harvey, Environment Portfolio Holder, West Oxfordshire District Council

As Portfolio Holder for the Environment at West Oxfordshire District Council and having been closely involved with OCC and WODC officers, I was amazed and very disappointed to hear that OCC have changed the original proposals to changes to parking in Corn Street without any discussion with me and my officers.

For several years we have been struggling to find ways of meeting the demand for residents and other users to have increased numbers of free of charge, unlimited time, on street parking spaces.

The present proposals were put together by professionally qualified officers and discussed with local residents. By use of a short length of the, quite wide, pavement for 'partial pavement parking' it is possible to have parking on both sides of the road

with no hindrance to the flow of traffic in either direction, including buses.

The proposals are supported by Thames Valley Police as not being a road safety hazard. I would also point out that additional car parking spaces in Corn Street will also help to alleviate some of the parking congestion in neighbouring streets such as The Crofts and Holloway Road as well as Queen Emma's Dyke.

I understand that the proposals have been criticised by some members of the public who are not Corn Street residents and, as a result, your officers have taken the decision to remove the partial pavement parking. I am disappointed that I had to find this out informally and the Witney Gazette appeared to be better informed than me!

This change to the plan results in eleven fewer, much needed, parking spaces being available and I would respectfully request that you reconsider this situation and return to the original proposal to include the partial pavement parking on the north side of Corn Street.

8. Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Place - West Oxfordshire - Part 2

Additional representations

Amanda Epps, Resident, Charlbury,

"Dear Councillor Nimmo-Smith,

I am upset and disappointed that OCC staff are recommending that the needs of the able bodied have priority over those of Blue Badge holders in the issue of disabled bays outside the Coop store in Enstone Road here. I find it particularly distressing that even the single bay now proposed will have to wait for the lengthy process of removing the bay on the Playing Close to complete. It is almost 2 years since I approached your predecessor on the issue so it seems the disabled in Charlbury will have to wait another 2 years to have the same shopping facility as their counterparts in other towns and villages.

I suspect that OCC's attitude to the disadvantaged in society is in breach of the Disability Discrimination Act and I intend to contact my MP, Mr Cameron on the matter.

I hope you will ignore the advice you have been given, allow the original proposal with the proviso that the bay on the Playing Close be removed as soon as possible."

County Councillor Rodney Rose (Charlbury & Wychwood)

Fully supports the introduction of a single disabled parking space on Brown's Lane, Charlbury but that that provision should not be subject to consultation to remove the existing disabled persons parking place on Pooles Lane, which should be undertaken separately.